



GLORIOUS
COMPLEX
DIVINE
1 Corinthians

Wk 15

Sunday 15 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 15:35-49
(p. 1155)
- Sermon
- Song
- Prayers
- Vision Spot
- 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.

We're so glad you're here—whether you're new or a regular part of our church family. As we enter this Christmas season, we're reminded of the beauty of God's gracious work in sending Jesus. The birth of Christ isn't just a story of the past; it points us to the future, to the day when Jesus will return to make all things new. Revelation 21:5 declares, "Behold, I am making all things new!"



This hope fuels our vision to be a church that's **beautiful, diverse, and large**—transformed by Jesus to reflect His glory to the world.

We'd love to hear from you! Use the QR Code to access our weekly connect card to share prayer points, respond to church life, or get connected.

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

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed:
we have not loved you with our whole heart,
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves:
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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

The Resurrection Body | 1 Corinthians 15:35-49

Preacher: Victor Jong

Intro

1. How are the dead raised?

2. With what kind of body?

- Spiritual

- Glorious

How do I get this body?

Bible Study

1. Think about a non-Christian friend or family member you know. What is their posture towards Christmas? What are things they really care about at Christmas time?

Read Mark 10:17-31

Getting your head around the passage:

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

- A. Describe the man that comes to Jesus.
- B. What did Jesus say to him that made him go away sad (v. 22)?
- C. Can you earn your way into the kingdom of God?
- D. What is the only possibility of anyone entering the kingdom of God (v. 27)?
- E. What are the marks of someone who has entered the kingdom of God (v. 28-31) and how does this compare with the rich man who came to Jesus?

2. How do you feel about sharing Jesus this Christmas? Why do you feel that?

3. How does Mark 10:17-31 both challenge and comfort us?

4. How does verse 27 humble you as you think about how you became a Christian yourself?

5. How can God's grace to you empower you to be bold to invite your friends to church this Christmas?

Prayer Time

1. Spend time praying for each other—thanking God for His grace to each of you, and praying also for a friend or family member we could invite to Christmas this year.

Notices

Christmas

Christmas is a season of hope, joy, and promise—a time to celebrate that Jesus came to make all things new. Revelation 21:5 reminds us of His glorious work: “Behold, I am making all things new.” This renewal begins with transformed lives as people encounter the grace of Christ.



Who in your life needs to hear this good news? Whether it's a family member, friend, or neighbour, a simple invitation to church this Christmas could be the start of their journey with Jesus. We have 3 very different services to help engage the diverse group of people in our area - would you pray one of them might be used by God to impact your guests?



Notices

Service Time Change

A reminder that our services will change over the coming weeks after Christmas.



The graphic features a stylized snowflake logo at the top, composed of four heart shapes. Below it, the text reads "St Stephen's" in a large, dark blue font, followed by "WILLOUGHBY" and "HOLIDAY SERVICE TIMES" in smaller, all-caps blue fonts. The service times are listed in a mix of blue and gold colors: "December 29 & January 5" in gold, "9:30am (no night church)" in blue, "January 12 onwards" in gold, and "9:30am & 6pm" in blue. At the bottom, there are three wavy blue lines representing water.

St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY
HOLIDAY SERVICE TIMES

December 29 & January 5
9:30am (no night church)
January 12 onwards
9:30am & 6pm

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.



What's Coming Up

- 16 December Come and See
- 24 December Christmas Eve Services
- 25 December Christmas Day Service
- 12 January Night Church Birthday Relaunch
- 26 - 30 January LiT Camp

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



Prashanth Colombage
Senior Minister
M: 0432 314 466
E: prash@st-stephens.com.au



Gordon Luk
Outreach & Sunday Services
E: gordon@st-stephens.com.au



Pippie Krebs
Kids & Youth Minister
E: pippie@st-stephens.com.au



Jill Chilton
Membership Minister
E: jill@st-stephens.com.au



Bec Simmons
Off-site Administrator
E: office@st-stephens.com.au