



PENTECOST 9 yr C 7th August 2022

Leader: David Pigott Greeter: Roger Thompson

Welcome:

Today is the ninth Sunday after Pentecost . We welcome Rev Dr Alan Russell who will be sharing his reflection and communion with us today.

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:

We are people who have been called to follow where God leads us. By faith we can obey, even when asked to walk into an unknown future. We are people who have been challenged to tell God's story to others. By faith we have the ability to share the good news.

Opening Prayer:

Imaginative God, you have a vision of all people as your beloved children, but we see those whose language, dress, and skin make them different.

You have a vision of a universe filled with goodness and beauty, and we damage it with litter, with violence, with poor choices.

You have a vision of a Table where we can feast on your grace and hope, but we line up at the fast-food counters of sin and greed.

Forgive us, Visionary of Mercy, as we confess that we are not "insiders" but immigrants searching for our true home.

By faith, may we be willing to be as gracious, as compassionate, and as hopeful as you are.

You love us enough to want us to be with you forever, so may we take the hand of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who leads us into your kingdom.

Amen

Song: Forever

Ch. Forever God is faithful
Forever God is strong
Forever God is with us
Forever forever

1. Give thanks to the Lord
Our God and King
His love endures forever
For He is good He is above all things
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

2. With a mighty hand
And an outstretched arm
His love endures forever
For the life that's been reborn
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

3. From the rising to the setting sun
His love endures forever
And by the grace of God
We will carry on
His love endures forever
Sing praise sing praise

Song: I walk by faith

I walk by faith, each step by faith
To live by faith, I put my trust in You
I walk by faith, each step by faith
To live by faith, I put my trust in You

Every step I take is a step of faith
No weapon formed against me shall prosper
Every prayer I make is a prayer of faith
And if my God is for me
Who can be against me?

I walk by faith, each step by faith
To live by faith, I put my trust in You
I walk by faith, each step by faith
To live by faith, I put my trust in You

Prayer of Confession:

We long to be faithful stewards of your abundant grace.
To serve each other in love and humility.
To serve your world with wisdom and energy.
Forgive us when we stumble over pride,
when our words and actions are not guided by love.
Turn us around to look at the ways in which our wealth,
both of substance and spirit, can be used for healing and hope.
We are sorry for the ways in which we have failed you.
Forgive us, for we ask this in Jesus' Name

Amen

Words of assurance:

There is nothing to fear. God's hope is more tenacious than our despair;
God's joy is more resilient than our grief; God's love is more compelling
than our hate.

By grace, we are gathered to God.

By faith, we rest in God's promises of forgiveness and restoration.

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: At The Name Of Jesus

1. At the name of Jesus
Every knee shall bow
Every tongue confess Him
King of glory now
'Tis the Father's pleasure
We should call Him Lord
Who from the beginning
Was the mighty Word

2 Humbled for a season

To receive a name
From the lips of sinners
Unto whom He came
Faithfully He bore it
Spotless to the last
Brought it back victorious
When from death He passed

3. Bore it up triumphant
With its human light
Through all ranks of creatures
To the central height
To the throne of Godhead
To the Father's breast
Filled it with the glory
Of that perfect rest

4. In your hearts enthrone Him
There let Him subdue
All that is not holy
All that is not true
Crown Him as your captain
In temptation's hour
Let His will enfold you
In its light and power

5 Brothers this Lord Jesus
Shall return again
With His Father's glory
With His angel-train
For all wreaths of empire
Meet upon His brow
And our hearts confess Him
King of glory now

Moment for the young at heart: Graham Mills

Bible Readings: John Read

Isaiah 1:1 NRSV

1 The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Isaiah 1:10-20

¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord,
you rulers of Sodom!

Listen to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!

¹¹ What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
says the Lord;

I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams
and the fat of fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls
or of lambs or of goats.

¹² When you come to appear before me, ^[a]
who asked this from your hand?
Trample my courts no more!

¹³ Bringing offerings is futile;
incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and Sabbath and calling of convocation—
I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed festivals
my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me;
I am weary of bearing them.

¹⁵ When you stretch out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.

¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove your evil deeds
from before my eyes;

cease to do evil;

¹⁷ learn to do good;

seek justice;

rescue the oppressed;

defend the orphan;
plead for the widow.

¹⁸ Come now, let us argue it out,
says the Lord:

If your sins are like scarlet,
will they become like snow?

If they are red like crimson,
will they become like wool?

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient,
you shall eat the good of the land,

²⁰ but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be devoured by the sword,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Luke 12:32-40

³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Watchful Slaves

³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he^[a] would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Dr Alan Russell

Moment of Stillness

Prayers of the People: Phil McCrea

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**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper: Rev Dr Alan Russell

Invitation

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus. It is to be made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more.

So, come, you who are hungry for God's love.

Come, you who are yearning the Christ's presence.

Come, you who want community; know that you are welcome here.

Come, not because it is I who invite you: it is Jesus. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here in the place where the ordinary things like bread and wine and we are made extraordinary by the Grace of God.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise for Jesus the Light of the world, the light that no darkness can overpower, and we thank you that you have called us from darkness to walk in the light;

And so we praise you with the faithful of every time and place, joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal hymn:

Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Accept our praises now, loving God, as we remember Jesus, who, on the night before he died, took bread, gave you thanks, broke it, and offered it to his friends saying:

This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying:

Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for everyone for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, for the remembrance of me.

Come freshly to us now, present God, as we offer you our lives, renew in us your gifts; feed us and nourish us, that we may grow in the life of Christ; fill us with your Spirit that we may overflow with your love, and transform the world with your glory.

Prayer of consecration

For us you were born, for us you healed, preached, taught and showed the way of your kingdom; for us you were crucified, and for us, after death, you rose again.

As we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, send down your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine that they may become for us your body, healing, forgiving and making us whole; and that we may become, for you, your body, loving and caring in the world until your kingdom comes.

Amen.

The bread that we break is a sharing in the body of Christ
The cup that we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ
The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus welcomes everyone to his table, and so, we offer everyone, without exception, the bread and wine, which are Christ's body and blood.

Distribution

Let us receive what we are; let us become what we receive.

The body of Christ.

Concluding prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours.
Fed and nurtured at this table we continue to be your presence in this world. Touched by your love we take it to share with each person we encounter, until everyone knows they are loved by you, and in turn loves one another.

Amen

Giving thanks:

Community News: The congregation share good news

Offering Prayer:

It is by faith that you bless us, hopeful God.
So, it is by faith that we offer back to you a portion of what we have and who we are, trusting that you will take these gifts and use them in the work of that kingdom of justice and hope, of grace and wonder, which is yours.

This we pray in Jesus' name

Amen.

Song: How great Thou art

1.O Lord my God
When in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds
Thy hands have made
I see the stars
I hear the rolling thunder
Thy pow'r thru'out

The universe displayed

Ch. Then sings my soul
My Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art
Then sings my soul
My Saviour God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

2. When through the woods
And forest glades I wander
And hear the birds
Sing sweetly in the trees
When I look down
From lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook
And feel the gentle breeze

3. And when I think
That God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die
I scarce can take it in
That on the cross
My burden gladly bearing
He bled and died
To take away my sin

4. When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home
What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow
In humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art

Benediction & Blessing:

By faith, let us go out as God's people

By faith, let us go to follow Jesus to serve with compassion and grace.

By faith, let us give freely to those in need.

By faith, let us go to join the Holy Spirit in welcoming all of God's children.

May Christ Jesus find you attentive and well prepared;

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Threefold Amen

***Pastoral Prayers:* Kim**