

Welcome:

Greeting:

May the Lord be with you **And also with you**

Moment of Stillness:

Let's take a moment to be still and aware of the God's presence within us and all around us.

Christ Candle:

We light this candle to remind us of the light of Christ; A light that darkness has not overcome **A light that shines in each one of us.**

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:

The kingdom of God is at hand. We want to enter this kingdom. The mercy of God is made known. We want to receive this mercy.

The grace of God is abundant for all. We praise you, O God, for your compassion and your love. Accept our grateful praise as we come to you today.

Opening Prayer:

O God our Creator your kindness has brought us the gift of a new morning. Help us to leave yesterday, and not to covet tomorrow, but to accept the uniqueness of today.

By your love celebrated in your Word, seen in your Son, brought near by your Spirit, take from us what we need to carry no longer, so that we may be free again to choose to serve you and to be served by each other. **Amen**

Song: Immortal Invisible

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light, your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;

of all your rich graces this grace, Lord, impart-take the veil from our faces, the veil from our heart.

All praise we would render: reveal to our sight what hides you is only the splendour of light; and so let your glory, Almighty, impart, through Christ in the story, your Christ to the heart.

Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God, we look for you in the wrong places. We put our trust in material things. We worry about things we cannot change. We wonder if you are even there at all. For all the times we have doubted you, God, forgive us.

For all the ways we have neglected your word and ignored your people, God, forgive us.

(silence)

Do not be far from us, Lord. There is no one else we can turn to for help. Renew our fickle hearts and help us put our trust in you

Merciful God, hear our prayer and change our lives until we show your grace, you who makes all things new. **Amen**

Words of Assurance:

God is love. Everyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in them. (1 John 4:16)

Hear then Christ's words of grace to us: "Your sins are forgiven" **Thanks be to God**

Peace:

May the peace of Christ be with you **And also with you**.

Song: Christ whose glory fills the skies

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ the true, the only light, sun of righteousness, arise, triumph over shades of night; dayspring from on high, be near; day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn if you seem not close to me; joyless is the day's return, till your mercy's beams I see, till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine; pierce the gloom of sin and grief; fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief; more and more yourself display, shining to the perfect day.

Moment for the young at heart:

Bible Reading:

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Then Job answered:

² "Today also my complaint is bitter;^[a] his^[b] hand is heavy despite my groaning.

- ³ Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling!
- ⁴ I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments.
- ⁵ I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me.
- ⁶Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me.
- ⁷ There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.
- ⁸ "If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him;
 ⁹ on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
 - I turn^[c] to the right, but I cannot see him
- ¹⁶ God has made my heart faint; the Almighty^[e] has terrified me;
- ¹⁷ If only I could vanish in darkness, and thick darkness would cover my face!

Mark 10:17-31

¹⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸ Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰ He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money^[C] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is^[d] to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." ²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another,^[e] "Then who can be saved?" ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

²⁸ Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." ²⁹ Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,^[] ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

Hear 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

'Freddo' Moment: The congregation share good news

Community News:

Offering Prayer:

As we faithfully give for the life and mission of God's church in this place and in the world, let's pray our offering prayer:

Generous God, we bring the work of our hands and the longing of our hearts, acknowledging that we do not always give as freely as Jesus calls us to do. May your Spirit of grace enable us to live in ways that reflect Jesus and your love for the whole world. **Amen.**

Song: Love divine all loves excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown: Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty, to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, never more thy temples leave: thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee, without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be, let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

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.

And may Almighty God bless you; Creator, Christ and Spirit be upon you and remain with you always **Amen**

Acknowledgements: Image: clipart Call to worship – adapted from ministrymatters.com Opening Prayer – A Wee Worship Book – Wild Goose Worship Group Prayer of confession ~ adapted from ministrymatters.com Offering prayer – adapted from © Jeff Shrowder 2000, 2015. Benediction – billabong.com