



PENTECOST 15 yr C Sunday 18 September 2022

Leader: Alison Burnett / Greeter: David Pigott

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:

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:

O God, we come into your presence
with praise and thanksgiving!
We come in celebration and song.
We come in gratitude of your inheritance.
We come as those who have received blessing
upon blessing.
We hear the cry of the poor in the land,
and ache to offer them relief.
We come to bring them blessing upon blessing,
in Jesus' name.

Opening Prayer.

Gracious God, your people are suffering.
Where there is woundedness, help us bring healing.
Where there is discouragement, help us bring support and comfort.
Where there is dismay and mourning, help us bring the power of new life
and new opportunities.
Heal us, O God, for you are our help and our hope,
the One we turn to in times of trouble.
In the name of our Great Physician, Jesus Christ, we pray.

Amen

Song: The law of the Lord

- .1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
converting the soul.
The testimony of the Lord is sure,
making wise the simple.

- Ch: More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold.
Sweeter also than the honey,
and the honeycomb.

2. The statutes of the Lord are right,
rejoicing the heart.
The commandment of the Lord is pure,
enlightening the eyes.

3. The fear of the lord is clean,
enduring forever.
The judgements of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether

Song: Refiner's Fire

1. Purify my heart,
let me be as gold
and precious silver.
Purify my heart,
let me be as gold,
pure gold.

- Ch. Refiner's Fire, my heart's one desire
is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord.
I choose to be holy,
set apart for you, my master,
ready to do your will.

2. Purify my heart,
cleansing me from within,

and make me holy.
Purify my heart,
cleanse me from my sin,
deep within.

Prayer of Confession:

We confess that we find your medicine hard to swallow.
The quick fixes of this world are so much more pleasant,
leaving us free to go back to our usual routines.
But your medicine is powerful.
And if we take it, it will remake and renew our lives.
It will reorient us to you and to you alone.
Turn us toward your love for justice and true worship.
Forgive our sins, for which you weep.
Forgive our hesitation.
Grant us courage to choose you as our physician,
and to serve you and you alone.

Amen

Words of assurance:

The God of our salvation,
the God who weeps for us and for our world,
is the God whose compassion
comes speedily to meet us,
and to forgive us.

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 641 - This is my will my one command

1. This is My will, My one command,
That love should dwell among you all.
This is My will that you should love
As I have shown that I love you.

2.No greater love a man can have
Than that he die to save his friends.
You are My friends if you obey
What I command that you should do.

4.All that I ask My Father, dear,
For My name's sake you shall receive.
This is My will, My one command,
That love should dwell in each, in all.

Moment for the young at heart: Tonia Abrahams

Bible Readings: Christo

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 NRSV

The Prophet Mourns for the People

18 My joy is gone; grief is upon me;
my heart is sick.

19 Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from far and wide in the land:

“Is the Lord not in Zion?
Is her King not in her?”

“Why have they provoked me to anger with their images,
with their foreign idols?”

20 “The harvest is past, the summer is ended,
and we are not saved.”

21 For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken,
I mourn, and horror has seized me.

22 Is there no balm in Gilead?
Is there no physician there?

Why then has the health of the daughter of my people
not been restored?

9 O that my head were a spring of water
and my eyes a fountain of tears,
so that I might weep day and night
for the slain of the daughter of my people!

Luke 16:1-13

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

16 Then Jesus[a] said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. 2 So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ 3 Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4 I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ 5 So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ 6 He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ 7 Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ 8 And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth[b] so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.[c]

10 “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. 11 If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth,[d] who will entrust to you the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? 13 No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”[e]

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Clabon Allen

Moment of Stillness

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:

Knowing that many voices clamour and compete,
we pray that these offerings, freely given
may become symbolic of our decision
to serve one master, one God.

Amen.

Song: TIS 179 - Praise my soul

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
to his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise the everlasting King!

2 Praise him for his grace and favour
to his people in distress.
Praise him, still the same as ever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Glorious in his faithfulness!

3 Fatherlike he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hand he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Widely yet his mercy flows!

4 Angels, help us to adore him;
you behold him face to face.
Sun and moon, bow down before him,
dwellers all in time and space.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Benediction & Blessing:

Go now to follow the way of Jesus:
see others as he did;
dare to give freely as he did;
risk to love unconditionally as he did.

Go, embraced by the Source of life, love and hope;
in the company of the Word of life;
encouraged by the Breath of life.

Threefold Amen

Pastoral Prayers: Hector Abrahams