



9th June 2024 – Pentecost 3

Greeter: Roger T

Meditation Song: Bless the Lord my soul (TIS 706)
(please remain seated)

Bless the Lord my soul
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul
who leads me into life.
(x3)

Welcome:

Greeting:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
and the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And also with you

Moment of Stillness:

Christ Candle:

The light shines in the darkness. We light this light to remind us that God's presence is always with us.

May we carry this light of hope, peace, and justice to the world around us every day.

Acknowledgement of First Peoples:

God breathed life into this land and peoples. From time beyond imagining the Gadigal and Wangal people have blessed this place through story, wisdom and care. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

May we walk together gently and respectfully on this land, working together for justice and reconciliation.

Call to Worship: (based on Psalm 138)

God of unfailing love, we come to worship and give you thanks
We thank you for your grace and compassionate care.

God of all faithfulness, we come to sing our songs of praise
We sing of your love and your listening ear.

God of enduring promises, we come to worship and give you thanks
Your steadfast love endures forever.

Opening Prayer:

Come to us God of hope.

Come to us with your promises.

Come to us in your mysterious presence.

Come that we may marvel at your faithfulness in past generations;
that we may celebrate the new things you are doing among us today;
that we may be your pilgrim people bringing your love and grace to the world.

Come to us God of hope.

Amen

Hymn: Spirit divine, attend our prayers (TIS 406)

1. Spirit divine, attend our prayers,
and make this house your home;

descend with all your gracious powers;
O come, great Spirit, come.

2. Come as the light; to us reveal
our emptiness and woe,
and lead us in those paths of life
where all the righteous go.

3. Come as the fire and purge our hearts
like sacrificial flame;
let our whole life an offering be
to our Redeemer's name.

4. Come as the dove, and spread your wings,
the wings of peaceful love;
And let your Church on earth become
Blest as the Church above.

5. Come as the wind, with rushing sound
and pentecostal grace,
that all of woman born may see
the glory of your face.

6. Spirit divine, attend our prayers;
make a lost world your home;
descend with all your gracious powers;
O come, great Spirit, come.

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:

Merciful God, our maker and the one who brings justice,
we have fallen short of wholeness found in you,
in our thoughts, in our words and in our deeds:
We have not loved you with our whole heart,
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent and are sorry for all the ways we have strayed from your love.
Abba God, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life.
In Christ's name we pray

Amen

Words of Assurance:

Nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God.

We are a forgiven people!

Thanks be to God.

Peace:

May the peace of Christ be always with you

And also with you.

Let's share Christ's peace with one another

Hymn: Christ be our light (Bernadette Farrell)

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

light for the world to see.

Chorus:

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

3. Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others,

shared until all are fed.

4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless.

Longing for warmth, many are cold.

Make us your building, sheltering others,

walls made of living stone.

5.Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Moment for the young at heart: Brian

Bible Reading: Marie

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible reading:

Samuel is saddened because of the people's request for a king, as he knew that such a request indicated a lack of faith in God. Samuel led a community of faith, but despite Samuel's efforts, the people forsook YHWH and instead wanted to "be like the other nations." God grants people agency; the freedom to make good and bad decisions. But the freedom of choice necessitates an obligation to take consequences of such decisions.

1 Samuel 8:4-10

Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations." But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the Lord, and the Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. Now then, listen to their voice; only—you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them." So Samuel reported all the words of the Lord to the people who were asking him for a king.

Mark 3:20-35

²⁰ Then he went home and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹ When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." ²² And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." ²³ And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴ If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵ And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶ And if Satan has risen up against

himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷ But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

²⁸ "Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹ but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"— ³⁰ for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit."

³¹ Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³² A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters^[c] are outside, asking for you." ³³ And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴ And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵ Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Carolyn Thornley

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Ron

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:

Holy mystery of grace and love,
as the rains urges the growth of the harvest,
so may your Spirit urge the growth of our generosity
in love, to neighbour and stranger.

Use these gifts and us to bring justice in your world.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Song: Sing of the Lord's Goodness (TIS 183)

1. Sing of the Lord's goodness,
Father of all wisdom,
come to him and bless his name.
Mercy he has shown us,
his love is forever,
faithful to the end of days.

Chorus:

Come, then, all you nations,
sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.
Ring out the Lord's glory,
praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.

2. Power he has wielded,
honour is his garment,
risen from the snares of death.
His word he has spoken,
one bread he has broken,
new life he now gives to all.

3. Courage in our darkness,

comfort in our sorrow,
Spirit of our God most high;
solace for the weary,
pardon for the sinner,
splendour of the living God.

4. Praise him with your singing,
praise him with the trumpet,
praise God with the lute and harp;
praise him with the cymbals,
praise him with your dancing,
praise God till the end of days.

Benediction & Blessing:

May the Source of life hold you in the faith;
the Word of life speak clearly in truth around you;
and Breath of life, of grace, of wisdom,
sing in your inmost being this day and all your days.

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

3-fold-Amen

Pastoral Prayers: Alison

Acknowledgements:

Image Matavuvale – Fijian family by Maria Rova

Call to worship: NRSV Psalm 139:1-6, 13-14

Opening prayer — adapted Uniting in Worship 2

Prayer of confession – adapted Uniting in Worship 2

Parts of Communion: Iona Community

Benediction: thebillabong.com