



Week 5

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Songs
- Confession & Assurance
- Spotlight
- Bible Readings: Matthew 11:25-30 & Psalm 73 (p. 976)
- Sermon
- Song
- Lord's Supper
- 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.

Sunday 1 March 2026

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

Welcome! We're so glad you're with us as we continue our series **Learning to Pray Like Jesus**. Our hope this term is that we would be supercharged in prayer—not through pressure, but through rediscovering prayer as a gift.



This week we turn to Jesus' beautiful invitation in **Connect Card** Matthew 11:25–30: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened." Prayer is not another task for the exhausted; it is where the weary find rest. Psalm 73 echoes that journey—from confusion and spiritual fatigue to renewed strength in God's presence.

If you arrive today feeling tired, distracted, or spiritually dry, you are not alone. Jesus meets us there.

After the service, our **Belonging Course** is running—a great opportunity for newer people to step more intentionally into the life of our church. We'd love to help you find your place among us as we grow together in Christ.

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 29 March. 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 today 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 those not sharing in Lord's Supper

Participation in the Lord's Supper is for those who have professed faith in Jesus - it's a powerful and important symbol of the Christian message. As such we want to encourage those who are still exploring the Christian faith to feel free to remain in their seats when others move to the front to receive the Lord's Supper. During that time you may want to reflect on the sermon or Bible reading. You may also want to pray one of these prayers below.

Prayer for those searching for truth

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me who you are. Give me an understanding of you that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Saviour and Lord. Amen.

Prayer for those struggling with sin

Lord Jesus, enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the pioneer and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

Prayers adapted from Redeemer Presbyterian Church, New York.

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 when you're weary | Matthew 11:25-30 and Psalm 73

Preacher: Gordon Luk

1. Learning to pray with Jesus?
2. The incomparability of Jesus: Whom have we in heaven but you, Lord?
 - a. His prayer (Matt 11:25-26)
 - b. His authority (Matt 11:27)
 - c. His invitation (Matt 11:28-30 and Psalm 73)
 - d. His heart (Matt 11:28)

Gospel and Prayer (GaP) Group Study

Discuss together

Share with each other, when do you try to read the Bible and pray by yourself each day? What has worked for you? What hasn't worked?

Going deep in God's Word

Read Psalm 73 and Matthew 11:25-30

1. Imagine Asaph was living in 2026 when he writes Psalm 73. What could he be seeing to make him write verses 2 to 14?

2. How does Asaph get from envying the arrogant (v. 3) to what he says about God in verses 25 to 28? What is the turning point for him? Why does that change him?

3. What similarities are there to Asaph coming into the presence of God (Ps 73:17) and Jesus' invitation (Matt 11:25-30)?

4. From these passages, what do you think stops people from coming to spend time with God through Jesus?

Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

At the start of the term, we were encouraged to identify ways we'd like God's Spirit to grow us in this year (you might want to spend some time sharing these again in smaller groups).

HOW CAN GOD GROW ME THIS YEAR?

 How can God grow me in understanding of His Word?

 How can God grow me in what I desire and my character?

 How can God grow me in how live and serve Him & others?

Regular rhythms of hearing God's Word will be important for you to grow this year. Think about the following and where you might need to put effort in this year.

	How has it been going?	What could help you with this?
Daily —time with God on your own reading His Word, confessing sins, thanking Him, praising Him, casting anxieties on Him, praying		
Weekly —with a small group (eg. GaP group) feeding on His Word, praying together, encouraging each other		
Weekly —with your church family on Sundays under His Word, worshipping Him together		
Occasionally/semi-regularly —catching up with a spiritual friend(s) to read the Bible and pray for each other more personally		

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 26](#)
Tuesday - [Psalm 27](#)
Wednesday - [Psalm 28](#)
Thursday - [Psalm 29](#)
Friday - [Psalm 30](#)

Notices

Big Day Out - Mar 21, save the date!

Its time to start booking your tickets for our Big Day Out. Scan the QR code to go straight to the form and book. We want all members of our AM service to come along and enjoy all the joys of the day: food, new friendships, fantastic bible teaching and re-freshement for the year ahead.



Alpha

It was fantastic to see over 90 people at the Lunar New Year banquet on Monday night, including 35+ guests not from our church tasting the Alpha course for the first time.

Alpha continues on Monday nights all through March, in the Chapel Hall from 7-9pm. There's still time to bring a friend along. All are welcome, there's no prior knowledge nor experience required—come as you are. Free dinner included.



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



KYCK

We are going to KYCK!
We're heading to KYCK 3 this year (24-26 April)! KYCK is a high school conference where thousands of youth gather in the Blue Mountains to hear God speak through the Bible and be encouraged to live for Jesus.

Register now— and why not invite a friend to join you?
It's a great weekend to grow in faith together.



What's Coming Up

2 March	Alpha Course
2 March	Come and See
6 March	Friday Kids Big Week
6 March	Half Past Six Big Week
8 March	All In Training

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

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