



Week 4

Sunday 22 February 2026

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

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Vision Spot
- Bible Readings:
Matthew 9:35-10:4
& Psalm 90
(p. 974)
- Sermon
- Song
- Prayers
- 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! It's great to gather as we continue our series **Learning to Pray Like Jesus**. Our hope this term is that we would be truly supercharged in prayer—deeply dependent on God and bold in asking Him to work.



Connect Card

In Matthew 9, Jesus sees the crowds and has compassion on them. He tells His disciples to “ask the Lord of the harvest” to send out workers. Prayer begins not with strategy, but with hearts shaped by Jesus’ compassion. Psalm 90 reminds us that our days are brief and precious—so we ask God to establish the work of our hands for what truly lasts.

As we look ahead to our Lunar New Year Banquet outreach, this call to prayer feels especially urgent. May we pray for gospel workers, open hearts, and lasting fruit. And after the service, join us for Newish Morning Tea—a great way to connect if you're new to our community.

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 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

Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

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

Praying for the work of the Gospel | Matthew 9:35-10:4 & Psalm 90

Preacher: Prashanth Colombage

1. The Needs of the World

2. The Response to the Need

3. The Ultimate Solution

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Discuss together

When you look at the people around you in everyday life, what do you tend to notice first?

Going deep in God's Word

Read Psalm 90 and Matthew 9:35-10:4

1. There are 3 (groups of) characters in this passage. List all the things we're told about them.

(a) The crowds

(b) The disciples

(c) Jesus

2. Reflecting on (a) and (b) above, and also our answers from the opening question. What strikes you about how Jesus sees these people? Do you notice any parallels with how Psalm 90 describes the human condition?

3. How does Jesus' command to pray for workers (v. 38) come from how He sees people? What challenge is there to how you see people? What comfort is there in knowing how Jesus sees you?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of Jesus encouragement to pray for workers for the harvest, use the following questions to reflect on before praying together.

1. What motivates the way you serve the Lord? How has that been challenged by Jesus in the passage?
2. In what ways are you reluctant to be sent into the harvest field? How can you take a step towards sacrificially serving in God's mission at our church?
3. In what ways are you reluctant to pray for workers to be sent into God's harvest field (both at our church and in the world)? How can you practically pray this prayer more regularly?

Spend time with God each day!

As we go through Matthew on Sundays, we want to help you spend time with God each day. The Psalms are song-prayers about Jesus. He prayed these words as a man, and they speak about Him as the Messiah, the Son of David. Use these questions to guide your reflection and prayer:

1. What stands out to you about Jesus when you imagine Him praying this Psalm on earth?
2. What does this Psalm show you about God your Father?
3. How can the Spirit use this Psalm to shape your prayers now?
 - what you confess to God,
 - what you thank Him for,
 - what you ask Him for

Monday - [Psalm 21](#)
Tuesday - [Psalm 22](#)
Wednesday - [Psalm 23](#)
Thursday - [Psalm 24](#)
Friday - [Psalm 25](#)

Notices

Lunar New Year Banquet

Don't miss out on tomorrow night's Lunar New Year banquet!

Registrations close at midnight tonight — there's still time to invite a friend or family member. Many guests are already booked in, which is a real encouragement.

Please pray that the evening runs smoothly, that our guests feel welcomed and loved, and most importantly that they're open to hearing about the life Jesus offers.



Finances

We love our church building - not just because its beautiful and old but because it has been used by God to draw many people to hear his message. It costs a lot to maintain it.

This past week, the wardens have spent \$44,000 on fixing leaks in the roof. When you give financially you support ministry directly and indirectly. Perhaps you can partner with us financially in supporting the gospel work on our site? Visit st-stephens.com.au/give for more detail about how to do that.

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 INCLUDED

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



SRE starts back this week

SRE in our local school is such a precious opportunity.

Each week we get to share the good news of Jesus with around 200 children — many of whom don't come from Christian homes. What an incredible open door for gospel ministry!

Please pray for our SRE teacher and helpers, that they would be bold in teaching the Bible and inviting kids to church. Pray they would shine as a light in the school, and that God might use this ministry to bring real revival in young hearts.



What's Coming Up

23 February	Lunar New Year Banquet
1 March	Belonging Course
2 March	Alpha Course
2 March	Come and See
6 March	Friday Kids Big Week

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

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