



13th November 2022 Yr C Pentecost 23

Processional Hymn: A new commandment I give unto you (TIS 699)

A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
By this will others know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another;
by this shall all know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.

Welcome:

Greeting:

May the Lord be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

Let's take a moment to be still and aware of the God's presence within us
and all around us.

Christ Candle:

We light this candle to remind us of the light of Christ
A light that is always present with us

A light that darkness has not overcome
A light that shines in each one of us.

Acknowledgement First Peoples:

This is God's land and God's Spirit dwells here.
As we gather to worship God,
we acknowledge that we were not the first people that God put in this place.
We acknowledge the Gadigal and Wangal people,
the traditional owners of this land.

**We honour them for their custodianship of this land.
We pray that through God's Spirit, we might be people of reconciliation.**

Call to Worship:

Our God is a God of goodness.
Our God is a God of love and kindness.
Our God is a God of justice and truth.

With what shall we come before our God?
What shall we bring into the presence of our God?

**We come with humble hearts.
Hearts bent toward justice.
Hearts open in loving-kindness.
Hearts earnestly seeking God.**

Opening Prayer:

Loving God,
we come this morning
seeking your presence.
Open our minds to your spirit of wisdom,
that we may know how to live as your people.
Open our hearts to your spirit of truth,
that we may love all your people with a love
that speaks of justice, kindness,
and radical grace.

In Jesus' name we pray

Amen

Hymn: There's a light upon the mountains (TIS 276)

There's a light upon the mountains,
and the day is at the spring,
When our eyes shall see the beauty
and the glory of the King;
Weary was our heart with waiting, and
the night-watch seemed so long,
But His triumph-day is breaking, and
we hail it with a song.

He is breaking down the barriers,
He is casting up the way;
He is calling for His angels to build
up the gates of day;
But His angels here are human, not
the shining hosts above,
For the drum-beats of His army are
the heart-beats of our love.

Hark! we hear a distant music, and
it comes with fuller swell;
'Tis the triumph song of Jesus, of
our King Emmanuel;
Zion, go ye forth to meet Him,
and my soul, be swift to bring
All thy sweetest and thy dearest for
the triumph of our King.

Prayer of Confession:

We come to God, knowing that we have failed to obey the call of Jesus to love God and one another with our whole hearts; but we come also to a God who reaches out to us with healing and reconciliation. In this knowledge, let us pray.

Far too often, O God,
We have not spoken truth with our hearts.
We have said and done hurtful things to those you call us to love.
We have forgotten our true identity.
We have got lost on the path of true discipleship.

Forgive us and help us live into becoming
the people you have created and called us to be:
people of justice and love and truth and humility.
May we rediscover our true identity, as Your beloved children.
Amen.

Words of Assurance:

“God is love and those who live in love, live in God, and God lives in them.”

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.

Let’s share Christ’s peace with one another

Hymn: Lord Jesus if the same you are (TIS 566)

Lord Jesus, if the same you are,
if all your promises are sure,
set up your kingdom in my heart
and make me rich, for I am poor;
to me be all your treasures given,
the kingdom of an inward heaven.

Where is the blessedness bestowed
on all that hunger after you?
I hunger now, I thirst for God;

now this poor sinner's life renew,
and satisfy with endless peace,
and fill me with your righteousness.

Shine on your work, disperse the gloom,
light in your light I'll see anew;
say to my soul, 'Your light is come,
glory divine is risen on you,
your warfare's done, your mourning's past;
look up, your tears shall end at last'.

Moment for the young at heart: Brian

Bible Reading: Milton

Micah 6:6-8

"With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

Mark 12:28-34

²⁸ One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" ²⁹ Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰ you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' ³¹ The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." ³² Then the scribe said to him, "You are

right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; ³³ and 'to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." ³⁴ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Suzanne Stanton

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Alison

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 and Signs of hope: The congregation share good news

Community News:

Offering Prayer:

As we faithfully give for the life and mission of God's church in this place and in the world, let's pray our offering prayer:

Thank you, God of grace,
for all the gifts you give us.
Help us to be gracious givers
in response to all that we have been given.
Use our gifts of money, time and of ourselves,
to bring justice and hope to your world.
Amen.

Hymn: From heaven you came (TIS 256)

From heaven you came helpless babe
Entered our world, your glory veiled
Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

Refrain:

*This is our God, the Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to the Servant King*

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load He chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
'Yet not My will but Yours, ' He said

So let us learn how to serve
And in our lives enthrone Him
Each other's needs to prefer
For it is Christ we're serving

Benediction & Blessing:

Go out into the world
to do justice,
and love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God

And may Almighty God bless you;
Creator, Christ and Spirit

be upon you and remain with you always

3-fold Amen

Acknowledgements:

Image – Dovetailnk

Opening Prayer – adapted from ministrymatters.com

Prayer of confession – adapted from ministrymatters.com

Words of assurance – 1 John 4:16

Benediction – adapted from UIW2