



18 October 2020 10am Congregation

You can watch the whole service here

We would love to hear from you, so please fill in a connect card. You can leave us a prayer or aid request, a comment, feedback, or we can organise for someone to give you a call this week.

PRAISING GOD

AMAZING GRACE

 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

 T'was grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed.

3. Through many dangers, toils and snares,I have already come:'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,and grace will lead me home.

4. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise

HEARING GOD'S WORD

BIBLE READING - Matthew 5:17-32 David Selden

¹⁷ Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

²¹ * You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' ²² But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³ So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶ Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

This is the word of the Lord Thanks be to God

SCRIPTURAL CREED

Jesus Christ, in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

BIBLE READING - Ezra 9:1-15

Tom Bailey

After these things had been done, the officials approached me and said, " The people of Israel, the priests, and the Levites have not separated themselves from the peoples of the lands with their abominations, from the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.² For they have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and for their sons. Thus the holy seed has mixed itself with the peoples of the lands, and in this faithlessness the officials and leaders have led the way." ³ When I heard this, I tore my garment and my mantle, and pulled hair from my head and beard, and sat appalled. ⁴ Then all who trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the faithlessness of the returned exiles, gathered around me while I sat appalled until the evening sacrifice. ⁵ At the evening sacrifice I got up from my fasting, with my garments and my mantle torn, and fell on my knees, spread out my hands to the Lord my God, ⁶ and said,

" O my God, I am too ashamed and embarrassed to lift my face to you, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens. ⁷ From the days of our ancestors to this day we have been deep in guilt, and for our iniquities we, our kings, and our priests have been handed over to the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, to plundering, and to utter shame, as is now the case. ⁸ But now for a brief moment favor has been shown by the Lord our God, who has left us a remnant, and given us a stake in his holy place, in order that he[a] may brighten our eyes and grant us a little sustenance in our slavery. ⁹ For we are slaves; yet our God has not forsaken us in our slavery, but has extended to us his steadfast love before the kings of Persia, to give us new life to set up the house of our God, to repair its ruins, and to give us a wall in Judea and Jerusalem. ¹⁰ " And now, our God, what shall we say after this? For we have forsaken your commandments, ¹¹ which you commanded by your servants the prophets, saying, 'The land that you are entering to possess is a land unclean with the pollutions of the peoples of the lands, with their abominations. They have filled it from end to end with their uncleanness. ¹² Therefore do not give your daughters to their sons, neither take their daughters for your sons, and never seek their peace or prosperity, so that you may be strong and eat the good of the land and leave it for an inheritance to your children forever.' ¹³ After all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt, seeing that you, our God, have punished us less than our iniquities deserved and have given us such a remnant as this, ¹⁴ shall we break your commandments again and intermarry with the peoples who practice these abominations? Would you not be angry with us until you destroy us without remnant or survivor?¹⁵ O Lord, God of Israel, you are just, but we have escaped as a remnant, as is now the case. Here we are before you in our guilt, though no one can face you because of this."

This is the word of the Lord Thanks be to God

HEARING AND RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SERMON

Tim Escott

CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, you have loved us with an everlasting love, but we have often gone our own way, and rejected your will for our lives.

We are sorry for our sins and turn away from them.

For the sake of your Son who died for us, forgive us, cleanse us, and change us.

By your Holy Spirit, enable us to live for you, and to please you in every way, for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYING FOR GOD'S WORLD

PRAYERS

David Sturrock

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.

THE STRIFE IS PAST, THE BATTLE DONE

1. The strife is past, the battle done; now is the victor's triumph won; now let the song of praise be sung Alleluia!

 Death's mightiest powers have done their worst, but Jesus has his foes dispersed; let shouts of praise and joy outburst: Alleluia!

3. On the third day he rose againglorious in majesty to reign;let us take up the great refrain Alleluia!

4. Now, by your stripes our wounded king, your servants free from death's dread sting, that we may live in you, and sing: Alleluia!

(Anon)

GOING OUT TO SERVE

GIVING

If you do not do so already, please consider giving electronically to the work of the gospel in our parish and beyond. Please follow the link to make an online donation https://stmarksdp.org/giving/

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God, we rejoice in your greatness and power, your patience and love, your mercy and justice.

Enable us by your Spirit to honour you in our thoughts, words and actions, and to serve you in every aspect of our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Again, please fill in a connect card and let us know you were here. We'd love to hear from you and serve you however we can.



ONLINE MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT: MARRIAGE COURSE Gain valuable practical advice for enriching your relationship, all from the

comfort of your own home. The Marriage Course will be held on Monday nights via Zoom starting 19 October 2020 and involves seven sessions Please visit stmarksdp.org/ministries/marriageenrichment/ or contact erica.oliver@stmarksdp.org



St Mark's Organ Scholar, Nico Tjoelker will present an Organ Recital for the Scholarship Fund on Sunday 25 October 2020 at 2pm. Admission by programme \$25. The programme will feature a selection of popular organ music and transcriptions of famous classical works for organ. To register, please visit stmarksdp. org/whats-on/



AM I JUST MY BRAIN? What is the essence of a human being? What is the relationship between our brains and our minds - and ultimately our sense of identity as a person? Are we more than machines? Is free-will an illusion? Do we

have a soul? Brain Imaging Scientist Sharon Dirckx lays out the current understanding of who we are and suggests answers to the fundamental questions of our existence.

This event is being hosted on Zoom by St Mark's on Thursday 26 November at 7:30pm. Register at https://stmarksdp.org/whats-on/

Ministry Team			
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Music Director	Dr William Clark		billyclark@bigpond.com



CONNECT CARD - to complete a connect card use your phone to access the link on the QR code to the left



ELVANTO is the online system we use to manage our church rosters and member directory. Access via stmarksdp.org/members. Contact the church office to request access.



IN CASE WE NEED TO EVACUATE As you take your place in the pew, please take note of the route to the nearest door: Remember that there is a small step from the pew to the floor. The Emergency Assembly Area is the Memorial Garden.



BABY FACILITIES are in the Parenting Room at the rear of the church and in the accessible toilet beside the Howard Lea Hall. The service is broadcast to the Parenting Room.



ELECTRONIC GIVING is an unbeatable way to ensure you actually give what you decide to give.

Bank details : Westpac BankBSB : 032 054Account number : 250036Name of account : St Marks Church Darling Point

Contact the Office Tue, Wed, Fri 8am - 2pm, Mon & Thu 8am - 4pm Phone 9363 3657 www.stmarksdp.org email : office@stmarksdp.org CCLI # B226235