



GLORIOUS
COMPLEX
DIVINE
1 Corinthians

Wk 14

Sunday 8 December 2024

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

TODAY'S 9:45AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading:
1 Cor 15:12-34
(p. 1154)
- Sermon
- Song
- Prayers
- Announcements
- Song
- Conclusion

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.

This Christmas season, as we celebrate Advent, we're reminded that we are a people waiting—waiting for the return of Jesus, our King. Just as Israel waited for their Messiah, we now wait with hope and joy for Christ to come again, bringing the fullness of His beauty, diversity, and life to His people.



We're so glad you've joined us today. Our vision is to be a church made **beautiful, diverse, and large** by the gracious work of Christ. In Jesus, we see God's ultimate generosity and kindness—a Saviour who gave Himself so we might have life.

We'd love to connect with you! Use the QR code to fill out a connect card and let us know how we can pray for or support you. After the service, stick around and share in the blessing of Christian community as we encourage, strengthen and comfort one another.

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 16 February. 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 23 February 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 the Service

These prayers are used during the service. Prayer is a privilege we are given because Christ died for us. His death & resurrection means we can confidently approach God seeking forgiveness (Hebrews 10:22). If you believe that Christ died to deal with your failings then you should be confident to pray with us. If you are still exploring who Christ is then feel free to listen in.

A Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God,
we humbly admit that we need your help.
We confess that we have wandered from your way:
we have done wrong, and we have failed to do what is right.
You alone can save us.
Have mercy on us:
wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.
Bring forth in us the fruit of the Spirit
that we may live as disciples of Christ.
This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 John 4:9-10

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

Why the resurrection matters | 1 Corinthians 15:12-34

Preacher: Gordon Luk

Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die?

1. If there's no resurrection, then there's no... (v. 12-19)

a. Christian message and faith

b. Christian hope and life

2. If Christ has been resurrected, then... (v. 20-28)

a. We will be raised

b. Death is not final

c. Christ rules over all things

Which soundtrack are you living life to?

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

1. What's the most exciting or unexpected news you've ever received about something that would happen in the future? How did it change your perspective or plans in the lead up to this future?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:12-34

Getting your head around the passage:

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

A. What are all the implications of saying there is no resurrection of the dead? (v. 12-19) What's the logic?

B. What are all the implications of Christ being raised from the dead (v. 20-28)?

C. How does believing and preaching in the resurrection change our present lifestyle and life ambitions (v. 29-34)?

2. Think about a non-Christian friend/colleague/family member that has a very different lifestyle to you. How do your separate beliefs about the resurrection impact how you both live? Does it?

3. What makes it tempting as a Christian to be caught up in worldly desires/pursuits/lifestyles? How does our guaranteed resurrection help us fight against this?

4. How can the picture of everything being place under Christ's feet (v. 24-28) in the end change how you:
 - a. See what's really important in the day to day

 - b. Approach a particular hardship/suffering you're experiencing at the moment

 - c. Relate to your non-Christian friend/family

5. What are you most looking forward to in the resurrection life?

Prayer Time

1. Share with each other what you have been convicted by in the passage and pray for each other.
2. Spend time praising God for raising Christ from the dead and guaranteeing our resurrection from the dead and life eternal.

Read the Bible with us!

What does this passage show me about:

1. The effect of sin and death on me/humanity.
2. The power and love of God over sin and death

Monday - [Genesis 3](#)

Tuesday - [Ezekiel 37](#)

Wednesday - [Psalm 110](#)

Thursday - [John 11:1-44](#)

Friday - [2 Corinthians 5](#)

Notices

Christmas Toys 'n' Tucker | 14 December

Join us on December 14 as we ask people at Chatswood Chase Coles to donate food and gifts for Anglicare to distribute to those in need. This will be a great opportunity for us to serve and connect with our community! Fill out the connect card if you have any questions or would like to help out! We need help with:

1. Transport 🚚 - Transport tables, fliers and cardboard boxes to Coles to set up. Transport boxes and other items back to church throughout the day.
2. Fliering 🗣️ - Encouraging shoppers at Coles to purchase an extra item to give to those in need.
3. Packing 📦 - Being a friendly face at the stall and helping pack the food items and mark boxes for the Transport team to bring back to church.

You can be on multiple teams at different times depending on how many items we're getting/people we have.

Christmas
Community
Food Collection

Saturday 14 December
outside Chatswood
Chase Coles

Toys 'n' Tucker

Share
the
Joy

Anglicare

We're collecting Christmas food and gifts
for those who would otherwise go without

Gospel and Prayer Groups for 2025

Our Gospel and Prayer (GaP) groups are a vital part of our church life. As GaP groups wind down before the end of the year, we want to thank God for all our GaP group leaders who served our groups this year. GaP groups will start again in February next year and we'd love to encourage all who call St Stephen's home to be part of a GaP group next year.

If you were not part of a group this year and would like to join one next year, please fill out the Connect card and Gordon will be in touch with you.

Notices

Serving at St Stephen's

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). Jesus' example of humble service calls us to serve others with the same generosity and love.

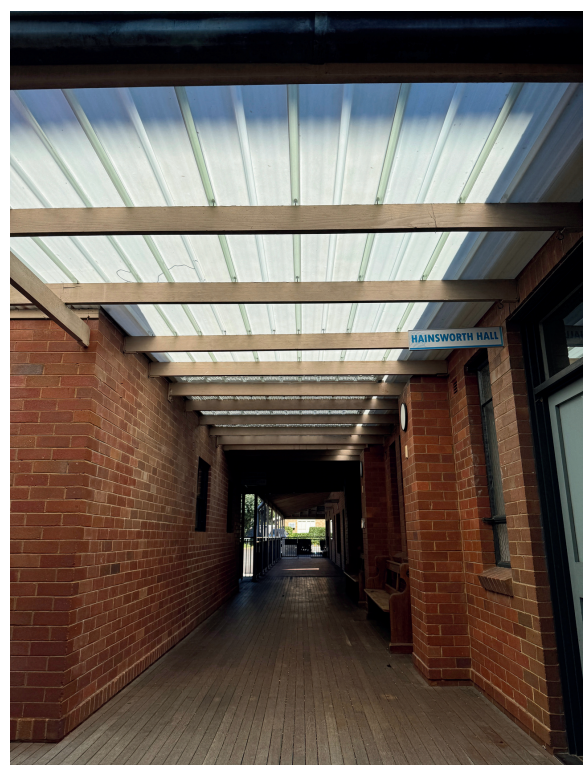
In line with our vision - we think beautiful people serve because they have a beautiful savior in Christ. Serving happens as each of us offers our gifts and time to glorify God and build up His people.

How might God use you to serve His church this Christmas?



Follow up to Gift Day

Thank you to the over 60 households who supported Gift Day this year. The generosity of God's people raised over \$60k for ministry needs next year! You may have noticed some changes to the breezeway in the past week? The wardens have been upgrading the perspex covering which is over 20 years old to a new and brighter version which makes the whole space much more welcoming! The gifts from this year's gift day will be used to finish work in this area and more property work around the site to ensure it remains a place where new and old are welcome!



What's Coming Up

- 9 - 16 December Come and See (Mondays)
- 10 December Youth & Kids Leaders Dinner
- 12 December Encounter for Seniors
- 14 December Wardens, Parish council and Staff Christmas Dinner
- 14 December TnT Food Collection

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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