



13th August 2023 – Pentecost 11

Greeter: *Wendy*

Meditation Song: *Come Holy Spirit (TIS 710)*
(please remain seated)

Come Holy Spirit,
gracious heavenly dove;
come fire of love
(repeat)

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: William
(written by 1E – Dobroyd Point Public School)

Thank you to the Gadigal and Wangal people
of the Eora Nation for letting us use your land.
We promise to look after it; the people and the animals too.

Hello land
Hello sky
Hello me
Hello friends

Call to Worship (Psalm 105):

Give thanks to God and call on God's name;
proclaim God's deeds among the people.

Sing to God; sing praise and tell of all God's marvels.

Turn to God, to God's strength, and seek God's presence constantly.

Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts that seek God rejoice.

Remember the marvellous things God has done;
the wonders performed and justice pronounced.

Sing to God; sing praises to God!

Opening Prayer:

Holy God, we come to you this day,
seeking your healing and restoring love.

Give us courage to reach out to you
in the good and easy times

as well as in the times of strain and stress.

Open our hearts to receive your message of peace and hope.

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Amen

Hymn: Guide me O Thou Great Redeemer (TIS 569)

1 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;

hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain
whence the living waters flow:
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan
bid my anxious fears subside:
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

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:

Holy God, you know us so well.
You know how easy it is for us to come to you
and to proclaim loudly of our faith when all is going well.
But when the waters get rough and the waves threaten
to swamp our little boats, we cry out in fear.
We are scared these waves will destroy us.

Over the wind and the waves you call to us to place our trust in you.
And that's often not so easy for us.
But still you call to us.
Help us take our focus off the wind and the waves

and place our gaze instead on you.
Attune our hearts and our lives to hear your call and to respond in faith.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen

Words of Assurance:

Just as Jesus reached out his hand and caught Peter.
So, he reaches out his hand to us.

Just as Jesus said to Peter:
"Take heart. It is I. Don't be afraid"
So, he says this to us.

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.

Hymn: Lord Jesus Christ (TIS 526)

1. Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
you are one with us,
Mary's son;
cleansing our souls from all their sin,
pouring your love and goodness in,
Jesus, our love for you we sing, living Lord.

2. Lord Jesus Christ,
now and every day
teach us how to pray,
Son of God.
You have commanded us to do
this in remembrance, Lord, of you:
into our lives your power breaks through,

living Lord.

3. Lord Jesus Christ,
you have come to us,
born as one of us,
Mary's son;
led out to die on Calvary,
risen from death to set us free,
living Lord Jesus, help us see
you are Lord.

4. Lord Jesus Christ,
I would come to you,
live my life for you,
Son of God.
All your commands I know are true,
your many gifts will make me new,
into my life your power breaks through, living Lord.

Moment for the young at heart: Tonia

Bible Reading: Marie

Introduction to Hebrew Bible reading:

Sometimes referred to as the "Joseph cycle," Genesis chapters 37-50 relates the dramatic tale of Joseph, the favourite son of Jacob, from his betrayal at the hands of his brothers, through his descent into slavery and then rise to power in Egypt, and to his ultimate reunion and reconciliation with his family. Today we hear the first part of that story.

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. ² This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. ³ Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves.^[a] ⁴ But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

¹² Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. ¹³ And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." ¹⁴ So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, ¹⁵ and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" ¹⁶ "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." ¹⁷ The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. ¹⁸ They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. ¹⁹ They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. ²⁰ Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." ²¹ But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." ²² Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him"—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. ²³ So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves^[b] that he wore; ²⁴ and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

²⁵ Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. ²⁶ Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? ²⁷ Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. ²⁸ When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land,^[d] for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind,^[e] he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: Chris Longfoot

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Hector

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**

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.

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 received.
Use these gifts and ourselves to be your light in the world
Amen.

Song: Give thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ his Son. *(repeat)*

And now,
Let the weak say "I am strong!"
Let the poor say "I am rich!"
Because of what the Lord has done
for us. *(repeat)*
Give thanks.

Benediction & Blessing:

Go knowing that neither wind nor waves can swamp you.
Go placing your trust in God's mercy and love.
Go into the world in peace,
confident of God's presence and love for all creation.

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

3-fold-Amen

Pastoral Prayers: David

Acknowledgements:

Acknowledgement of Country: Class 1E – Dobroyd Point Public School

Image: Jesus walking on water – Gloria Ssali

Opening Prayer: ministrymatters.com
Prayer of confession: ministrymatters.com
Offering prayer: adapted- Let us Pray – Janet Nelson
Benediction – ministrymatters.com