



29<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Pentecost 22

**Greeter:** *Ron*

**Meditation Song:** *Jesus, remember me* (TIS 730)  
(please remain seated)

Jesus remember me  
when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus, remember me.  
when you come into your kingdom.  
(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:**

There once was someone who said such wonderful things and did such amazing things that people had to ask him, “Who are you?” One time when they asked him, he said, “I am the light of the world.”

**We light this light to remind us that Christ, the light of the world, is present with us now.**

**Acknowledgement of Country:**

For this Land - **We give thanks!**

For the Gadigal and Wangal people - **We give thanks!**

We honour them for their custodianship of sacred stories, of dreamings and their connections with the deep earth and oceans.

**May we work together for reconciliation and the restoration of land, sea and peoples.**

***Call to Worship:***

From the love of God  
the universe unfolded into being:  
**With the Spirit of God within it.**

Out of nothingness we came  
through birth into life:  
**With the Spirit of God within us.**

From the heart of God  
creation goes on till the end of time:  
**With the Spirit of God within it and within us.**

Let us love God who loves us.  
**We delight in God’s love.**

***Opening Prayer:***

God, you are love and you love us.  
As your love washes over us now,  
may we love you with every part of our being:  
our heart, mind, body, and soul.

We celebrate your love in our lives,  
and we ask for your help as we in turn love others.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ;  
love in human form.

**Amen**

**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.

## **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, we have failed to live in full the generosity of your grace  
**Lord have mercy**

We have failed to live in full the costliness of your love  
**Christ have mercy**

We have failed to live in full the liberation of your spirit  
**Lord have mercy**

Set us free from a past that we cannot change;  
open to us a future in which we can be changed;  
and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image.  
In Jesus name we pray  
**Amen.**

## **Words of Assurance:**

Nothing in all creation can 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.*

**Hymn: Just as I am (TIS 584)**

1. Just as I am, without one plea,  
but that your blood was shed for me,  
and that you would my Saviour be,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

2. Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt;  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

3. Just as I am, your love unknown  
has broken every barrier down;  
now to be yours, and yours alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

4. Just as I am, of that free love,  
the breadth, length, depth and height to prove,  
here for a season, then above,  
O Lamb of God, I come.

**Moment for the young at heart: Hector**

**Bible Reading: Rick**

### **Introduction to Hebrew Bible reading:**

After forty years of wandering through the wilderness, the people of Israel are poised to enter the land promised to their ancestors long ago. Because of Moses' actions in Numbers 20, God forbade him to lead the people into this new land, but God shows Moses the entirety of the land before Moses dies. Though Moses is also described as unequalled among all the prophets and leaders, it may be that we can imitate Moses in his intimacy with God and be people who similarly seek after God's face.

### **Deuteronomy 34:1-12**

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, <sup>2</sup> all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, <sup>3</sup> the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. <sup>4</sup> The Lord said to him, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob,

saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." <sup>5</sup> Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. <sup>6</sup> He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. <sup>7</sup> Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. <sup>8</sup> The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. <sup>9</sup> Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had commanded Moses. <sup>10</sup> Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. <sup>11</sup> He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, <sup>12</sup> and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

### **Matthew 22:34-46**

<sup>34</sup> When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, <sup>35</sup> and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup> "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" <sup>37</sup> He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

<sup>41</sup> Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: <sup>42</sup> "What do you think of the Messiah?<sup>[c]</sup> Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." <sup>43</sup> He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit<sup>[d]</sup> calls him Lord, saying,

<sup>44</sup> 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"?'?

<sup>45</sup> If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" <sup>46</sup> No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Hear the Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

**Reflection: Rev Joy**

**Moment of Stillness:**

**Prayers of the People: Marian**

**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.***

God who gives great gifts,  
we long for the time  
when the meek shall inherit the earth  
and all who hunger and thirst after justice shall be satisfied,  
and we believe that, despite the persistence of evil,  
now is always the time  
when more good can be done  
and we can make a difference.  
**May it be so, through the offering of these gifts  
and the offering of our lives.  
Amen.**

## **Song: Will you come and follow me**

1. Will you come and follow Me  
If I but call your name  
Will you go where you don't know  
And never be the same  
Will you let My love be shown  
Will you let My name be known  
Will you let My life be grown  
In you and you in Me

2. Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract or scare  
Will you let Me answer prayer  
In you and you in Me

3. Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same  
Will you kiss the leper clean  
And do such as this unseen  
And admit to what I mean  
In you and you in Me

4. Will you love the you you hide  
If I but call your name  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around  
Through My sight and touch and sound  
In you and you in Me

5. Lord Your summons echoes true  
When You but call my name



Let me turn and follow You  
And never be the same  
In Your company I'll go  
Where Your love and footsteps show  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
In You and You in me

***Benediction & Blessing:***

As you leave this place,  
may God's love surround you, uphold you,  
and empower you to be agents of love in this world.

And may Almighty God bless you;  
Creator, Christ and Spirit  
be upon you and remain with you always  
**3-fold-Amen**

**Pastoral Prayers: David**

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*Opening prayer: adapted ministrymatters.com*

*Offering Prayer: adapted Prayer for Justice and Peace, Iona*

*Benediction – ministrymatters.com*