



BAPTISM - EASTER 7 Yr C 29th May 2022

LEADER Heather / GREETER Roger T

WELCOME:

GREETING:

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:

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

As we gather here in the harbour of your safety
We thank you for fellowship and family.
We ask that you will strengthen us, restore us and inspire us with your love.
Lord, fill us with your peace so that as we journey onwards
We would pour out your love and grace to others.
We ask that our souls would catch the wind of your spirit
so that we would take your promises to all the earth.

Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

May the Peace which passes all understanding, which has its source within the very nature of Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us as we meet, to still our souls and join our hearts as one.

May the gentle whisper of the God of peace speak to us through our worship, the reading and understanding of scripture, and be the message of our lives as we leave this place.

Amen

Song: TIS 143 Immortal, invisible

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

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, but ruling in might;
your justice like mountains high soaring above,
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 You give life to all, Lord, to both great and small,
in all life now living, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree,
then wither: but ever unchanged you will be.

4 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.

5 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

Let us pray

Heavenly Father,
we take this world for granted,
abuse its beauty and destroy
that which in theory we should rely on.
Forgive us.

We take our faith for granted,
forget the love and grace by which
your Son selflessly poured out his life for us.
Forgive us.

Amen

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

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 TIS 650 Brother sister

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

6. Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

MOMENT FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART: Tonia – Dancing with Memories.

BIBLE READINGS: Milton

Acts 16:16-34 NRSV

Paul and Silas in Prison

16 One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a female slave who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. 17 While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you[a] the way of salvation." 18 She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

19 But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. 20 When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men, these Jews, are disturbing our city 21 and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us, being Romans, to adopt or observe." 22 The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. 23 After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. 24 Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

25 About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. 27 When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." 29 The jailer[b] called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. 30 Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31 They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." 32 They spoke the word of the Lord[c] to him and to all who were in his house. 33 At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. 34 He brought them up into the house and set food before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

John 17:20-26 NSRV

20 “I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us,[a] so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. 24 Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

25 “Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. 26 I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them.”

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: *Rev Clabon Allen*

Moment of Stillness



Baptism of Ian Moss

*Ian is brought forward by **David Pigott***

Presentation of the candidate

***David** says to the congregation:*

Friends, the church council of this congregation has received a request for baptism from **Ian**

This important decision has been prayerfully and carefully considered, and I am glad to welcome him here today.

***Rev Clabon Allen** says to **Ian**:*

What do you ask of God's Church?

I ask to be baptised into the faith and family of Jesus Christ.

Ian has been called by the Holy Spirit to claim the faith of Jesus Christ as his own and, through Baptism, to die to sin and rise to newness of life through a new birth by water and the Spirit.

(The minister may put their hand over the person's ears and mouth, saying:)

Ian may the Lord open your ears to hear God's word and your mouth to proclaim God's praise.

BIBLE READING

16 You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

John 15:16-17 NRSV

THE MEANING OF BAPTISM

***David** addresses the congregation:*

Baptism is Christ's gift.

It is the sign by which the Spirit of God joins people to Jesus Christ

and incorporates them into his body, the Church.

In his own baptism in the Jordan by John, Jesus identified himself with humanity

in its brokenness and sin;
that baptism was completed in his death and resurrection.
By God's grace, baptism plunges us into the faith of Jesus Christ,
so that whatever is his may be called ours.
By water and the Spirit we are claimed as God's own
and set free from the power of sin and death.

Thus, claimed by God we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit
that we may live as witnesses to Jesus Christ,
share his ministry in the world and grow to maturity,
awaiting with hope the day of our Lord Jesus.

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH

Rev Clabon Allen says to ***Ian***:

In baptism, we are called out of darkness into God's marvellous light. In response to the gospel, I ask you:

Ian, do you repent of your sins?

I repent of my sins.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ who has defeated the power of sin and death and brought us new life?

I turn to Christ.

Do you commit yourself to God, trusting in Jesus Christ as Saviour and in the Holy Spirit as God's power and presence along the way?

I commit myself to God.

Rev Clabon Allen says to the congregation:

In unity with the whole Church, let us stand and affirm the faith into which we were baptised.

The people stand.

Do you believe in God?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The people sit.

THE BAPTISM

Rev Clabon Allen says:

Let us pray:

God of all creation we thank you for the gift of water that cleanses and brings us life and strength. Just as you blessed and anointed Jesus when he was baptised by John in the Jordan River, we ask that by the power of the Holy Spirit that you will bless this water and **Ian** who will be baptised in it, and that through this baptism he may be made new, be drawn closer to Christ and will become Christ's faithful disciple. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour,

Amen.

Rev Clabon Allen says to ***Ian***:

Ian, for you Jesus Christ has come, has lived and suffered; and for you he has endured the pain of the Cross. For you, he has defeated death; for you, he prays to God; for you, **Ian**, even before you were born. In baptism, the word of the apostle is confirmed: 'We love, because God first loved us'.

Rev Clabon Allen pours water over ***Ian's*** head into the font.

Ian, I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit

Amen

Ian, from this day on, the sign of the cross is upon you.

Rev Clabon Allen says:

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you;

the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you;

the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Ian is now received into the one holy catholic and apostolic Church according to Christ's commandment.

The congregation applaud

RESPONSES

Rev Clabon Allen says:

You, **Ian**, have been baptised into the faith of Christ, and are called to the worship, witness and service of God in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Will you continue in the community of faith, the apostles' teaching, the breaking of bread and the prayers?

With God's help, I will

Will you proclaim by word and example, the good news of God in Christ?

With God's help, I will

Will you seek Christ in all people, and love your neighbour as yourself?

With God's help, I will

Will you strive for justice and peace and respect the dignity of every human being?

With God's help, I will

May the God of grace, who has given us new birth by water and the Spirit, keep us steadfast in the faith of Christ and bring us to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Rev Clabon Allen addresses the congregation:

Friends in Christ, will you promise to maintain a life of worship and teaching, witness and service so that Ian may grow to maturity in Christ?

With God's help, we will live out our baptism as a loving community in Christ: nurturing one another in faith, upholding one another in prayer, and encouraging one another in service, until Christ comes.

POST BAPTISMAL PRAYERS

David prays:

Merciful God, you call us by name, and promise to each of us your constant love. Watch over your servant **Ian**. Deepen his understanding of the gospel: strengthen their commitment to follow the way of Christ; and keep them in the faith and communion of your Church. Increase his compassion for others; send him into the world in witness to your love; and bring him to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Amen.

David says:

Ian, you belong to Christ, the light of the world. As you leave this place, may you always be a witness as you show Christ's light by the way you live your life. Let your light so shine before the world that others may see your good works and give the glory to God.

Amen.

Prayers of the People: Jen

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***

Offering Prayer:

God of grace,
Accept this joyful offering
as a token of our abiding love:
use it to bring peace, justice
and comfort to all the world
We do this in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Giving thanks:

Community News: The congregation share good news

Song: TIS 658 Here I am Lord

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin,
My hand will save.

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

2. I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

3.I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

4.I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

5.I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save.

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

6. Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them,
Whom shall I send?

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

Benediction & Blessing:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all evermore.

Threefold Amen