



Love one another.

5th May 2024 – Easter 6
Communion

Greeter: Wendy

Meditation Song: A new commandment (TIS 699)
(please remain seated)

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 will others know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another.
(repeat)

Welcome:

Greeting:

As we celebrate the risen Christ,
May the Lord be with you
And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

Christ Candle:

We light this light to celebrate that Christ has risen!
Alleluia! Christ has risen indeed!

Acknowledgement of First Peoples:

We acknowledge that we are on the land of the Gadigal and Wangal people and that the Spirit was in the land revealing God to them through story, custom and ceremony. We pay our respects to their elders past and present and any Aboriginal people here with us today.

We pray that we might work together for reconciliation and justice in this land.

Call to Worship: (Psalm 98)

Sing to God a new song,

for God has done marvelous things!

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth,

for God is doing marvelous things!

Break into joyful song!

Sing praises with lyre and melody

with trumpets and trombones!

Let the seas roar and the floods clap their hands!

For God is coming to bring justice to the world

God is coming to bring righteousness and equity

Sing to God a new song!

Opening Prayer:

God of songs and marvels, old and new,

your powerful love for this world

continues to astound us.

In these last days of Easter,

we gather to recall the love

that brought Jesus into this world

and into our lives:

as Saviour, friend and brother.

We thank you for welcoming us into your family

and for trusting us with your life-changing work

to draw all people into the spacious home of your love.

Amen

Hymn: O breath of life (TIS 409)

1 O Breath of life, come sweeping through us,
revive your church with life and power;
O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us,
and fit your church to meet this hour.

2 O Wind of God, come bend us, break us,
till humbly we confess our need;
then in your tenderness remake us,
revive, restore, for this we plead.

3 O Breath of love, come breathe within us,
renewing thought and will and heart;
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,
revive your church in every part.

4 Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating
while harvest fields are vast and white?
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,
equip your church to spread the light.

Prayer of Confession

In our prayer of confession, we trust that no matter what we do or don't do,
this story begins and ends with love. So, in this knowledge, let us pray:

Jesus, our friend and our brother,
you taught us to abide in your generous love,
for it completes our lives and gives us joy.
You ask us to love others as you have loved us,
for it brings your creation to fruition.

We sometimes struggle
to love the people in our lives
as you have loved us.
We don't listen when we should.
We get short-tempered and impatient.
We think of our own needs over the needs of others.
And we are sorry.

Forgive us, we pray,
and teach us your love again.

Amen

Words of Assurance:

Jesus said, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

Hear then the words of Christ to us:

‘Your sins are forgiven’.

Thanks be to God

Peace:

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you

And also with you.

Let’s share Christ’s peace with one another

Moment for the young at heart: Hector

Bible Reading: Christo

John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹² “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants^[d] any longer, because the servant^[e] does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Hear the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Reflection: Chris Longfoot

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Andrew T

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 Hymn: Eat this bread (TIS 714)

**Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in him and you will not thirst.
(repeat)**

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:

Sung: (TIS 761)

**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;
Christ's body and blood.

Distribution

Let us receive what we are;
let us become what we receive.

The body of Christ.

Concluding prayer

Jesus, who calls us beloved,
We thank you for inviting us to your table and sharing your feast.
May we know that we have been fed with love and grace,
and may we follow you out into the world,
to share your hope and peace.

Amen.

Community News:

Offering Prayer:

God of great gifts:
With resurrection humming in our hearts,
our minds are tuned to your song of peace.
We joyfully give these gifts to you,
a tangible chorus of thanksgiving,
a harmony of hope for your kingdom come.
Amen.

Song: Because we bear your name – Robin Mann

1. Lord Jesus, we belong to you, you live in us, we live in you; we live and work for you — because we bear your name.
2. Help us receive each other, Lord, for you receive the least of us and come to us in them — because we bear your name.
3. Bless those who give us any gift, because they know that we are yours; reward them with your grace — because we bear your name.
4. Let nothing that we do or say offend the weak so that they fall and lose their faith in you — because we bear your name.
5. You are the salt that cleanses us, so clean us out, and make us fit for common life with you — because we bear your name.

Benediction & Blessing:

Go in joy and faithfulness,
knowing that you are loved.
Abide in Jesus' love
and bear the gift of this love to the world.

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

3-fold-Amen

Pastoral Prayers: Roger A

Acknowledgements:

Image: www.congress-intercultural.eu

Call to worship: ministrymatters.com

Opening prayer: ministrymatters.com

Prayer of confession: adapted ministrymatters.com

Benediction: adapted ministrymatters.com