



Epiphany 3 Yr C – 23rd January 2022
Aboriginal Sunday

(Leader: *Judith* / Greeter: *Ellen*)

Welcome:

Greeting:

On this Aboriginal Sunday
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:

As we gather to worship God, 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.

We are mindful as we approach the 26th January, that it is a day of celebration for some and a day of mourning for others. We are mindful also of the impact that this day has on our Aboriginal sisters and brothers. We commit ourselves to keep praying for reconciliation and peace among the first and second peoples of this land.
May the Light shine.

Call to Worship:

For God alone our souls wait in silence,
for our hope is from God.

**God alone is our rock and our
salvation; we will not be shaken.**

Our God sends deliverance and honour.
Like a mighty rock, God is our refuge.

Trust in God always,
for God is power and grace.
Steadfast love belongs to you, O God.

Sisters and brothers, praise God!
Our God's name be praised!

Opening Prayer:

Gracious Light-Bearer,
Into the shadows of our isolation
you speak words of life and community.
Challenger of our lives,
you call us from places we call home
to lead us more deeply into the world you love.
With your gentle, healing touch
you redeem the broken places of our lives

and you heal the wounded places of the earth.
Inspire our worship here this day,
so that we may receive liberation in your word,
and be filled to overflowing
to share your reconciling love throughout the earth.
We pray in Jesus' name
Amen

Song:

Prayer of Confession:

Before you our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,
We remember that we stand on holy ground
We acknowledge the stories of this land
We acknowledge the peoples of this land
We acknowledge the lore of this land
We acknowledge the languages of this land
We acknowledge that this land and her peoples
are in need of healing.

We are sorry when we have lacked compassion
to hear and to feel the pain of lives torn apart
to hear and feel the pain of land that is damaged
and mistreated - sold to the highest bidder.

We are sorry when we have lacked conviction
to name where we benefit from the
dispossession of First Peoples
to see where injustice has taken hold
and looked away.

We are sorry when we have lacked the courage
to listen, to see, to feel, to name
the pain,
the loss,
the theft and
the resistance.

May we be inspired by truth-tellers,
Justice-seekers and peace-makers in every age.
Turn our inaction into action.

May we join with our Aboriginal sisters and brothers in unity.
We pray this in the name of Jesus the Christ
Amen

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.

Let's share Christ's peace with one another

Song:

Moment for the young at heart: Graham I'm Australian Too

Bible Readings: Milton

Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament^[a] proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
³ There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
⁴ yet their voice^[b] goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
In the heavens^[c] he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,

and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.
7 The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;
8 the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;
9 the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
10 More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.
11 Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
12 But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent;^[d]
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.
14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer

Luke 4:14-21

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. 16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: **Brian**

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: **Hector**

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

Giving thanks: 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:

Benediction & Blessing:

May God strengthen you and bless you with peace;
May Christ Jesus bring forth justice for you and among you;
And may the Holy Spirit alight on you
and affirm you as God's beloved ones.

3-fold-amen

Pastoral Prayers: Tonia

Acknowledgements:

Image: commongrace.org

Call to worship: liturgylink.wordpress.com

Prayer of confession: Adapted from Prayer for January 26th written by Rev Katherine Rainger