



20th October 2024 – Pentecost 22

Greeter: **Wendy**

Meditation Song: The Lord is my song (TIS 741)
(please remain seated)

The Lord is my Song, the Lord is my praise.
All my hope comes from God
The Lord is my Song, the Lord is my praise,
God the well-spring of life.
(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: Brian

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: Christo

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: (Psalm 104)

Come into God's presence and shout with the heavens,
Clothed with honour and wrapped in glorious light,
Calling us to serving tirelessly and caring endlessly,
Calling us to humility and compassion,
Come into God's presence, to listen and hear God speak.

Opening Prayer:

God of majesty and might,
blow through this place
like a mighty wind.
Inspire us with your presence.
Cover us with your love,
that we might be your people,
serving others with care and compassion.
In Christ's name, we pray.

Amen.

Hymn: Morning has broken (TIS 156)

1. Morning has broken
Like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken
Like the first bird.
Praise for the singing.
Praise for the morning.
Praise for them, springing
Fresh from the Word.

2. Sweet the rain's new fall
Sunlit from Heaven,
Like the first dewfall

On the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
Of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness
Where his feet pass.

3. Mine is the sunlight,
Mine is the morning,
Born of the one light
Eden saw play.
Praise with elation,
Praise every morning,
God's re-creation
Of the new day.

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...

Let us pray our confession together:

**Merciful God,
our maker and the one who brings justice,
we have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and deeds:
we have not loved you with our whole heart,
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we are sorry for all the ways we have failed to live in your light.
God, our loving parent, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
In the name of Christ, in whom we live and breathe and have our being
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: She sits like a bird (TIS 418)

1. She sits like a bird, brooding on the waters,
hovering on the chaos of the world's first day;
she sighs and she sings, mothering creation,
waiting to give birth to all the Word will say.

2. She wings over earth, resting where she wishes,
lighting close at hand or soaring through the skies;
she nests in the womb, welcoming each wonder,
nourishing potential hidden to our eyes.

3. She dances in fire, startling her spectators,
waking tongues of ecstasy where dumbness reigned;
she weans and inspires all whose hearts are open,
nor can she be captured, silenced or restrained.

4. For she is the Spirit, one with God in essence,
gifted by the Saviour in eternal love;
she is the key opening the scriptures,
enemy of apathy and heavenly dove.

Moment for the young at heart: Phil

Children's Activity: Carolyn

Bible Reading: Judith

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible reading:

This is our third week of four reading from the book of Job. For almost ninety percent of his book, Job has struggled with God's apparent absence, God's distance, God's silence. And now God finally answers him. God's answer may not, on the surface, seem particularly satisfying. But at the heart of this passage lies what is, finally, the only possible answer to theological ignorance—Job's or ours—that it is God who is God; God who created the

earth, who orders the heavens, who sustains life in their midst, and who, even when it is difficult for us to see or feel, we trust is there with us and for us.

Job 38:1-7

Then Job answered:

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

² “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³ Gird up your loins like a man,
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴ “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶ On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone

⁷ when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

Mark 10:35-45

³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶ And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷ And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸ But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptised with the baptism that I am baptised with?” ³⁹ They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptised, you will be baptised; ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹ When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴² So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognise as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵ For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Hear the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Reflection: Rev Joy

Moment of Stillness:

Prayers of the People: Clabon

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: A place at the table (Shirley Murray)

1. For everyone born, a place at the table
To everyone born, clean water and bread
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing
For everyone born, a star over head

Chorus

And God will delight, when we are creators
of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight, when we are creators
of justice...justice and joy

2. For woman and man, a place at the table
Revising the roles, deciding the share
With wisdom and grace dividing the power
For woman and man, a system that's fair
Chorus

3. For young and for old, a place at the table
A voice to be heard, a part in the song
The hand of a child in hands that are wrinkled
For young and for old, the right to belong
Chorus

4. For everyone born, a place at the table
To live without fear and simply to be
To work to speak out, to witness and worship
For everyone born, the right to be free
Chorus

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: Brian

Acknowledgements:

Image: melitas | Credit: Getty Images/iStockphoto

Acknowledgement of country: adapted National Assembly Working Group on Worship

Call to worship & Opening Prayer – The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008 Abingdon Press.

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

Prayer of confession ~ adapted Uniting in Worship 2

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