

Finding True Joy

A GRACE-FILLED LIFE FROM THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS



Week 8

Sunday 28 September 2025

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

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Song
- Welcome
- Confession & Assurance
- Prayers
- Spotlight
- Song
- Vision Spot
- Bible Reading: Philippians 4:1-9 (p. 1181)
- 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.

Welcome! Whether you're here every week, visiting, or exploring faith for the first time, we're so glad you've joined us. Life on the North Shore can be full of distractions, competition, and pressure — the constant drive to achieve, provide, and keep everything under control. Yet Philippians 4:1-9 points us to something deeper: the peace of God that guards our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. It's a peace no achievement or lifestyle can secure, but which comes as a gift through prayer, trust, and knowing Christ himself.



As a church, we long to be **made beautiful, diverse, and large by the gracious work of Christ** — and part of that beauty is learning together how to live free from anxiety, grounded in God's love. If you're new or visiting, we'd love you to fill in a Connect Card via the QR code so we can welcome you more personally - and stick around for Newish Morning Tea too!

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 today. 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 9 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 Jill. Simply reach out – she'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

Our Father in heaven,
You are big and we are small.
Thank you that you are the King over everything.
We are sorry for not loving or listening to you.
We are sorry that we choose our way instead of yours.
Please help us live as friends with you
through Jesus Christ.
Help us to listen and love you by your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

And you, who were dead in your trespasses... God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

Col 2:13-14

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

Finding Peace in a Busy World | Philippians 4:1-9

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

Stay the Course!

1. The Simple Things

a. Love the ...

b. Love your ...

c. Loving me ...

2. The Central Focus

3. The Gracious Outcome

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Share and pray together

Share and pray for each other. What's something you'd like to thank God for? What's something you'd like to ask Him for?

Going deep in God's Word

Read the Bible passage from Philippians in Sunday's sermon

1. What questions do you have of the passage? What stands out from the passage to you?

2. How would you break up the passage into smaller sections? Try to summarise the main point of the passage and of each smaller section.

3. How does this passage speak about our relationship with God? How does that impact how we relate to each other?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In a big group, reflect on the following questions in light of God's Word and spend some time in open prayer for the following.

1. How have you been challenged or convicted by the Holy Spirit in this Word?

2. How have you been comforted by the Holy Spirit in this Word?

Read the Bible with us!

Using some of the questions to guide you.

1. What comfort is the Spirit giving me through this passage?
2. How is He challenging me through this passage?

Monday - [Revelation 13](#)

Tuesday - [Revelation 14](#)

Wednesday - [Revelation 15](#)

Thursday - [Revelation 16](#)

Friday - [Revelation 17](#)

Notices

Newish Morning Tea

Have you been coming along to church in the past few weeks? We'd love to show you a little more about us, introduce you to some regulars and the staff and let you take a few more steps into our church community. Today we have Newish - it runs for 30mins after the service and includes a great supper. We hope you can come along.



Come and See

COME & SEE

how Jesus offers *life to the full*

MONDAY NIGHTS
7PM TO 8:30PM

Free food and drink.
No experience or knowledge required.

 St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

COME & SEE

is for anyone who wants to know how to live
the life they were made to live.

Jesus made one of the biggest claims ever when he said:
"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the
full." (John's Gospel, Chapter 10, Verse 10)

Whether you're asking life's big questions, looking for a
fresh start, or new to the Christian faith, Come & See is a
chance to get together with others and see what the Bible
says about Jesus and the life he offers. No prior
knowledge or experience is required. Come and see!

MONDAY NIGHTS 7PM-8:30PM
Free food and drink.

 Scan to let us know you're coming.
211 Mowbray Rd, Willoughby

 St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Look Who's Coming to Lunch

Community doesn't just happen - it must be built, nurtured and encouraged. God has done the foundation work and invites us to enjoy and build his church community. Take the plunge and come along to our Look who's coming to Lunch event - Sunday 26 October. Register using the connect card.



**LOOK WHO'S
COMING TO
LUNCH**



Notices

Gospel and Prayer Groups

Here's how Janice has been finding GaP group since joining for the first time this year:

"I love going to GaP group. It's invigorating, stimulating and refreshing (sounds like a day at the spa, but free!). It helps me understand and dig deeper into the sermon passages and is a powerful combination of theory and application.

I feel like it helps me in my daily walk as a Christian and as a person in the world. Oh, and our group is diverse and beautiful and I'm loving going on this journey with them!"



Ministry Fair

Come and celebrate all that God is doing at St Stephen's!

Our Ministry Fair on Sunday, 19th October is a joyful chance to explore the many ways people serve and see how you might get involved in 2026.

Discover new opportunities, ask questions, and be inspired to use your gifts for God's mission.



What's Coming Up

30 Sept-3 Oct	HPS Youth Camp
13 October	Come and See
14 October	Crafternoon
19 October	Vision Sunday
19 October	Ministry Fair

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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



Gordon Luk
Outreach & GaP Groups
E: gordon@st-stephens.com.au



Pippie Krebs
Kids & Youth Minister & Training
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