



HOPE25

Fifth Sunday of Easter
18 May 2025

The Hope25 Story

Hope25 is an initiative of the Anglican Church Australia. The Standing Committee of General Synod identified Evangelism as one of its strategic priorities before the next General Synod. They requested the Mission and Ministry Commission to plan a season of Parish-based evangelism in 2025. Hope25 – Hope in an Uncertain World is that project.

Hope 25 is an opportunity for us to share the hope that we have in Jesus.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Setting: Michael Dudman (1938-1994)

Organ Prelude “St Columba” Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

Entrance Hymn 474 TIS Here in this place

Here in this place new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery;
we are the old, who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.

**Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**Here we will take of the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt of the earth.**

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, now is the day.**

**Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

Marty Haugen (1950 -)

The priest says:

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The deacon may say:

Lord God who speaks to us the Word of hope.
We gather to hear your voice.
Incarnate Christ who shows to us the way of hope.
We gather to celebrate your story.
Holy Spirit who nurtures in us the life of hope.
We gather to know your presence.

Trinity of hope meet with us here through word and song, bread and wine,
and draw us deeper into your eternal dance of life.

Almighty God, give us such a vision of your purpose and such an assurance of your love and power, that we may ever hold fast the hope which is in Jesus Christ our Lord who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The deacon says:

Come, Holy Spirit of God,
and search our hearts with the light of Christ.

After a period of reflection

Come, let us return to the Lord saying:

Lord our God,
in our sin we have avoided your call.
Our love for you is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes away early.
Have mercy on us;
deliver us from judgement;
bind up our wounds and revive us;
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The priest says:

God who has called us is faithful,
and will not remember our sins.
Your sins are forgiven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Live by the Spirit's
transforming power,
and forgive as you have been forgiven. **Amen.**

The Hymn of Praise, *Gloria in excelsis.*

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, Heavenly King, Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer,
receive, receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen, Amen.

Hope25 Collect

God of Hope
you call on us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world; by your Spirit
awaken in us

a true vision of your kingdom,
a greater certainty of our salvation, and
a deeper dedication to your service;
that through our words and actions the same Spirit may bring many who are
lost to be found,
and for them to celebrate the hope
that we can only have in Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Acts 11.1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, 'Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?' Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 'I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth." But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved." And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?' When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

Psalm 148

- 1 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord from heaven:
O praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all his angels:
O praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon:
praise him, all you stars of light.
- 4 Praise him, you highest heaven:
and you waters that are above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord:
for he commanded and they were made.
- 6 He established them for ever and ever:
he made an ordinance which shall not pass away.
- 7 O praise the Lord from the earth:
praise him, you sea-monsters and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, mist and snow:
and storm-wind fulfilling his command;
- 9 Mountains and all hills:
fruit trees and all cedars;
- 10 Beasts of the wild, and all cattle:
creeping things and winged birds;
- 11 Kings of the earth, and all peoples:
princes, and all rulers of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens:
old folk and children together.
- 13 Let them praise the name of the Lord:
for his name alone is exalted.
- 14 His glory is above earth and heaven:
and he has lifted high the horn of his people.
- 15 Therefore he is the praise of all his servants:
of the children of Israel, a people that is near him. Praise the Lord.

Second Reading

Revelation 21.1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

'See, the home of God is among mortals.
He will dwell with them;
they will be his peoples,
and God himself will be with them;
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for the first things have passed away.'

And the one who was seated on the throne said, 'See, I am making all things new.' Also he said, 'Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.'

Then he said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Hear the word of the Lord,
thanks be to God.

The Gospel

John 13.31-35

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

When he had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Sermon – The Venerable Tiffany Sparks

Let us affirm the faith of the Church
We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,

of all that is, seen and unseen.

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and the Church

Holy God of healing,

We hold hope for healing of all that is broken in our communities, our nation and in the world. We long for a world where robust equity allows thriving and inclusion of all.

God of hope, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God of comfort

We hold hope for comfort when we do not sense your presence where we

desire to find you, and guidance to see your presence, where, in our stubbornness, we refuse to look.

God of hope, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God of the outcast,

We hold hope for those who experience distress, isolation, and loneliness. We long for a world where those who feel forgotten due to poverty, illness, caregiving, incarceration, persecution, and depression, experience your love through our actions

God of hope, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God of community,

We hold hope for the needs and concerns of those gathered here, the hopes expressed by those who pray and leave their messages, and those hopes carried without the words to name them.

God of hope, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord, hear our prayers.

Use us by your grace so that the world is changed for good and you are known and loved as the Lord of hope. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The priest says:

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you. *We greet one another with the peace of Christ.*

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory Hymn 628 TIS In faith and hope and love

*In faith and hope and love
with joyful trust we move
towards our Father's home above.*

**Christ, our star, our map, our road
to the Father's high abode.**

**Christ, our bread along the way;
Christ our rescue when we stray.**

**Christ our shelter, Christ our friend,
our beginning and our end.**

**Christ, our hope and our reward;
our redeemer and our Lord.**

James Phillip McAuley (1917-1976)

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The priest says :

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Generous God whose story and song
are now and always the hope of the world:

We praise you for the stories of creation
and incarnation, redemption and resurrection.

We rejoice in your song of yearning and calling
waiting and welcoming, gathering and cherishing
the eternal music of hope.

And we join our voices now in that great song of love and adoration that
creation sings back to you.

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

This bread is a sign of hope
it tells the story of dying and rising,
of breaking and sharing, of nourishment and strengthening, of Jesus' body
being more than enough.

On the night before his death,
Jesus took bread and broke it with friends,
saying, 'Take, eat. This is my body broken for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

This wine is a sign of hope
it holds a story of dying and rising, of pouring and sharing, of refreshment and
renewal, of Jesus' blood being more than enough.

On the night before his death, Jesus took wine, and sharing it with his friends, said, 'This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for many. Do this in remembrance of me.'

As we share these holy gifts, we remember the Lord Jesus. For the love he shared with us, and the hope he now gives us, and so we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory.

And now, faithful God,
send down your Holy Spirit on us and our celebration,
that the story of hope, of your death and rising to new life and the fruit of the kingdom,
may continue on in us, and through us.
Send us as your messengers into the world
and fill us with energy, courage, hope and love.

Now to you, most holy God,
through Christ your Son and in the Spirit's power,
we bring our worship and our songs of praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread.

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:

**So may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving.

This is the table of our Lord on which he sets his gifts of love and hope and to which he calls all who want to share his life. So come, whether your faith is strong or weak, whether your hope shines brightly or is dimmed. Come, ready to receive, for all are welcome at the feast of love.

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

All the children of God have a place at God's Table.

Anyone who would normally receive Holy Communion in their own Christian tradition is welcome to receive the Sacrament with us here today.

Gluten-free wafers are available on request.

Communion Music Pie Jesu Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

The priest says:

Let us pray.

God of all goodness, God of all hope: we thank you for opening our hearts to hear words of hope. Continue to move in our hearts so that we may be bearers of that holy hope to a hurting world, renewed and replenished to faithfully do the work you have called us to do.

Send us forth as a people restored by your grace and renewed by your Holy Spirit so that all that we may be strengthened by this meal, to share the Good News of the hope that we have in Christ to neighbours and strangers with creative words and compassionate service, walking the way of Christ.

Notices

Mission Hymn 690 TIS Beauty for brokenness

**Beauty for brokenness,
hope for despair,
Lord, in the suffering,
this is our prayer.
Bread for the children,
justice, joy, peace,
sunrise to sunset
your kingdom increase.**

Shelter for fragile lives,
cures for their ills,
work for the craftsmen,
trade for their skills;
land for the dispossessed,
rights for the weak;
voices to plead the cause
of those who can't speak.

*God of the poor,
friend of the weak,
give us compassion we pray;
melt our cold hearts,
let tears fall like rain.
Come change our love
from a spark to a flame.*

Refuge from cruel wars,
havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary,
freedoms to share,
peace to the killing-fields,
scorched earth to green;
Christ for the bitterness,
his cross for the pain.

Rest for the ravaged earth,
oceans and streams,
plundered and poisoned,
our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness,
carelessness, greed;
make us content with
the things that we need.
God of the poor...

Lighten our darkness,
breathe on this flame
until your justice burns
brightly again;
until the nations
learn of your ways,
seek your salvation
and bring you their praise.

God of the poor...

Graham Kendrick (1950-)

The priest continues:

May the God of hope fill you with every joy in believing. May the peace of Christ abound in your hearts. May you be enriched by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you now and for ever. **Amen.**

The deacon says:

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Organ Postlude Fanfare Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

The order of service Adapted from:

- Bennett, Pat, 2010. A Communion Liturgy from Iona Abbey on the Theme of Hope.
- An Order of the Holy Communion (2009, revised). The Anglican Church.
- <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship/daily-prayer/forms-penitence> cited 01/11/2024

Hymns are from *Together in Song* and are reproduced with permission under CCLI Licence No. 1966.

Cathedral Parish Directory www.graftoncathedral.org.au		
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Cathedral Bookshop	bookshop@graftoncathedral.org.au	02 6642 3958
Cathedral OpShop	Ms Linda Butler	02 6642 2844
Cathedral Prayer		
Living and eternal Christ bless the ministry of this Cathedral as a place of pilgrimage, prayer and discovery. May our doors always be open to pilgrims, may our hearts always be open to one another, and may our minds always be open to new truth. Draw us deeply into the mystery of your life, your death and your resurrection, now and always. Amen.		
Prayers for those in need		
Joy Baldwin Sue Cotter Gail Gilmore Allen Madden Amy McArdle	Ruth Kingsley John McAnally Roy Ford John McFarlane	Mervyn Kingsley Aneta Jones Grace Clague Kahla Clague Ressinda Flower
Remembering those who have died		
Year's Mind: Joel Butcher, Nellie Ellem, Olga Norton, Daphne Richards, Janey Robinson, Gregory Smith, Warren Tozer, Muriel Stephenson, Eileen Robertson, Bill Light, Noeline Forbes & Joan Eggins.		

Around the Parish this Week	
Today	Fifth Sunday of Easter HOPE25 9.00am – Cathedral Live & Online: www.graftoncathedral.org.au
Birthdays this week	Shirley Hulme, Rae Harrison & Marie Eggins
Weekdays	<p>Morning Prayer 8.30am Mon - Fri at the Cathedral &/or via Zoom</p> <p>Evening Prayer 5.15 Mon- Fri Zoom only Simply use the link on the Cathedral web page CALENDAR to access via Zoom</p> <p>Cathedral Office (Closed until 20 May) 9.00am–5.00pm(9-3 Fri)</p> <p>Cathedral Bookshop 9.30am–3.30pm(Tues-Fri)</p> <p>Cathedral OpShop 10.00am–4.00pm (Mon – Fri) 9.00-12.00 (Sat)</p> <p>Wednesday Worship 10.00am</p> <p>Please ensure that we have your email address and mobile number so we can reach out to you with information, news and pastoral support. If you need pastoral care or other support, please call Deacon Grant.</p>
Next Sunday	Sixth Sunday of Easter 9.00am – Cathedral Live & Online: www.graftoncathedral.org.au
Bank Details For direct deposit	The Anglican Parish of Grafton BSB: 705 077 Acc: 00033630 Any donations gratefully received for the ongoing maintenance of the Cathedral and furthering our ministry

YEAR 2025

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

APR

2 - Taize 8.30am
6 - Family Service
5pm
9 - Chrism Mass & Oils
Blessing 10am
17 Maundy Thursday
18 - Good Friday
20 - Easter Sunday
29 - Parish Council

MAY

4 - Family Service
4pm
7 - Taize 8.30am
10 - Cathedral tour
2pm
10 - Music of Hope
Organ Recital 4pm
17 - Men's BBQ
Brekkie

JUN

1 - Family Service
4pm
4 - Taize 8.30am
8 - Pentecost
15 - Trinity Sunday

JUL

2 - Taize 8.30am
6 - Family Service 4pm
6-13 NAIDOC Week
8 - Parish Council
19 - Men's BBQ Brekkie
25 - 141yrs since
Dedication

AUG

3 - Family Service
4pm
6 - Taize 8.30am

SEP

1-4 Oct Season of
Creation
3 - Taize 8.30am
5 - Parish Council
7 - Family Service 4pm
20 - Men's BBQ Brekkie

OCT

1 - Taize 8.30am
5 - Family Service 5pm
24-2Nov Jacaranda
Festival
26 - Organ Recital
3pm
26 - Ecumenical
Service 6.30pm

NOV

All Saints & All Souls
2 - Family Service 5pm
5 - Taize 8.30am
11 - Parish Council
15 - Men's BBQ
Brekkie
23 - Christ the King

DEC

3 - Taize 8.30am
6 - Family Service
5pm
Carols & Lessons
Christmas Services

Version 5