



St Stephen's
WILLOUGHBY

WE LONG TO BE A CHURCH MADE

beautiful, diverse and large

by the gracious work of Christ

Week 1

TODAY'S 9:30AM SERVICE

- Welcome
- Confession & Assurance
- Song
- Spotlight
- Bible Reading: Obadiah (p.932)
- Sermon
- Lord's Supper
- Prayers
- Vision Spot
- Song
- Closing Prayer
- Songs

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 to St Stephen's! Whether you're visiting, exploring Christianity or part of our church family, we're glad you're here.



Connect Card

High among the rocks, Edom felt untouchable. Yet its defences could not hide its pride or cruelty from God. Today, the short book of Obadiah reminds us that God sees injustice, brings down the proud and will establish his kingdom. Here on the Lower North Shore, comfortable homes and carefully laid plans can give us a similar sense of security. God's word invites us to humble ourselves, trust him and care for those whose suffering we might overlook.

As we share the Lord's Supper, the bread and cup remind us of Jesus, who gave himself to bring sinners home to God. We long to be a church made beautiful, diverse and large by the gracious work of Christ, learning to live humbly under our merciful King.

Next Steps

Are you new? Catch up with Prash or Jill to share your story and hear about St Stephen's church life.

Been regularly coming? If you are a regular member of our church, we encourage you to attend our next [Belonging Course](#) which runs on November 22 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 sooner, you may also like to 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

Will God ever act?| Obadiah

Preacher: Emlyn Hoyt

God will soon deliver his people:

1. Through Judgement
 - a. What is God's judgement like?

- b. Is God's judgement just?

2. Into an inheritance

Going Deeper During The Week

Opening Reflection

What was something you enjoyed, learned, or were challenged by from Sunday's sermon?

Going deep in God's Word

Read the passage from Sunday

1. What stands out to you in this passage? (ie. Are there any repeated words, surprising details, commands, promises, or questions that feel significant?)
2. Try to break down the passage into different sections.
3. What would be missing if we didn't have this passage in the Bible? What does it reveal about who God is and who we are?
4. What aspect of the gospel is shown and magnified by this passage? How does this passage make you delight in and worship your Lord Jesus?

🙏 Praying big prayers shaped by the gospel

In light of this passage, reflect and pray using the ACTS framework as your guide.

1. **Adoration** – what is something from this passage that makes you praise God?

2. **Confession** – has the Spirit convicted you of a particular sin that you need to confess to God and ask for His forgiveness?

3. **Thanksgiving** – what are all the things you can give thanks to God for that this passage has shown to you?

4. **Supplication** (eg. Asking) - what is something you can ask God to help you in or give you?

Read the Bible with us!

After reading each passage, use ACTS framework to help you listen carefully to God's Word and respond to Him in prayer:

1. Adoration: What does this passage show you about God? Praise him for it.
2. Confession: Where does it challenge your thoughts or actions? Bring that honestly to God.
3. Thanksgiving: What comfort, promise or gift can you thank God for that He has shown you in this passage?
4. Supplication: What help do you need to live out what you've read today? Ask God for it

Monday – 2 Timothy 3:1-9
Tuesday – 2 Timothy 3:10-17
Wednesday – 2 Timothy 4:1-5
Thursday – 2 Timothy 4:6-8
Friday – 2 Timothy 4:9-22

Notices

Welcoming Tim Young !

Last Sunday we announced the exciting news that Tim Young and his family (Chantelle & Laura) will be joining us next year as the new Youth & Membership Minister.

We hope Tim will help our church better minister to youth and new people. We are appointing him to help us meet the great spiritual needs of our area and the 65,000 people who live within 2kms of our church.



Week of Prayer: 12–16 October

Week Of Prayer

**Praying for our friends
to come to know Christ**

— 12 - 16 OCTOBER —

MONDAY - THURSDAY

7:30 - 8:30 PM

FRIDAY

1 - 2 PM



There are over 65,000 people living around us who don't have a saving relationship with Jesus. We desperately need God to work among us and through us as we proclaim His gospel in Willoughby, Chatswood and Artarmon!

Join us for our Term 4 Week of Prayer as we ask Him to powerfully work here—to grow our church, deepen our love, and bring more people from death to life in Jesus. We have a big God who loves to hear and answer our prayers. Let's boldly pray big prayers to Him shaped by His gospel and Word.

Notices

Ministry Fair: Sunday 11 October



MINISTRY FAIR
SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER

HOW DOES THE MINISTRY FAIR WORK

1. After church, **grab some food**
2. **Wander around the stalls** to see what each ministry does.
3. Chat with leaders, **ask questions**, and learn more.
4. At the end, **fill out an Expression of Interest form**- you're not committing to anything yet
5. **Someone will follow up** to talk more about joining a team

Half Past Six: Term 4 Program

This term at Half Past Six, our youth are diving into the Gospel of Luke to discover what it means to follow Jesus. We'll be learning from God's word, asking big questions, building friendships and having plenty of fun along the way



FOLLOWING JESUS
The joy + Cost

HALF PAST SIX
YEARS 5-9

Half Past Six | Fridays, 6:30-8:15pm | Years 5-9

What's Coming Up

11 October	Ministry Fair
12 - 16 October	Week of Prayer
12 October	Come and See
13 October	Crafternoon
15 October	Encounter

For more on what's happening this winter 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 & Spiritual Maturity
E: gordon@st-stephens.com.au



Pippie Krebs
Kids & Youth Ministry & Training
E: pippie@st-stephens.com.au



Jill Chilton
Membership Minister
E: jill@st-stephens.com.au



Emlyn Hoyt
Ministry Trainee
E: emlyn.hoyt@st-stephens.com.au