



6th August 2023 – Pentecost 10
Baptism + Communion

Greeter: *Mehry*

Meditation Song: Come and fill our hearts
(please remain seated)

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace,
Alleluia.

Welcome:

Greeting:

The Spirit of God 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 and all around us.

Christ Candle:

We light this candle as a symbol of the light of Christ,

which is always present,
which shines in each one of us.

Acknowledgement of Country:

As we look upon the hills and valleys, we see the love poured out upon this land by those who have cared for this land since time beyond measure.

We honour those who have gone before and those who are yet to come.

May we be mindful of the calling God places on humanity to care for Creation. May we take the lead from the Gadigal and Wangal people, whose stories are entwined with the stewarding of this place.

May we learn from them and walk with them.

Call to Worship (Psalm 17):

We praise you O God:

You embrace us when we cry out to you

You hear us when we pray to you

You guide our steps in your paths
and keep our feet from slipping

You answer us when we call upon you

You show your steadfast love when we seek refuge

We praise you O God

Opening Prayer:

God of our hopes and dreams,
we are empty, and long to be filled;
we are hungry, and long to be fed;
we are lost, and long to be found.

Gather us into your love,
and pick up the pieces of our lives,
just as Jesus gathered up the fragments
of the five loaves and two fish
after feeding the five thousand.

Call us anew to eat our fill
and to find our true nourishment in Jesus,
the bread of heaven.

Amen

Song: Gather your people (Bob Hurd)

*Gather your people, O Lord;
Gather your people, O Lord;
One bread, one body, one spirit of love...
Gather your people, O Lord.*

1) Draw us forth to the table of life:
children together,
each of us called to walk in your light.

Chorus

2) We are parts of the body of Christ,
needing each other,
each of the gifts the Spirit provides.

Chorus

3) No more harm on the mountain of God:
swords into plowshares.
Free us, O Lord, from hardness of heart.

Chorus

4) Wash us, Lord, in the waters of life:
waters of mercy,
waters of hope that flow from your side.

Chorus

Prayer of Confession

'Prayer is an act of openness. When we pray, we participate in the ultimate practice of humanness as we yield to a Power greater than ourselves. Our best prayers engage in honesty about our lives, practice vulnerability, run risks, and rest in confident trust'.
In this knowledge, let us pray our prayer of confession:

We come before you God of love
acknowledging our emptiness,
acknowledging that we will never have enough,
acknowledging that what we have is unworthy.
We come fearful of sharing,
fearful of losing our tenuous grip on security,
fearful of touching and knowing the pain of others.
We come overwhelmed by the hunger,
overwhelmed by the suffering of children near and far,
overwhelmed by the endless tales of senseless violence, greed, and death.
We come aching from the weight of the responsibility,
aching from the challenge of knowing our abundance,
aching from the awareness that we have much to share.
We come clinging to our meagre meals;
bless them, and us.
break them, and us.
share them, and us.

Amen

Words of Assurance:

'Nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God'.

Hear then Christ's words of grace to us:

'Your sins are forgiven'.

Thanks be to God

Peace:

May the peace of Christ be always with you

And also with you.

Let's share Christ's peace from where we are seated.

Song: Sing Hallelujah (TIS 732)

1) Lift up your hearts unto the Lord;
lift up your hearts unto the Lord.
Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah;
lift up your hearts unto the Lord!

2) In Christ the world has been redeemed,
in Christ the world has been redeemed.
Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah;
in Christ the world has been redeemed.

3) His resurrection sets us free,
his resurrection sets us free.
Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah;
his resurrection sets us free.

4) Therefore we celebrate the feast,
therefore we celebrate the feast.
Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah;
therefore we celebrate the feast.

5) Sing hallelujah to the Lord,
sing hallelujah to the Lord.
Sing hallelujah, sing hallelujah;
sing hallelujah to the Lord.

Moment for the young at heart: Under the Love Umbrella - Phil

Baptism of Naomi: Rev Ann Perrin

Congregational Responses:

The minister says to the congregation:

The Uniting Church, in baptising children, offers a community for children's nourishment in the Christian faith. I invite us to stand as we are able and those of us who hold to the Christian faith and claim membership in Christ's Church, to affirm that faith into which we were baptised as it has been done through the centuries.

The people stand.

Apostles Creed:

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.**

The people sit.

Minister to the congregation: My brothers and sisters in Christ, people of God at St David's Uniting Church, do you remember what Jesus said about Baptism?

Yes; he said, 'All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.'

The Baptism

Blessing:

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.

Minister (to the congregation):

Will you live out the truth of the gospel for Naomi, Emma and Craig and will you point to the grace of God in our world?

We will, we promise Naomi, Emma and Craig our love and support, as we share with open hearts the wonder of God's presence in our midst.

Naomi is presented to the congregation

SONG OF BLESSING (Roxanne McLeod) – led by Radhika

1) May the peace of God enfold you
As you take new steps of faith.
May the hope of God uphold you
Through every trial you face.
May the joy of God inspire you
To delight in each new day.
May the light of God shine for you
Ever showing you the way.

2) May the fire of God enflame you
To bring justice to the earth.
May the grace of God remind you
Every day, of what you're worth.
May the power of God secure you
Anchoring you through stormy seas.
May the mercy of God restore you,
Bringing healing and release.

3) May the bread of God sustain you
Meeting every single need.
May the wisdom of God inform you,
Guiding every thought and deed.
May the heart of God beat in you
As you serve the weak and poor.
May the love of God surround you,
Blessing you forevermore.

Presentation of the Baptismal Candle and Baptism certificate

Bible Reading: Marian

Matthew 14:13-21

¹³ Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had

compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸ And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Joy

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Judith

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**

Communion Song: Table of plenty (Dan Schutte)

*Come to the feast of heaven and earth!
Come to the table of plenty!
God will provide for all that we need,
here at the table of plenty.*

1) O come and sit at my table
where saints and sinners are friends.
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely
to share the cup of my love.

Chorus

2) O come and eat without money;
come to drink without price.
My feast of gladness
will feed your spirit
with faith and fullness of life.

Chorus

3) My bread will ever sustain you
through days of sorrow and woe.
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness
to flood the depths of your soul.

Chorus

4) Your fields will flower in fullness;
your homes will flourish in peace.
For I, the giver of home and harvest,
will send my rain on the soil.

Chorus

Communion:

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 ourselves
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, 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

Lure of all our longing,
draw us on our pilgrimage
and strengthen our faith in your way.
Ready our feet to walk untrodden paths
and our hands to receive the unexpected.
Ready our courage to weather the storms
and our resolve to let go what we must.
Ready our generosity to sift our desires
and our discernment to follow your lead, that stepping out in faith,
we may find ourselves healed,
surprised by your joy and peace.

Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.
Amen

Community News:

Offering Prayer:

As we faithfully give for the life and mission of God's church in this place and in the world (either online or in the plate), let's pray our offering prayer.

Long ago you fed a multitude:
take our small gifts offered to you today,
and use them to feed those who hunger for justice and peace.
Loving God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
Amen.

Song: Sent forth by God's blessing (TIS 531)

1) Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of God's service in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, our hungry souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for all humankind.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
to work for God's kingdom, God's purpose to find.

2) With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing as neighbours all those of each race.
One feast that has fed us, one light that has led us,
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living, with praise and thanksgiving,
give honour to Christ and that name which we bear.

Benediction & Blessing:

As we leave this place,
remember that nothing in all creation
can ever separate us from God's love.
So, go from here with joy
to love and serve the Lord.

And the blessing of God;
Creator, Christ and Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.

3-fold-Amen

Pastoral Prayers: Chris W

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*Opening Prayer: Adapted from **The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009**, © 2008 Abingdon Press. Posted on the Ministry Matters website. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>*

*Prayer of confession: Katherine Hawker (adapted), on **Liturgy Outside**. <http://liturgyoutside.net/>*

Offering prayer: adapted- Let us Pray – Janet Nelson

Benediction – adapted from <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>