



14<sup>th</sup> July 2024 – Pentecost 8

**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:**

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:**

We acknowledge the First Peoples of the beautiful lands on which we worship God today, the Gadigal and Wangal people, and we celebrate their enduring knowledge and connections to Country. We honour the wisdom of and pay respect to Elders past and present.

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

***Call to Worship:*** (based on Psalm 24)

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.  
**From the east to the west, from the north to the south,  
God's Spirit moves across the face of the earth.**

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.  
The world and all its people belong to God.  
**It is God who laid the earth's foundation on the seas  
and built it on the ocean depths.**

God of creation, all the earth belongs to you;  
**we are your people and we come to worship you.**

***Opening Prayer:***

God of all creation,  
We thank you for all that you have made,  
and that all creation lifts its unique voice to praise you in all your glory.  
As we worship here today and through all our days  
may we join our voices to the one true song —  
the song the morning stars began,  
the song the angels echoed at the birth of your Son,  
the song that gives rhythm and beat to the dance of life.  
All praise be to you, Holy God.

**Amen**

## **Hymn: Help us O Lord to learn (TIS 428)**

Help us, O Lord, to learn  
the truths your word imparts;  
to study, that your laws may be  
inscribed upon our hearts.

Help us, O Lord, to live  
the faith which we proclaim,  
that all our thoughts and words and deeds  
may glorify your name.

Help us, O Lord, to teach  
the beauty of your ways,  
that yearning souls may find the Christ  
and sing aloud his praise.

## **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 will ever be able to 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: 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.

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

**Bible Reading: Judith**

**Introduction to the Hebrew Bible reading:**

The presentation of the ark is a public event in the midst of the people and marks the beginning of a new era. David and "all the people with him" go and bring in the ark together. Their pilgrimage to the ark embodies this new journey with God toward a newly united kingdom in a new royal city. Once they arrive at the ark they don't stand idly by as observers. The people accompany the ark, singing and dancing "with all their might".

## **2 Samuel 6:1-2, 5, 17-19**

David again gathered all the chosen of Israel, thirty thousand. <sup>2</sup> David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. <sup>5</sup> David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the Lord with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

<sup>17</sup> They brought in the ark of the Lord, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord. <sup>18</sup> When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts, <sup>19</sup> and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

## **Mark 6:14-29**

<sup>14</sup> King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptiser has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup> But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." <sup>16</sup> But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."  
<sup>17</sup> For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. <sup>18</sup> For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." <sup>19</sup> And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, <sup>20</sup> for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. <sup>21</sup> But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. <sup>22</sup> When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." <sup>23</sup> And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." <sup>24</sup> She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptiser." <sup>25</sup> Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." <sup>26</sup> The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. <sup>27</sup> Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and

beheaded him in the prison, <sup>28</sup> brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. <sup>29</sup> When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

Hear the Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Reflection: Rev Joy**

**Moment of Stillness:**

**Prayers of the People: Heather**

**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:***

Generous God;  
Over and over your grace sustains us,  
over and over your love provides for us,  
over and over your arm steadies us.  
We give you these gifts,

of money and of ourselves  
with gratitude and joy,  
thankful that you are God over all.  
We pray that you will use these gifts and us  
to bring justice in your world.  
In Jesus' name we pray.  
**Amen.**

**Song: Beauty for brokenness (TIS 690)**

1. Beauty for brokenness  
Hope for despair  
Lord in Your suffering world  
This is our prayer  
Bread for the children  
Justice joy peace  
Sunrise to sunset  
Your kingdom increase

2. Shelter for fragile lives  
Cures for their ills  
Work for the craftsmen  
Trade for their skills  
Land for the dispossessed  
Rights for the weak  
Voices to plead the cause  
Of those who can't speak

Chorus:

God of the poor  
Friend of the weak  
Give us compassion we pray  
Melt our cold hearts  
Let tears fall like rain  
Come change our love  
From a spark to a flame

3. Refuge from cruel wars  
Havens from fear  
Cities for sanctuary  
Freedoms to share  
Peace to the killing fields

Scorched earth to green  
Christ for the bitterness  
His cross for the pain

4. Rest for the ravaged earth  
Oceans and streams  
Plundered and poisoned  
Our future our dreams  
Lord end our madness  
Carelessness greed  
Make us content with  
The things that we need

Chorus:

God of the poor  
Friend of the weak  
Give us compassion we pray  
Melt our cold hearts  
Let tears fall like rain  
Come change our love  
From a spark to a flame

5. Lighten our darkness  
Breathe on this flame  
Until Your justice  
Burns brightly again  
Until the nations  
Learn of Your ways  
Seek Your salvation  
And bring You their praise

Chorus:

God of the poor  
Friend of the weak  
Give us compassion we pray  
Melt our cold hearts  
Let tears fall like rain  
Come change our love  
From a spark to a flame



## ***Benediction & Blessing:***

Children of God,  
celebrate the life you have been given.  
Live your life with all your might,  
as a dance to God's glory.

And may Almighty God bless you;  
Creator, Christ and Spirit  
be upon you  
and remain with you always.

**3-fold-Amen**

**Pastoral Prayers: David**

### *Acknowledgements:*

*Image: <http://www.danceartsboise.com/>*

*Acknowledgement of country: NAIDOC Week*

*Opening Prayer ~ adapted from ministrymatters.com*

*Prayer of confession ~ adapted United in Worship 2*

*Offering prayer: adapted Carol Penner*

*Benediction: ministrymatters.com*