



GLORIOUS
COMPLEX
DIVINE
1 Corinthians

Wk 9

Sunday 3 November 2024

Our 9:45am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels.

TODAY'S 9:45AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:
1 Cor 11:17-34
(p. 1150)
- Sermon
- Song
- Prayers
- Lord's Supper
- Announcements
- Song
- Conclusion

Welcome to our church family! Whether you're here for the first time or have joined us for years, we're so glad to worship together today. Church is more than just a building; it's a place where God is glorified, where we grow to be more like Jesus, and where new people find the hope of the gospel. For families, it's a place where children can learn about God's love from an early age. For our older members, it's a community of encouragement, faith, and lifelong learning.



As we gather, let's reflect on the beautiful purpose of church: to build each other up, serve joyfully, and shine the light of Christ's love to all who walk through our doors. May today be an opportunity to grow in faith and hope of God's good promises fulfilled!

Most St Stephen's collection is received electronically.
BSB: 062 272
Account Number:
00490436

If you are a visitor please don't feel obliged to contribute financially.

Next Steps

Are you new? We would love to meet you. Hear a brief intro on the life of our church at our next [Newish Morning Tea](#) on 24 November. It runs for ½ an hour straight after the service.

Been regularly coming? If you are a regular member of our church, we encourage you to attend our next [Belonging Course](#) which runs on 10 November from 12-3pm. Belonging is the gateway to our GaP Groups, serving and deeper connection with the community. Or if you'd like to learn more at another time, you can arrange a coffee with Prash or Jill. Simply reach out - they'd love to chat.

Prayers for those not sharing in Lord's Supper

Participation in the Lord's Supper is for those who have professed faith in Jesus - it's a powerful and important symbol of the Christian message. As such we want to encourage those who are still exploring the Christian faith to feel free to remain in their seats when others move to the front to receive the Lord's Supper. During that time you may want to reflect on the sermon or Bible reading. You may also want to pray one of these prayers below.

Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me who you are. Give me an understanding of you that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayers adapted from Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York.

The Lord's Prayer

This is the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray (Matthew 6:5-14).

Our Father in heaven hallowed be your name
Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven
Give us today our daily bread
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever
Amen

Sermon Notes

The Lord's Supper | 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Preacher: Gordon Luk

“We are who we eat with...”

1. The importance of gospel culture: Paul's big rebuke (v. 17-22)
2. The gospel sign given by Jesus: The Lord's Supper (v. 23-26)
3. The gospel transforms who we are and who we eat with: “receiving one another” (v. 28-34)

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

1. “Eating is a social act”. Discuss in your groups. Do you personally think much about who you eat with?

Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Getting your head around the passage:

Choose as many of these questions as you need to get your head around the passage.

- A. What is Paul rebuking the Corinthians about (v. 17-21)?
- B. How serious is this to Paul (v. 22)?
- C. What are the two purposes of the Lord’s Supper? (v. 24, 25, 26)
- D. How did the way in which the Corinthians took the Lord’s Supper communicate something opposite to the gospel? (ie. “in an unworthy manner”)
- E. What is the difference between God’s discipline of the Christian and God’s condemnation of the world (v. 32)?

2. What’s our “eating culture” like at church (think not just of the Lord’s Supper but also post-church meals, supper/morning tea, who we invite to meals at our homes etc)? Discuss whether you think it promotes the gospel we preach or not.

3. How might we bring a mindset of worldly individualism into our Christian faith? How does this passage challenge that?

4. How does remembering and proclaiming the Cross (through the Lord's Supper and mutual Christian encouragement) help us be a church that is about "one another" rather than "myself"?

5. What is challenging and comforting about the gospel promise in verse 32? What does it teach you about who God is, what He cares about, and what He's done for us?

6. What is one thing this month you'd like the Spirit's help in as you let the gospel shape how you relate with others at church?

Prayer Time

1. Share with each other what you said for Q5 and confess these things in awe and worship of God.
2. Share with each other what you said for Q6, and pray that God would help you.

Read the Bible with us!

1. What do these passages tell us about God, what He desires, and what Jesus was like?
2. What picture of the Body of Christ does this paint?

Monday - [Romans 12:9-21](#)

Tuesday - [Galatians 5:13-26](#)

Wednesday - [Ephesians 4:1-6](#)

Thursday - [Philippians 2:1-11](#)

Friday - [Colossians 3:12-17](#)

Notices

Belonging Course | 10 November

You're invited to join ****Belonging****—a welcoming course designed for new members of our church family!

Through Belonging, you'll discover how each of us has a unique part in God's mission to grow our church to be **beautiful, diverse, and large**, all through the gracious work of Christ. This course offers a deeper look into our church's vision, values, and the ways we're called to serve together as a community.

Whether you're new to church or exploring ways to get more involved, Belonging is a great way to connect and see where God may be leading you.



Gift Day | 17 November

Gift Day is coming up!

It's an opportunity for our regulars to give an additional one-off financial gift to support value adding, community building, gospel sharing ministry.

Would you prayerfully consider how you might give this gift day?

Our target is \$50,000 this year. This will allow us to pursue work on utilising the tennis court as a short term carpark, improve our hospitality at outreach courses in 2025, continue to invest in ministry to youth and kids and reach new people in our community.

Gift Day 17 Nov

Support the life, ministry, and outreach of St Stephen's

REF: GIFTDAY



2024 Target: \$50,000

Notices

Carols on the Grass | 7 December

SAVE THE DATE for Carols on the Grass – Saturday 7 December from 5pm to 8pm.

We want to invite the whole community to join us in celebrating Christmas at Carols on the Grass.

Who's someone you could bring along this year?



Senior High

Did you know we have two non-Christian teens coming to our senior high group?

One started attending after our International Food Feast, and the other after the Youth Camp. Meeting before Night Church (4:15-5:30pm), they gather to read the Bible and pray, building friendships and exploring faith together. It's amazing to watch our older teens share their faith with their friends. Please pray that God would graciously save both girls and that the group would continue to grow!



What's Coming Up

- 4 Nov - 16 Dec Come and See (Mondays)
- 10 November Belonging Course
- 16 November Prayer Morning
- 17 November Gift Day
- 17 November Music & Welcoming training

For more on what's happening this spring at St Stephen's, visit st-stephens.com.au/spring

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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