



13th October 2024 – Pentecost 21

Greeter: Roger T

Meditation Song: In the Lord I'll be ever thankful
(please remain seated)

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
in the Lord I will rejoice.
Look to God, do not be afraid,
Lift up your voices the Lord is near,
lift up your voices the Lord is near
(repeat)

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:

We light this light to remind us that Christ is the light of the world.

As we light this light, we remember that God; Creator, Christ and Spirit is present among us.

Acknowledgement of First Peoples:

As we look upon the hills and valleys, we see the love poured out upon this land by those who have cared for it since time beyond measure. We honour those who have gone before and those who are yet to come.

May we take the lead from the Gadigal and Wangal people, whose stories are entwined with the stewarding of this place. May we learn from them and walk with them for justice and reconciliation.

Call to Worship:

Children of God: welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and trust.

God invites all of us to be part of the beloved community,

God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God

Opening Prayer:

O God our Creator

your kindness has brought us

the gift of a new morning.

Help us to leave yesterday,

and not to covet tomorrow,

but to accept the uniqueness of today.

By your love

celebrated in your Word,

seen in your Son,

brought near by your Spirit,

take from us what we need to carry no longer,

so that we may be free again to choose to serve you

and to be served by each other.

Amen

Hymn: The Summons – John Bell

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.

Prayer of Confession

When we offer God our confession, we join the beautiful work of reconciliation, which begins with our reconciling with God. Trusting in our God of Grace, let us make our confession, beginning with a time short time of silence...

Merciful God,
We look for you in the wrong places.
We put our trust in material things.
We worry about things we cannot change.
For all the times we have failed to live in your light,
Merciful God, forgive us.

For all the ways we have neglected your word,
ignored your people and damaged your creation
Merciful God, forgive us.

Do not be far from us, Lord.
There is no one else
we can turn to for help.
Renew our fickle hearts
and help us put our trust in you.
**Merciful God,
hear our prayer and change our lives
until we show your grace, you who makes all things new.
Amen**

Words of Assurance:

God is love. Everyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in them.

In Jesus Christ our 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 with one another

Hymn: Take my life and let it be (TIS 599 ii)

1 Take my life, and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of thy love.
take my feet, and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips, and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

4 Take my silver and my gold,
nothing, Lord, would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
every power as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine:
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love: my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Moment for the young at heart: Tonia

Bible Reading: Rick

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible reading:

Job sits on an ash heap, bereft of children and wealth, covered by painful sores and surrounded by three “friends” who tell him that it’s all his fault. The companions have accused him of terrible things, their worldview threatened by his inexplicable suffering. They believe that suffering is always the result of sin, and so they try to find some hidden sin in this innocent man to protect themselves from the threat of the chaos that has engulfed him. Through it all, Job holds to his integrity. He knows that he has done nothing to deserve this suffering.

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Then Job answered:

² “Today also my complaint is bitter;^[a]
his^[b] hand is heavy despite my groaning.

³ Oh, that I knew where I might find him,
that I might come even to his dwelling!

⁴ I would lay my case before him,
and fill my mouth with arguments.

⁵ I would learn what he would answer me,
and understand what he would say to me.

⁶ Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power?
No; but he would give heed to me.

⁷ There an upright person could reason with him,
and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.

⁸ “If I go forward, he is not there;
or backward, I cannot perceive him;

⁹ on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
I turn^[c] to the right, but I cannot see him

¹⁶ God has made my heart faint;
the Almighty^[e] has terrified me;

¹⁷ If only I could vanish in darkness,
and thick darkness would cover my face!

Mark 10:17-31

¹⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸ Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit

adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.”²⁰ He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.”²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money^[c] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.”²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!”²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is^[d] to enter the kingdom of God!²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another,^[e] “Then who can be saved?”²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

²⁸ Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.”²⁹ Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news,^[f]³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Joy

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Carolyn

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 abundant life and love,
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: 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Chorus:
Bless the Lord, Oh my soul
Oh my soul, worship his holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I'll worship your holy name

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

Chorus:

Bless the Lord, Oh my soul
Oh my soul, worship his holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I'll worship your holy name

2. You're rich in love and you're slow to anger
Your name is great and your heart is kind
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Chorus:
Bless the Lord, Oh my soul
Oh my soul, worship his holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I'll worship your holy name

3. And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

Chorus:
Bless the Lord, Oh my soul
Oh my soul, worship his holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I'll worship your holy name
(repeat)

Benediction & Blessing:

May the Source of life hold you in the faith;
the Word of life speak clearly in truth around you;
and the 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: David

Acknowledgements:

Image: clipart

Acknowledgement of country: adapted National Assembly Working Group on Worship

Call to worship – holdfasttowhatisgood.com

Opening Prayer – A Wee Worship Book – Wild Goose Worship Group

Invitation to prayer of confession: adapted Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'.

Prayer of confession ~ adapted from ministrymatters.com

Words of assurance - 1 John 4:16

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible: Working Preacher

Offering Prayer: Prayer for Justice and Peace, Iona

Benediction: billabong.com