



PENTECOST 12 yr C Sunday 28th August 2022

Leader: Alison Burnett / Greeter: Mehry

Welcome:

Welcome to the 12th Sunday after Pentecost. We welcome Rev Brian Woodhouse this morning. Brian will be sharing the reflection and officiate over the baptism today. We also give a warm welcome Shiabana, Joseph and their family and friends as they present for baptism.

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:

Creator God, you call us to hospitality,
to give as generously to others as you have given to us.
For there are angels among us.

Loving God, you call us to give you glory in the compassion we show to one another.

To love without judgment, of ourselves or of others.

We gather as one Body, seeking to walk in the way you have set for us.

We gather as one Body, to worship the one who is Love.

Opening Prayer:

Hospitable God, you invite us to a banquet
where the last may be first,

and the humble and the mighty trade places.

Let us share your abundance with no fear of scarcity.

let us greet strangers as angels you have sent!

Send your Spirit now so that we may find a place at your table
and welcome others with profound hospitality.

In the name of Jesus, Guest at all our tables, we pray.

Amen

Song: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Christ is in you
The hope of glory

In our hearts
He lives! He lives!
His breath is in you
Arise a mighty army
We arise

1. Now is the time for us
To march upon the land
Into our hands
He will give the ground we claim
He rides in majesty
To lead us into victory
The world shall see
That Christ is Lord

2. God is at work in us
His purpose to perform
Building a kingdom
Of power not of words
Where things impossible
By faith shall be made possible
Let's give the glory
To Him now.

3. Though we are weak, His grace
Is everything we need
We're made of clay
But this treasure is within
He turns our weaknesses
Into His opportunities
So that the glory
Goes to Him

Prayer of Confession:

For the times we are afraid of the stranger,
for the times we refuse the stranger,
because we think our resources are just too meagre,
Lord, forgive us.

For the times we stereotype the stranger
as enemy,

as dangerous,
as somehow inferior,
Lord, forgive us.

For the times we are too busy trying to impress our guests—
the times we think we are being hospitable,
but are instead serving our own needs—
Lord, forgive us.

For the times we miss the gift of the stranger,
for the times we close our door in fear,
for the times we miss your face in the other
Lord, have mercy.
Forgive us
Amen

Words of assurance:

This is the good news:
after what God has done for us,
what can anyone or any thing do to us?
We are new people, graced by our loving God.
Forgiven, embraced, welcomed by our God,
we will offer open hearts and serving hands
to everyone we meet.
Thanks be to God.
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 447 - Lord your almighty word

1 Lord, your almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day

sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the waters' face
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

4 Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide,
let there be light.

Moment for the young at heart: Hector Abrahams – Handa's Surprise

Bible Readings: Roger Thompson

Jeremiah 2:4-13 NRSV

⁴ Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵ Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves?

⁶ They did not say, "Where is the Lord, who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"

⁷ I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination.

⁸ The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers^[a] transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit.

⁹ Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord,
and I accuse your children's children.
¹⁰ Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look;
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.
¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.
¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this;
be shocked; be utterly desolate, says the Lord,
¹³ for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

Luke 14:1 NRSV

Jesus Heals the Man with Oedema

14 On one occasion when Jesus[a] was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

Luke 14:7-14

Humility and Hospitality

7 When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. 8 "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, 9 and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. 10 But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. 11 For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

12 He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. 13 But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. 14 And you will be

blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Brian Woodhouse

Song: Father welcomes all his children

Father welcomes all his children
to his family through his Son.
Father giving his salvation,
life forever has been won.

1. Little children, come to me,
for my kingdom is of these;
life and love I have to give,
mercy for your sin.
2. In the water, in the word,
in his promise be assured:
those who are baptised and believe
shall be born again.
3. Let us daily die to sin,
let us daily rise with him —
walk in the love of Christ our Lord,
live in the peace of God.

Baptism: Rev Brian Woodhouse

My friends, this ceremony is for all of us. Shiabana and Joseph are to be baptised into the kingdom of God and the family of Christ. And all of us are invited to recall our own Baptism, renew our own faith, and join together in our commitment to live out our Baptism.

I would ask Alison to bring forward Shiabana and Joseph, and I would ask Dennis, Victoria and Yen to join us at the Baptism Font.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The candidates for baptism and/or confirmation are brought forward by their elder, companion or other sponsor.

The elder says to the congregation:

Friends, the church council of St David's, Haberfield

has received a request for baptism from Shiabana and Joseph

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

I welcome Dennis, Victoria and Yen, who will stand alongside them, encourage them, support them, and build them up in faith.

The minister says to the candidates:

Shiabana and Joseph, what do you ask of God's Church?

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

Shiabana and Joseph have been called by the Holy Spirit to claim the faith of Jesus Christ as their 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 touch the person's ears and mouth, saying:

Shiabana, may the Lord open your ears to hear his word and your mouth to proclaim his praise.

Joseph, may the Lord open your ears to hear his word and your mouth to proclaim his praise.

SCRIPTURE

Hear the words of the Lord Jesus Christ:

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

The apostle Paul said:

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptised into Christ Jesus were baptised into his death?

Therefore, we have been buried with him by baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
so we too might walk in newness of life.

THE MEANING OF BAPTISM

The minister or elder 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

The minister says to the candidates for baptism and confirmation:

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

Shiabana and Joseph, do you repent of your sins?
I repent of my sins.

Shiabana and Joseph, do you turn to Jesus Christ
who has defeated the power of sin and death
and brought us new life?
I turn to Christ.

Shiabana and Joseph, 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.

The minister says to the congregation and to the candidate(s):

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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Water is poured into the font.

The minister says:

God of life,
through the breaking of waters
and the coming of the Spirit,
you bring us new birth;
you give the living water,
which becomes in us
an eternal spring quenching our thirst,
flowing through us
and refreshing us for eternal life.
Washed and cleansed,
we are called into service with Christ.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,
bless this water, and those to be baptised in it,
that they may be born anew,
live in your light all their days,
and come to share your likeness;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE BAPTISM

The minister says:

Shiabana and Joseph,
for you Jesus Christ has come,
has lived, has suffered;
for you he endured the agony of Gethsemane
and the darkness of Calvary;
for you he uttered the cry, 'It is accomplished!'
For you he triumphed over death;
for you he prays at God's right hand;
for you, Shiabana and Joseph,
even before you were born.
In baptism, the word of the apostle is confirmed:
'We love, because God first loved us'.

In baptising, the minister shall use the following words.

Shiabana, I baptise you
in the name of the Father,

and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

The people respond:

Amen.

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

The people respond:

Amen.

The minister marks the sign of the cross on the person's forehead.

The minister says:

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

The minister presents the newly-baptised to the congregation saying:

Shiabana is now received into the one holy universal and apostolic Church according to Christ's command.

The minister says:

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

The minister presents the newly-baptised to the congregation saying:

Joseph is now received into the one holy universal and apostolic Church according to Christ's command.

CONFIRMATION

The Minister invites everyone from the congregation who desires a blessing to come forward and they are also signed with the cross by the minister, who says:

Always remember you are baptised and be thankful.

Elders and other members appointed by the church council to lay on hands come forward and stand around the newly-baptised and the candidates for confirmation.

Those to be confirmed kneel.

The minister calls the people to silent prayer, after which one or more person may offer free prayer.

The minister, with both hands extended over the candidates, offers this prayer as hands are laid on those being confirmed.

By the Holy Spirit, gracious God, strengthen these your servants,

and set their hearts on fire with love for you.
Increase in them your gifts of grace:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and wonder in your presence,
the spirit of joy and delight in your service,
now and forever.

Amen.

**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.**

RESPONSES

The minister says to the new members and the whole congregation:

You 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.

The minister addresses the congregation.

Friends in Christ, will you promise to maintain a life of worship and teaching, witness and service so that we may all 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.**

***Prayers of the People:* John Read**

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:

Every day, we are offered opportunities to reach out to those who are in need of hope, healing, and friendship.

This is why you pour out your blessings upon us, trusting that we will share from our abundance to bless others, just as we have been blessed.

Receive the gifts we offer, multiply them, and use them in the work of grace and justice.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen.

Song: TIS 658 - I the Lord of sea and sky

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

*Ch.*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, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have born my peoples pain.
I have wept for love of them, They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them,
Whom shall I send?

*Ch.*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 wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give My life to them,
Whom shall I send?

Ch. 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 God, who has begun a good work within you,
continue that work until the day when Christ Jesus returns.
May your love overflow more and more;
may you continue to grow in knowledge and understanding,
so that you can clearly discern what really matters,
so that you may stand pure and blameless before God on the day of
Christ's return.

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and always.

Threefold Amen

Pastoral Prayers: Alison