



St Paul's Church



Midweek



This was the scene from my local park midweek and I took the time to stop and appreciate the beauty of this early morning sunrise. Later I did the first of six midweek communions that I am piloting at St Nicholas' church. Getting through the week can at times be difficult, indeed it can be difficult to be joyful in every season, but especially within seasons of change, difficulty, or loss. Paul, the author of the letter to the Philippians, could probably relate. While writing his letter to the Philippians, Paul was sitting in a jail cell under Roman guard (Acts 28).

Even though Paul was in a difficult situation in life, he still wrote to the church in Philippi and encouraged them to always rejoice. He also said that they should pray to God rather than worrying or being anxious about situations (4:6). They should request what they need from God with thanksgiving.

Paul's teaching is this: regardless of our circumstances, there is always a reason to praise God. If we learn to rejoice in every season and submit to God in prayer rather than becoming anxious, then God's peace will be with us in our heart and mind (Philippians 4:7).

God has given us everything we could hope for. As we believe in Jesus, we receive the forgiveness of our past mistakes. We are also given grace and peace. On top of that, the Spirit of God lives within us to empower us in our new life.

All of these things are reasons why we should continually praise God. There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God. And because of that we are secure in our salvation for eternity.

Rejoicing in God during times of difficulty makes our faith in Jesus deeper and stronger. Take some time to rejoice in God every day. If you find it difficult, begin by making a list of all of the things God has done for you. You can also make a list of all of the attributes of God, like His goodness, faithfulness, and love. Spend time in prayer thanking Him for all of these things. Continue this practice throughout the week in order to build a habit of gratitude.

Inspired by verse of the day from the Bible App.

Rev Claude

SERVICES

SUNDAY 16 NOVEMBER - Second Sunday before Advent

9.15 am for 9.30 am - Bubble Church

10.30 am - Morning Worship – Gwyn

SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER – Christ the King

10.30 am - Holy Communion – Rev Claude

SUNDAY 30 NOVEMBER – Advent Sunday

10.30 am - All Age Service – Chris Gillespie

SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER – Advent

10.30 am - Café Church – Café Church Team

EVENTS

THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER @ 2.30 pm

Fellowship: Craft Afternoon

SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER

Soup and a Roll after the service (*please sign up at the back of the church*)

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER @ 10.30 am

Community Cafe

SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER @ 2.30 - 4.30 pm

Craft & Plant Sale

FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER @ 9.30 am

Baby & Toddler Group

THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER @ 2 pm

Mothers' Union: Advent

THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER @ 12 Noon

Fellowship: Christmas Lunch – Toby Carvery, Langley

FOOD BANK

The next collection will be on 28 November.

PRAYER RESOURCE

week beginning Sunday, 16th November 2025

'Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.' (Romans 12: 12)

We give thanks for:

- The life of Brian and for all he meant to us at St Paul's; we pray for Gwen, Jason and all their family and friends at this sad time.
- The life of Pat, for being a good friend to so many at St Paul's, and for all she did at church; we pray for Hilary, David and all their family at this sad time.

Please pray for:

- The world we inhabit: for the changing seasons and the beauty of the underlying intricate connections between all life across planet earth.
- Farmers the world over whose whole way of life is threatened by climate change.
- The continuing plight of those who have nowhere they can call home; pray that they can find help, hope and a brighter future surrounded by people who love and care for them.
- Charities such as Tearfund, that through their policy work and the support of local churches and communities, they may get to the heart of the systemic issues that cause poverty around the world; pray for a world where people can lift themselves out of poverty and fulfil their God-given potential.
- Our Church family, especially all who are struggling; and for Edith, Alice, Jill, Sandra, Brenda, Elizabeth, Carol, Di, Ray, Percy and Paul; and for Meaghan and Alison.

You may like to use this prayer during the week:

Lord Jesus, thank you that when I reach out, seeking your help in times of need of wanting reassurance and encouragement, you are there, ready to help, to heal and to hold. Amen.

