



Week 3

Sunday 15 February 2026

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

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Spotlight
- Bible Readings:
Matthew 7:7-12 &
Psalm 86 (p. 971)
- Sermon
- Confession &
Assurance
- Song
- Prayers
- Vision Spot
- Song
- Conclusion

Most St Stephen's
collection is received
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BSB: 062 272
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00490436

If you are a visitor please
don't feel obliged to
contribute financially.

Welcome! It's great to have you with us as we continue our series **Learning to Pray Like Jesus**. Our prayer this term is that we'd be truly supercharged in our prayer lives—not through pressure, but through confidence in who God is.



Connect Card

In week three, we're focusing on Jesus' invitation in Matthew 7:7-12 to ask, seek, and knock. Jesus assures us that prayer for spiritual growth is not presumptuous but welcomed, because we come to a Father who delights to give good gifts. Psalm 86 echoes this confidence, reminding us that God is "forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to Him."

Many of us hesitate to pray boldly for change in ourselves. Yet Jesus encourages us to come expectantly, trusting God's generous heart. As a church, we long to be made beautiful, diverse and large by the gracious work of Christ— a bold prayer! We're confident he will answer it.

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 22 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 1 March 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

Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

Jeremiah 29:12-13

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

Asking, Seeking, Knocking | Matthew 7:7-11 and Psalm 86

Preacher: Gordon Luk

1. Our strange relationship with asking
2. Jesus invites and commands us to ask (Matt 7:7-8)
3. How we ask reflects what we believe about God (Matt 7:9-11; Psalm 86)
4. Ask bold kingdom prayers because our Father is good and generous

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Discuss together

Do you think you were brought up to be someone who would naturally ask for help or try to fix/solve the problem yourself?

Going deep in God's Word

Read Psalm 86 and Matthew 7:7-11

1. In Psalm 86, list out all of David's requests to God, and what beliefs (about himself and God) those requests are based on.

David's requests	David's beliefs
<i>Eg. Hear and answer me, Lord (v. 1)</i>	<i>Because I am poor and needy (v. 1)</i>

2. Look now at Matthew 7:7-11. Why does Jesus tell us to ask God in prayer boldly/audaciously? How is our practice of prayer linked to what we believe/see about God (ie. our theology)?

3. Reflect on your own prayer life (ie. What you pray for? How often/persistent you pray? How big or tame are your prayers? Do you doubt/are you cynical about how God will answer your prayers?). What does that say about how you're seeing God?

4. Which statements about God and His character (from Psalm 86), do you need the Holy Spirit to write on your heart?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of Jesus' invitation and command to ask our heavenly Father boldly in prayer, spend some time praying for a non-Christian person in our life:

1. That they might come to the Lunar New Year banquet and Alpha

2. That they would come into God's Kingdom by faith in Jesus

Spend time with God each day!

As we go through Matthew's Gospel on Sundays and the prayers of Jesus, we want to help you spend time with God each day in His Word and in prayer. The Psalms are a rich book of songs/prayers all about Jesus—He prays these psalms as a man, and yet the psalms are about Him as God's Son and the Messiah, the son of King David. Reflect on the following questions.

1. What stirs your heart about Jesus as you think about Him praying the words of this Psalm as a man on earth?

2. How does it enlarge your view and understanding of your Father in heaven?

3. How can the Spirit use this psalm that Jesus prays to enrich what you confess to God, what you give thanks to Him for, and what you ask Him for?

Monday - [Psalm 16](#)

Tuesday - [Psalm 17](#)

Wednesday - [Psalm 18](#)

Thursday - [Psalm 19](#)

Friday - [Psalm 20](#)

Notices

Lunar New Year Banquet

Only one week until our Lunar New Year Banquet!

Who can you invite this week and bring along?

The banquet is going to be a great night of food, culture but importantly, a chance to connect with others and hear about the life Jesus offers—an easy invitation that can make an eternal difference!

Please register this week so the team can plan ahead at st-stephens.com.au/lny-banquet

Alpha - What is it & who is it for?



The Alpha course continues after the Lunar New Year Banquet on every Monday night in March.

Our prayer is that many guests who come to the banquet will be curious and open to discovering for themselves the life that Jesus offers.

The Alpha course walks through the basics of the Christian faith in a warm, welcoming space for honest questions.

No prior experience nor knowledge needed.
It's free, includes dinner and drinks.

Who could you bring along?

Notices

All In Training - Save the date

ALL IN TRAINING

Train, Equip, Encourage.

REGISTER HERE



SUNDAY, 8TH MARCH

-  Who
ALL VOLUNTEERS
-  Date
SUNDAY, 8TH MARCH
-  Time
11:45-2:15PM
-  Lunch and kid's program
INLCUDED

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



Friday Kids



Friday Kids has started again for the year! Please pray for this ministry:

1. For walking bus volunteers who are available for 50 minutes 1-3 times per term - we've lost several key volunteers in this area recently.
2. For new non-church kids to come to Friday Kids through our recent flyer drop, posters, and invitations from our families. Pray that they will move from death to life.

What's Coming Up

16 February	Come and See
22 February	Newish Morning Tea
23 February	Lunar New Year Banquet
1 March	Belonging Course
2 March	Alpha Course

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

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