



**LENT 3 Yr C 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

**Leader: David / Greeter: Ellen**

**Welcome:**

**Greeting:**

We continue in the 40 days of Lent where we set aside time to reflect on who Christ is, on what he has done for us, on preparing for the joy of his resurrection and on living a life “worthy of the calling” we have received.

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.**

***Call to Worship:***

Turn to God, with honest hearts  
Turn to God, with open hearts  
Turn to God, with hungry hearts,  
Turn to God, with all your heart,  
ready to worship, heal and grow.

**AMEN**

***Opening Prayer:***

We gather together to entrust ourselves and the world  
to the Spirit of Love and to each other.

To find peace and healing  
in the joy of music and words,  
in the stillness of prayer,  
and in the Spirit's enfolding love. **AMEN**  
(Source: Pitt St UC service)

**Song:**

***Prayer of Confession:***

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered.  
Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in  
whose spirit there is no deceit.

**For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. Amen**

***Words of assurance:***

In every moment, God seeks what is best for us, continually offering us  
peace, hope, and forgiveness.

**We will bless God in every moment, rejoicing with the One who fills  
us with steadfast love. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

***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: Tonia**

**Bible Readings: Marie**

**Isaiah 55:1-9**

Invitation to the feast

**55** All of you who are thirsty, come to the water!

Whoever has no money, come, buy food and eat!

Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk!

**2** Why spend money for what isn't food, and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy?

Listen carefully to me and eat what is good; enjoy the richest of feasts.

**3** Listen and come to me; listen, and you will live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful loyalty to David.

**4** Look, I made him a witness to the peoples, a prince and commander of peoples.**5** Look, you will call a nation you don't know, a nation you don't know will run to you because of the LORD your God, the holy one of Israel, who has glorified you.**6** Seek the LORD when he can still be found; call him while he is yet near.**7** Let the wicked abandon their ways and the sinful their schemes. Let them return to the LORD so that he may have mercy on them, to our God, because he is generous with forgiveness.**8** My plans aren't your plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.**9** Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my plans than your plans.

**Luke 13:1-9**

Demand for genuine change

**13** Some who were present on that occasion told Jesus about the Galileans whom Pilate had killed while they were offering sacrifices. **2** He replied, "Do you think the suffering of these Galileans proves that they were more sinful than all the other Galileans? **3** No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did. **4** What about those eighteen people who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them? Do you think that they were more guilty of wrongdoing than

everyone else who lives in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did.”

<sup>6</sup> Jesus told this parable: “A man owned a fig tree planted in his vineyard. He came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>He said to his gardener, ‘Look, I’ve come looking for fruit on this fig tree for the past three years, and I’ve never found any. Cut it down! Why should it continue depleting the soil’s nutrients?’ <sup>8</sup>The gardener responded, ‘Lord, give it one more year, and I will dig around it and give it fertilizer. <sup>9</sup>Maybe it will produce fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.’”

### **Hear the Word of the Lord**

**Thanks be to God**

**Reflection: Rev Graeme Tutt**

**Moment of Stillness:**

**Prayers of the People: Heather**

**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:***

Having been blessed by you, Loving God, we will not waste our gifts but offer them back to you, so the parched throats might be soothed by your grace, the hungry feed on your bounty. Take the gifts we offer and use them in the work of your new life which is in our midst. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

***Song:***

***Benediction & Blessing:***

Do not be dismayed by the brokenness in the world.

All things break.

And all things can be mended.

Not with time, as they say, but with intention.

So go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally.

The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you.

(Source: L.R.Knost)

***Threefold Amen***

***Pastoral Prayers: Hector***