



14<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Easter 3

**Greeter:** Roger T

**Meditation Song: Come Holy Spirit (TIS 710)**

*(please remain seated)*

Come Holy Spirit,  
gracious heavenly dove;  
come fire of love  
(x 3)

**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:**

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

Come and see the love God has given to us.

**Come and see what it means to be children of God.**

Come with this hope, that Christ's presence is real.

**With joy, we come to see the Lord.**

### **Opening Prayer**

Holy God,

You walk with us as you walked with your disciples  
down grief's lonely road.

You reach out your love to us,  
so we can be called Children of God.

Fill us with your gifts,  
so we can be your body in the world.

Pierce our darkness with your hope,  
so we might bring healing

to the broken world;  
so all people can feast on your love forever.

Raise us to new life,  
God in Community, Holy in One,  
hear us as we pray

**Amen**

### **Hymn: Christ is made the sure foundation (TIS 432)**

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,

chosen of the Lord, and precious,  
binding all the church in one,  
holy Zion's help forever,  
and her confidence alone.

2 Here among us, where we call you  
come, O Lord our God, today;  
with your gentle loving kindness,  
hear your people as we pray;  
and your fullest benediction  
pour upon us here today.

3 Here bestow on all your people  
what we ask of you to gain,  
what we gain from you, forever  
with the blessed to retain,  
and hereafter in your glory  
evermore with you to reign.

4 Praise and honour to the Father,  
praise and honour to the Son,  
praise and honour to the Spirit,  
ever Three, and ever One,  
one in might, and one in glory,  
while eternal ages run.

### **Prayer of Confession**

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

Loving God,  
We are your beloved children  
But sometimes we forget  
our belovedness and that we are created for joy.

Our minds are too busy.  
Our hearts are too heavy  
for us to remember  
that we have been  
called to dance  
the sacred dance of life.

That we were created to love.  
To be lifted up  
and to lift others up.  
O Sacred One  
untangle our feet  
from all that ensnares us.  
Free our soul  
that we might dance  
and that our dancing  
might be contagious.  
May we live as your children; loved and forgiven.  
**Amen**

**Words of Assurance:**

Children of God,  
receive God's forgiveness.  
May God's love set you free this day and always.  
**Amen**

**Peace:**

May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you  
**And also with you.**

*Let's share Christ's peace with one another*

**Hymn: To God be the glory (TIS 147)**

1 To God be the glory, great things He has done,  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life in atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the earth hear His voice;  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,  
Let the people rejoice;  
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,

And give Him the glory; great things He hath done.

2 O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God;  
and every offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

3 Great things he hath taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher, and greater will be  
our wonder, our rapture when Jesus we see.

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

**Bible Reading: Marie**

**Introduction to the Hebrew Bible reading:**

Psalm 4 deals honestly with unbelief. We heard last week that Jesus tells his frightened, doubting disciples, "Peace be with you", likewise, Psalm 4 offers peace to troubled hearts and trust to doubting minds.

**Psalm 4**

Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress.

Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup> How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?

<sup>3</sup> But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself;  
the LORD hears when I call to him.

<sup>4</sup> When you are disturbed,<sup>[a]</sup> do not sin;  
ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

<sup>5</sup> Offer right sacrifices,  
and put your trust in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!  
Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"

<sup>7</sup> You have put gladness in my heart  
more than when their grain and wine abound.

<sup>8</sup> I will both lie down and sleep in peace,  
for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

**1 John 3:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup> Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup> No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup> Little children,<sup>[b]</sup> let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

**Reflection: Rev Joy**

**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**

***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.***

**Hymn: Loving Spirit (TIS 417)**

1 Loving Spirit loving Spirit  
you have chosen me to be  
you have drawn me to Your wonder  
you have set Your sign on me

2 Like a mother You enfold me  
hold my life within Your own  
feed me with Your very body  
form me of Your flesh and bone

3 Like a father You protect me  
teach me the discerning eye  
hoist me up upon Your shoulder  
let me see the world from high

4 Friend and lover, in your closeness  
I am known and held and blessed:  
in your promise is my comfort,  
in your presence I may rest.

5 Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.

***Benediction & Blessing:***

Christ is alive!

May the risen Christ be with you.  
Love is alive!  
May you walk in Christ's love.  
Hope is alive!  
May you know the new life of the risen Christ within you.

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

**3-fold-Amen**

**Pastoral Prayers: Chris W**

*Acknowledgements:*

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*Call to worship – re-worship.blogspot.com*

*Opening prayer – adapted from Thom Shuman re-worship.blogspot.com*

*Prayer of confession - adapted Hafiz pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au*

*Benediction: Celtic Blessing*