

What is God doing in the world?

Wk 4

Sunday 26 January 2025

Our 9:30am service is live streamed to our YouTube and Facebook Channels.

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Song
- Confession & Assurance
- Song
- Spotlight
- Vision Spot
- Song
- Video
- Prayers
- Ephesians 1:1-10 (p. 1173)
- Sermon
- 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.

How amazing is it that we can gather together as God's people? As Charles Wesley reminds us in the hymn And Can It Be, we are here because of God's incredible love and grace in Christ. Once bound in sin and darkness, we now stand reconciled to God, free to worship and rejoice in Him.

This gathering is a glimpse of the beauty of heaven, where people from every tribe, tongue, and nation will worship the Lamb who was slain. What a privilege it is to be part of God's global and eternal family, united in Jesus.

We'd love to connect with you further! Please use the QR code to access our Connect Card. Let us know how you found today's service or how we can pray for you this week.

May you leave today encouraged by God's love and inspired to live for His glory.



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

Heavenly Father,
we praise you for adopting us as your children
and making us heirs of eternal life.
In your mercy you have washed us from our sins
and made us clean in your sight.
Yet we still fail to love you as we should
and serve you as we ought.
Forgive us our sins and renew us by your grace,
that we may continue to grow as members of Christ,
in whom alone is our salvation. Amen.

Our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ gave himself for us
to redeem us from all wickedness
and to purify for himself a people that are his very own,
eager to do what is good.

Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! Amen

cf. Titus 2 & 2 Cor 9

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

What is God doing in our world? | Ephesians 1:1-10

Preacher: Gordon Luk

Evangelism as praise

What is God doing in the world? (Eph 1:1-10)

1. Working in ordinary people, not just global forces (v. 1)

2. Pouring out His blessings in Christ (v. 3-9)

3. Bringing all things under Christ (v. 10)

Some implications for us bringing friends to faith

Bible Study

1. What is something you're so passionate about that you could talk non-stop about to someone?

Reflect on the Word

2. Reflect on some of the passages we've looked at in our January series: What is God doing in the world? What has been a challenge and a comfort you have felt?

(You may choose to do as many of the passages as you want.)

Passage	What is a challenge you've felt?	What is a comfort you've appreciated?
Jonah 3-4		
Acts 2		
Romans 1:1-17		
Ephesians 1:1-10		

Bring to God in prayer

3. Spend time in thanksgiving for the gospel comforts you've received from reflecting on the Word in Q2.

4. Spend time in prayer asking God to work in you by His Spirit to follow the challenges of His Word.

5. Spend time praying for one non-Christian friend to come to faith.

Notices

Gospel and Prayer Groups

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) groups are our midweek gatherings where we study God's Word, pray, and support one another.

They're more than just Bible studies or community groups—they're spaces to grow in faith, share life, and

point each other to Jesus. Whether you're new to faith or a long-time believer, there's a place for you in a GaP group.



Sign up for a
**Gospel and
Prayer (GaP)**
Group



Vision Sunday - 2 February

As the new year starts let's meet together to remind ourselves of the privilege we have of serving God. On Sunday 2 February both our services



will spend time reflecting and praying for our year ahead. After the morning service we will enjoy brunch together. After Night Church we will enjoy dinner together. Would you make time to join us?

Week of Prayer - 3-7 February

“Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.” (Col 4:2)

Week of Prayer (Monday 3 February to Friday 7 February) is for our whole St Stephen's church family to come before our Heavenly Father in prayer and commit the year before us to Him. We are weak and dependent, but through Christ, we have a loving Father who delights to hear us.

Every night we will meet from 7:30pm to 8:30pm in the Chapel Hall. You might want to come with your GaP group on the night you usually meet, or you may want to come multiple nights. Everyone is welcome as we bring our church ministries and members before our loving God.



Notices

Lunar New Year Banquet - 17 February



The poster for the Lunar New Year Banquet features a red background with a subtle circular pattern. On the left, there is a red lantern icon. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout. At the top left, the St Stephen's Willoughby logo is displayed. The main title 'Lunar New Year Banquet' is in a large, elegant serif font. Below it, the date and time are clearly stated. To the right, details about the 3-course banquet and the Alpha Course are provided, along with the location, website, and a QR code for booking.

St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY
invites you to our

**Lunar
New Year
Banquet**

**MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
7-9:30PM**

3 COURSE BANQUET | DRINKS INCL. | \$25 PP

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A chance to #tryalpha and explore life, faith
& meaning, through the 1st instalment of
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st-stephens.com.au

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your
spot.

Kids & Youth Programs

Jesus said “Let the little children come to me”.
At St Stephen’s we love young people and want to
share with them the life giving news of Jesus.

Playtime (Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30am): Fun for kids
(0-5) with songs, Bible stories, and craft, plus
meaningful connections for carers.
Starts back 11th February.



Friday Kids (Fridays, 3:30-5:00pm):
Games, craft, and Bible stories for
K-5 kids to unwind and make friends.
Starts back 7th February.

HPS (Fridays, 6:30-8:15pm): Fun,
games, and big questions for Years
6-9. Starts back 7th February.



Sunday Kids & Youth:
Age-specific programs during services to explore God’s
love, faith, and friendships. During January we will have
a special holiday program for Preschoolers and K-5.
High schoolers will remain in for the whole service.

What's Coming Up

28 January	Crafternoon
31 January	Friday Kids BBQ
2 February	Vision Sunday
3-7 February	Week of Prayer
4 February	SRE Conference

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

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