



Week 3

Sunday 2 November 2025

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Moving Up Day Ceremony
- Song
- Bible Reading: Revelation 2:12-17 & 11:1-19 (p. 1237)
- Series Video
- Sermon
- Prayers
- Lord's Supper
- 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.

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

Welcome! We're continuing our Vision Series as we explore what it means to be **made beautiful, diverse and large by the gracious work of Christ.**



Connect Card

Life on the Lower North Shore often prizes safety, control, and comfort. Many of us work hard to secure lives that are stable and respectable — yet Revelation 11 gives us a vision of something far greater. It shows the church as God's witnesses: fragile, yet empowered; ordinary, yet carrying eternal truth.

Jesus calls us not to retreat into comfort, but to stand courageously for Him in a world that often misunderstands faith. Our confidence doesn't come from success or strength, but from the risen Christ who reigns and will one day make all things new. That's the kind of church we long to be — a people who serve courageously because we know the Lamb already holds the victory.

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 23 November. 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

A Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,
You call us to faithful witness and costly service.
We confess our fear, our compromise, and our desire for ease.
Have mercy on us;
give us courage to follow the Lamb wherever He goes.
Amen.

God's Assurance (from 1 Cor 15:58)

Leader: Stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Adoration

Leader: The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord.

All: And you Lord will reign for ever and ever.

Prayers for our Church

Leader: Strengthen us in sacrificial service.

All: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep us faithful when trials & distractions come.

All: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: Help us to serve one another in love.

All: Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Sermon Notes

A Church that Serves Courageously | Revelation 2:12-17 and 11:1-19

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

1. Guard against Distraction

2. Serve with Courage

The Temple

The Witnesses

“On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?”

Our 5 Year Goal for Community:



3. See the Final Victory

The Final Trumpet

“As heavenly mindedness has increased in
my life, so has my focus and motivation for
serving God and advancing his kingdom.”
– Cameron Cole, Heavenward

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Opening discussion

Compare the experience of belonging in (you may share your own experiences):

1. A community of people who only care about themselves and their own needs
2. A community of people who sacrificially give themselves to serve the needs of others

Going deep in God's Word

Read Revelation 2:12-17 and 11:1-19

1. What does John's measuring of the temple (11:1-2) symbolise (see also Ezekiel 40:3 and Ephesians 2:20), and how does this comfort the Church today (see Zechariah 2:1-5)?
2. Who do the two witnesses (11:3-12) represent (see Zechariah 3-4) and what is their mission in God's redemptive plan?
3. What happens when the witnesses finish their testimony (11:7-12) and what does this reveal about the nature and cost of faithful Christian witness?
4. What do we learn from the sounding of the 7th trumpet (11:15-19) about the future final victory of God's kingdom?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

Spend some time reflecting on the following questions, sharing, and praying together for each other and our church.

1. What kinds of distractions—like those of the church in Pergamum (2:14-16)—tempt our church to lose focus on serving Christ and His mission?
2. What would courageous, sacrificial service (11:3-12) look like for us as a church over the next 5 years?
3. The witnesses were Spirit-empowered and joy-filled despite suffering. How can you depend more deeply on the Spirit's power rather than your own power as you serve?

Read the Bible with us!

Using some of the questions to guide you.

1. What about Jesus's character makes me want to worship Him today?
2. What does Jesus do in this passage that challenges how I live my life currently?

Monday - [Luke 16](#)

Tuesday - [Luke 17](#)

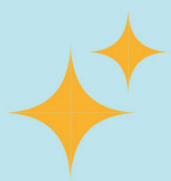
Wednesday - [Luke 18](#)

Thursday - [Luke 19](#)

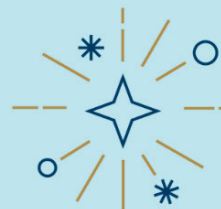
Friday - [Luke 20](#)

Notices

Serving



SERVING AT ST STEPHEN'S



"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." — 1 Peter 4:10

AT ST STEPHEN'S, WE BELIEVE
SERVING IS PART OF HOW WE
WORSHIP JESUS — IT'S A JOYFUL
RESPONSE TO ALL HE'S DONE FOR US.



How to Get Involved in 2026

1. Pray and reflect - Ask God where He might use you best next year.
2. Fill out the Expression of Interest form
3. A ministry leader will be in touch to talk to you more about serving.



Need Help or Have Questions?
Chat with Pippie at the
expression of interest table after
church



St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

Notices

Moving Up Day

Today is Moving Up Day—a special moment to mark how God has been at work in the lives of our kids and youth. As some kids step into new groups, we celebrate the ways they've grown in faith and understanding of Jesus. Please continue to pray for them asking that they would settle in well, build strong friendships, and keep growing as His disciples.

Belonging

We love having new people join our church. We don't want you to be a consumer but to be a contributor and member of this church - we want it to be your church too! Belonging is the best way to take a step into the heart of our church. Those who have come to belonging in the past have found it a perfect way to get more involved. Join us for the final one on Sunday 9 November from 12-3pm for lunch, the course and great community.



BELONGING COURSE

AN INTRODUCTION TO GETTING INVOLVED IN OUR CHURCH

SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER

12pm - 3pm

Chapel Hall

LUNCH & AFTERNOON TEA PROVIDED

Gift Day

There are countless thrilling prospects on the horizon for us next year! We are eager to bring on a new team member by the end of 2026 to assist our current trio of paid staff (Prash, Pippie, and Gordon). Our church ministry has expanded, along with the opportunities and needs that come with it.

We would like to start preparing for this new role by raising funds to support them. Gift Day presents a wonderful chance to contribute a one-time donation towards costs that extend our ministry to new individuals and our local community.

Our goal for this year is \$60,000. Would you kindly consider participating in this initiative?

Gift Day 16 Nov

Support the life, ministry, and outreach of St Stephen's

REF: GIFTDAY



2025 Target: \$60,000

What's Coming Up

3 November	Come and See
9 November	Belonging Course
16 November	Gift Day
22 November	Working Bee
23 November	Newish Morning Tea

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

Our Staff - Contact Us!



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