



17 Sunday aft. Pentecost-20 Sept 2026

St Matthew's-Holland Park

God Gives More Than We Deserve- Overarching Theme

God's generosity doesn't follow human logic. God consistently gives people what they need, not what they've earned. **Grace, not fairness, is how God operates.**

Exodus 16:2-15

What's happening: Newly freed slaves are hungry in the desert and complain. God sends quail and mysterious bread - manna - from the sky.

Main point: God provides for grumbling, ungrateful people without waiting for an apology.

Wonder: They don't even know what they're eating - *manna* literally means "*What is it?*" - yet it's exactly enough. God feeds them. That's it. There's no conditions attached.

Psalms 105:1-6; 37-45

What's happening: A song calling God's people to remember everything God has done - including the Exodus, the manna, water from rocks, and walking out of slavery strong and healthy. God guided them with a cloud by day and fire by night.

Main point: Remembering God's past faithfulness is what fuels present trust.

Wonder: After generations of brutal slavery, God restored them so completely that "*not one was feeble among them.*" God doesn't rescue people - God restores them to wholeness.

Philippians 1:21-30

What's happening: Paul is in prison, possibly facing death, and writes one of the most peaceful letters ever composed. He's genuinely torn - dying means being with Christ, living means serving others. Either way, he's okay. Either way he's at peace.

Main point: When your identity is rooted in Christ, circumstances lose their power over you.

Wonder: Paul calls suffering a *gift* - using the same word as grace. Suffering and grace, same root. That's either comforting or deeply challenging depending on how your day is going.

Matthew 20:1-16

What's happening: Workers hired at 5pm get paid the same as those who worked since sunrise. The all-day workers are furious. The landowner says: "*Why does my generosity make you angry?*"

Main point: Grace isn't fair - and that's the whole point.

Wonder: Our outrage at this parable reveals something uncomfortable: we secretly think we earned what God freely gave us.

God gives extravagantly, and human beings consistently struggle to receive it without comparing, complaining, or calculating whether it's fair.

www.bing.com/search?q=Matthew%2020%3A1-16%20sermon&qsn&form=QBRE&sp=-1&lq=0&pg=matthew%2020%3A1-16%20sermon&sc=8-22&sk=&cvid=5E9D4268483246EFA5730CBB3C1FD9C6 [Matthew 20:1-16 - Center for Excellence in Preaching](#)
[Grace is not Fair - Matthew 20:1-16 — Tim's Sermon Notes](#)

**Fund raising Luxury Brisbane River
cruise on the MV Island Princess- 6-9 pm**

***7th October Tickets \$120 3 hours of
Drinks and hot finger food included***



Bible Study Lady Chapel Friday 10am cancelled due to funeral

Ladies Study Wednesday Night see Janice E or Heather W

Wednesday Mid-week Service 10.30

Meditation Wednesday 16 September

Men's Breakfast 7am 1st Thursday of month

Behind the scenes thx: Church Cleaners: Helen, Vicky and Roy

Bishop John Roundhill's Visit: St Matthew's Patronal Feast 27 September

Patronal Feast St Matthew: 9am 27 September; *Matthew 9.9-13*

Proverbs 3.1-6

Psalms 19.1-6

Ephesians 4.1-14

Parish Directory:

Rev. Morris Rangiwai: 0449 557 351; Morris.Rangiwai@anglicanchurchsq.org.au.

Wardens: Heather Walker: 0411556 279; hezzie16@gmail.com

Randal Dennings: 0408 878711; randaldennings@gmail.com

Bank Details: Holland Park Anglican Church Anfin BSB 704 901; Acct: 00000760.

Parish website : <https://www.stmatthewshollandpark.com/>

Parish Private Facebook site : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292308270851142>

Public Site: <https://www.facebook.com/StMatthewsHollandPark> ;

Tipper's Treasure's FB site: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559040358754>

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY:

We acknowledge and pay respect to the Turrbal and Jagera Peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we gather today. We acknowledge their continued spiritual connection to country and surrounding land, sky and water. We pay our respect to their Elders, past present and emerging and pray that we may continue to learn from and nurture one another in the spirit of Reconciliation.