



Epiphany 5 Yr B – 7th February 2021
Communion

Welcome:

Greeting:

On this fifth Sunday in Epiphany
May the light of the Lord be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

As we begin our service, let's take a moment to be still and aware of God's presence within and all around us.

Christ Candle:

In this season of Light,
we light this candle to remind us of God's light shining in the darkness.

May we carry this light of hope, peace, and justice
to the world around us every day.

Acknowledgement First Peoples:

We acknowledge the sovereign First Peoples of this country on which we gather today; the Gadigal and Wangal people. And we pay our respects to their Elders past and present, together with all descendants.

We commit ourselves to support Voice, Treaty, Truth – justice for First Nations Peoples.

Call to Worship: (Psalm 147)

Praise the LORD!
How good it is to sing praises to our God;
for our God is a gracious God.

**God heals the brokenhearted,
and binds up their wounds.**

God determines the number of the stars
and gives to all of them their names.

**Great is our God, and abundant in power;
whose understanding is beyond measure.**

God lifts up the downtrodden
and casts the wicked to the ground.

**Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God**

Our God covers the heavens with clouds,
prepares rain for the earth,
makes grass grow on the hills.

Praise the Lord!

Opening Prayer:

O Lord, give us yourself above all things.
It is in your coming alone that we are enriched.
It is in your coming that your true gifts come.
Come Lord, that we may share the gifts of your Presence.

Come, Lord, with healing of the past,
Come and calm our memories,
Come with joy for the present,
Come and give life to our existence,
Come with hope for the future,
Come and give a sense of eternity.

Come with strength for our wills,
Come with power for our thoughts,
Come with love for our heart,
Come and give affection to our being.
Come Lord, give yourself above all things,
And help us to give ourselves to you.

Amen

Song: Above All

Above all powers above all kings,
Above all nature and all created things,
Above all wisdom and all our ways,
You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms above all thrones,
Above all wonders the world has ever known,
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth,
There's no way to measure
What You're worth.

Chorus:
Crucified laid behind the stone,
You lived to die rejected and alone.
Like a rose trampled on the ground,
You took the fall and thought of me,
Above all.

Prayer of Confession:

We come to God
knowing that we have failed to obey the call of Jesus
to love God and one another with our whole hearts;
but we come also to a God who reaches out to us
with healing and reconciliation.

In this knowledge, let us pray:

God who knows us better than we know ourselves, you know that

we have failed to love you with our whole heart and to be good stewards of your creation. In the silence we name these parts of our lives and world.

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

You know that we have failed to take up the cross of discipleship and be good stewards of your good news. In the silence we name these parts of our lives and world.

Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

You know that we have failed to be members of your Church and to be good stewards of your spiritual gifts. In the silence we name these parts of our lives and world.

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Words of assurance:

The light of God's love
shines into the dark places of our world,
healing its brokenness,
and bringing hope to places of despair.

The light of God's love
makes us a forgiven people.
Thanks be to God!

Peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

We share Christ's peace with one another

Moment for the young at heart:

Bible Readings:

Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³ who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵ To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,

not one is missing.

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹ He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary,

and the young will fall exhausted;

³¹ but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles,

they shall run and not be weary,

they shall walk and not faint

Mark 1:29-39

²⁹ As soon as they^[a] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹ He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸ He answered, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

In this is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection:

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People:

The Lord's Prayer:

**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 in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom the power and the glory are yours.
Now and forever.
Amen**

Song: Let us break bread together (TIS 511)

Let us break bread together with the Lord!
Let us break bread together with the Lord!

Refrain:
As we travel through this land,
all God's children hand in hand,
Lord, fill all our living with your life.

Let us drink wine together with the Lord!
Let us drink wine together with the Lord! [Refrain]

Let us sing songs together with the Lord!
Let us sing songs together with the Lord! [Refrain]

Let us all work together for the Lord!
Let us all work together for the Lord! [Refrain]

Communion

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus.
It is to be made ready for those who love him
and those who want to love him more.
So, come, you who are hungry for God's love.
Come, you who are yearning the Christ's presence.
Come, you who want community;
know that you are welcome here.

Come, not because it is I who invite you: it is Jesus.
It is his will that those who want him
should meet him here in the place where the ordinary things
like bread and wine and ourselves
are made extraordinary by the Grace of God.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise for Jesus the Light of the world, the light that no darkness can overpower and we thank you that you have called us from darkness to walk in the light;

And so we praise you with the faithful of every time and place, joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal hymn:

**Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest!

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

Hosanna in the highest!

Accept our praises now, loving God, as we remember Jesus, who, on the night before he died, took bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and offered it to his friends saying:

This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying:

Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for everyone for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, for the remembrance of me.

Come freshly to us now, present God,
as we offer you our lives, renew in us your gifts;
feed us and nourish us, that we may grow in the life of Christ;
fill us with your Spirit that we may overflow with your love,
and transform the world with your glory.

Prayer of consecration

For us you were born, for us you healed,
preached, taught and showed the way of your kingdom;
for us you were crucified, and for us, after death, you rose again.

As we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room,

send down your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine
that they may become for us your body,
healing, forgiving and making us whole;
and that we may become, for you, your body,
loving and caring in the world until your kingdom comes.
Amen.

The bread that we break is a sharing in the body of Christ
The cup that we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ
The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus welcomes everyone to his table,
and so, we offer everyone, without exception,
the bread and wine, which are Christ's body and blood.

Let us receive what we are;
let us become what we receive.
The body of Christ.

Distribution

Concluding prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours.
Fed and nurtured at this table we continue to be your presence in this world.
Touched by your love we take it to share with each person we encounter,
until everyone knows they are loved by you, and in turn loves one another.
Amen

'Freddo' Moment: The congregation share good news

Community News:

Offering Prayer:

Thank you, God of grace, for all the gifts you give us.
Help us to be gracious givers
in response to all that you have given us.
Use these gifts, here today, to be your light in the world
Amen.

Song: Make me a channel of your peace (TIS 607)

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope
Where there is darkness, only light
And where there's sadness, ever joy.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned
In giving to all men that we receive
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Benediction & Blessing:

May the Source of life hold you in the faith;
the Word of life speak clearly in truth around you;
and the Breath of life, of grace, of wisdom,
sing in your inmost being this day and all your days.

3-fold-amen

Acknowledgements:

Image: Her Healing Heart by Juli Cady Ryan

Opening prayer: ~ O Lord give us – Tides and Seasons by David Adam

Prayer of confession: ~ United in Worship 2

Benediction: thebillabong.info