



Leader: Judith Townsend / Greeter: David Pigott

Welcome:

Welcome to the tenth Sunday after Pentecost. We welcome Roger Abrahams this morning who will share the reflection with us.

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:

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:

The One who commands the clouds
calls us to be poured out for others.

**We can, by faith, be the waters of peace
which quench the fires of hatred.**

The One who creates mercy and hope,
longs for a world of fair play and grace.

**We can, by faith, let righteousness and
justice be our constant companions.**

The One who is with us in every moment
composes a love-song for our hearts.

**We can, by faith, teach this song
to everyone we meet.**

Opening Prayer.

Most Gracious God, we greet you once again in this sacred space.
We have come because we need to be reminded
of your love and your expectations for our living.
We are like the vine you planted, watered and protected.
We know in our hearts that we need, want and desire your presence in
our lives.

So we come in prayer and listen for your Word to speak to our hearts
and reveal again your desires for us.

Amen

Song: Fear Not, For I Am With You

Fear not, for I am with you.
Fear not, for I am with you.
Fear not, for I am with you,
says the Lord. *(repeat)*

I have redeemed you,
I have called you by name.
Child you are Mine.
When you walk through the waters
I will be there and through the flame.
You'll not (no way) be drowned.
You'll not (no way) be burned,
for I am with you.

Song: You are the vine

You are the vine,
we are the branches,
keep us abiding in You.
You are the vine,
we are the branches,
keep us abiding in You.

And we'll go, *and we'll go,*
in Your love, *in Your love,*
and we'll go, *and we'll go,*
in Your name, *in Your name,*
that the world, *that the world,*
will surely know, *will surely know,*
that You have the power to heal,
and to save.

Prayer of Confession:

Lord Jesus, you have entrusted to us this earth as a beautiful vineyard.
but we have neglected it.
You have entrusted to us people to care for with love.
but we have often remained indifferent to them.
You have entrusted to us our faith as a plant to grow.
and we have cared little for it.
Merciful and tender God, forgive us all our sins through the sacrifice of
your Son and lead us to everlasting life.

Amen

Words of assurance:

Be assured that God's love is sufficient.
In the warmth of the sun, the fertility of the soil,
and the refreshment of life-giving water,
we have been given all that we need.
God hears our cries, and comes to save us.
Through Christ we may lay aside our sins;
through Christ, we know we are safe.
Thanks be to God!
We are forgiven.

Amen

Peace:

May the peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let's share Christ's peace with one another.

Song: TIS 387- Christ is alive! Let Christians Sing

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
His cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
His love in death shall never die.

4. In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
he suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, though ever crucified.

5. Christ is alive! His Spirit burns
through this and every future age,
till all creation lives and learns
his joy, his justice, love and praise.

Moment for the young at heart: Tonia Abrahams.

Bible Readings: Christo S

Isaiah 5:1-7 NRSV

The Song of the Unfruitful Vineyard

¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall, it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

Luke 12:49-56 NRSV

Jesus the Cause of Division

⁴⁹ "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Interpreting the Time

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: Roger Abrahams

Moment of Stillness

Prayers of the People: Adam Griffiths

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:

Community News: The congregation share good news

Offering Prayer:

As you share your blessings with us, Gracious God, you show great faith that we will use them wisely and offer them generously to others. So, by faith, may our gifts bring healing to the broken, hope to the despairing, and laughter to those who mourn. This we pray, in Jesus’ name.

Amen.

Song: TIS 456 - Your hand O God has guided

1 Your hand, O God, has guided
your flock from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written
full clear, on every page.
your people owed your goodness,
and we their deeds accord;
and both of this bear witness:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

2 Your heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they bade them rise, and hasten
to share the great king's feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming
one church, one faith, one Lord.

3 Through many a day of darkness,
through many a scene of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely
to guard the nation's life.
Their gospel of redemption,
sin pardoned, earth restored,
was all in this enfolded:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

4 Your mercy will not fail us,
nor leave your work undone;
with your right hand to help us
the victory shall be won;
and then by all creation
your name shall be adored,
and this shall be our anthem:
one church, one faith, one Lord.

Benediction & Blessing:

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

Threefold Amen

Pastoral Prayers: Hector Abrahams