



A New King

The life of Jesus
according to Matthew's Gospel

 St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Wk 14

Sunday 9 February 2025

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

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Kids & Youth Leader Commissioning
- Song
- Vision Spot
- Prayers
- Bible Reading: Matthew 11 (p. 976)
- 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.

We're so glad you're here today! As we gather, we celebrate and commission our Kids' Ministry leaders—those who faithfully teach and disciple the next generation. What a joy it is to see God at work in the lives of our children!



Today, we'll sing "May the mind of Christ, my Saviour, live in me from day to day, by His love and power controlling all I do and say." This is our prayer for our Sunday Kids leaders, our children, and our whole church—that Christ's love would shape and guide us as we grow in Him.

Kids' Ministry is a vital part of our church's vision to be **beautiful**, **diverse**, and **large**. If you'd like to know more or explore how you can be involved, we'd love to chat.

If you're new or visiting, we'd love to connect! Scan the QR code on the connect card to share how we can serve you.

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.

4 Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness. 5 But you know that he appeared so that he might take away our sins. And in him is no sin.

1 John 3:4-5

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 True Saviour | Matthew 11:25-30

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

1. The Real Deal?

2. Signing Up?

3. Guaranteed Delivery?

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

A suggested Get-To-Know-You game 😊

Everyone is to open up their photos gallery on their phone. When the leader says “go”, everyone starts scrolling down. When the leader says “stop”, everyone must open up the photo they’re on.

Go around the group and share with everyone what the photo is (if it’s not an appropriate photo to share, you may choose the next one!)

Going deep in God’s Word

Read Hebrews 10:19-25

What are the four “let us” encouragements from this passage?

1. Let us _____ (v. 22)
2. Let us _____ (v. 23)
3. Let us _____ (v. 24)
4. Let us not _____ (v. 25)

Why does God give us these encouragements (v. 19-21; v. 25b)? Are there any similarities you notice with Sunday’s passage (Matt 11:27-30)?

How does this Scripture shape our expectations of meeting together as a Gospel and Prayer group this year? Discuss the following together.

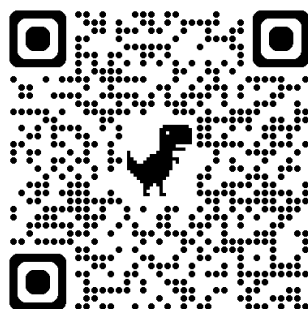
- That we point each other to the blood of Christ and the assurance we have in Him before God.
- That we encourage one another to follow Christ in every area of life.
- That we support each other through physical, emotional, and spiritual struggles.
- That we are real, confidential, and gracious as we confess our sins to one another.
- That we grow in practical love and care for each other.
- That we are committed to meeting regularly throughout the year so that we can do the things above.

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of God's Word, spend some time praying together, using the following prompts:

1. What do you adore about Christ?
2. What self-seeking/self-honouring/sinful attitudes do you need to confess to God?
3. What truths and comforts from the gospel can you thank God for?
4. What do you want to ask God to help you in?

Finish by singing In Christ Alone together, you can scan this QR Code to listen to a recording.



Notices

Alpha kicks off with Lunar New Year Banquet - 17 Feb

“And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ” (Col 4:3)

This term we are running the Alpha course for anyone to come and explore life, faith and Jesus. For a taste of what Alpha is like, we’re hosting the Lunar New Year Banquet on Monday night 17 February, 7-9:30pm.

This is a fantastic evening of food, drinks, culture and community. But it’s also a chance for us at St Stephen’s to share Jesus and His life-changing message to our friends and neighbours. Last year we had over 30 non-St Stephen’s guests brought along. We’re praying that even more guests would come along this year!

Who could you bring along? Don’t forget to register!



Kids and Youth Ministry Start back

Kids and youth ministry is vital for reaching the next generation with the gospel, shaping their hearts and minds to know and love Jesus. We have a great term planned!





TERM 1

Kids and Youth

Jesus said 'Let the Little Children come to me'

TUESDAY

Playtime

Jesus is...

FRIDAY

Friday kids

Half Past Six

Cross Eyed
The power of the Cross
Big Week: 21st of March

SUNDAY

Gumnuts

Gumleaves

Bluegums

Junior High

Senior High

Who is God?

A New King:
Matthew 8-20

Catechism

A NEW KING: MATTHEW 16-28



Notices

Belonging Course - 23 February

Wanting to be part of our church?

Join us at Belonging on Sunday, Feb 23! This is a great opportunity to learn more about our church's history, vision, and community, meet our staff, and connect with others who are new.

Lunch and afternoon tea are provided, and a children's program is available. If you are thinking about making this your church home, **Belonging** will help you take the next step.

Sign up via the Connect Card or chat with Jill



Big Day Out

Morning Church
Big Day Out

Join us on
Saturday 22nd March
10am-7pm
St Faith's Narrabeen

Guest speaker:
Simon Manchester

Spend the day with your church family around good food, great teaching from the Bible, prayer & plenty of relaxation time.

Cost: \$50 per adult, Kids are free
Includes Morning Tea, Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Dinner
Registration is essential
st-stephens.com.au/big-day-out

Any questions contact Prash
(Financial assistance available)

A small circular inset photograph showing a group of about ten people, including men and women of various ages, standing together outdoors in front of some greenery. They are all smiling and appear to be church members or staff.

What's Coming Up

16 February	Newish Morning Tea
17 February	Lunar New Year Banquet
23 February	Belonging Course
24 Feb - 24 Mar	Alpha
2 March	All In Training

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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