**Pilgrim Uniting Church**

**12 Flinders Street, Adelaide**

***8.00am MORNING WORSHIP***

**WELCOME & GREETING & COMMUNITY SHARING**

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**OPENING PRAYER**

We begin our worship in the name of God who has chosen us to be the channels of blessings; in the name of Jesus, who became one like us;

in the name of the Holy Spirit, who has given us wisdom and strength.

Creator of the Cosmos, of eternity and time: be with us in this time.

Saviour of the world, healer of the nations: be with us in this place.

Breath of all that lives, of people near and far: be with us in our hearts.

Creator-Redeemer-Sustainer, God of here and now: stir within our lives.

**Amen** *(Source: WCC 2013)*  
  
**HYMN** TiS # 152 Joyful, joyful, we adore you

**PSALM OF THE DAY:** Psalm 145:1-5,17-21 *(responsive)*  
  
**THE PRAYERS OF WHO WE ARE/PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

*(inspired by Psalm 145: 17-18, “The Lord our God is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.”*

Most Holy God, we confess to you and to each other, that we are rarely just in all our ways, and far from being kind in all our doings. What we want to be and what we actually are, are two different things. Our lives are a miss-mash of astuteness and stupidity, of moral strength and cowardice, of kindness and meanness, of openness and cunning, of sincere love for you yet also of conniving self-interest.   
We need both your justice and your kindness to convict us of our sins, to forgive and cleanse us, and to save us from the power of evil in the days that lie ahead. We need your mercy to wipe away shame and disabling regrets, your light to give us our bearings, and your friendship to delight with us in our happiness and to comfort us in our sorrows.   
Grant to us, loving God, the grace of a new beginning and the joy of an enlarged love for you. Give us a passion for all your loving ways. *(Bruce Prewer)*

*A silence is kept.*   
  
**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** *(inspired by Psalm 145: 17-18)*

*“The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all’.*

Ever-Loving God, you give us the hope that renewal will happen, life will be enjoyed fully again, that friendships will be restored again, that faith will come alive again, that dreams will inspire us again.   
God’s peace is for you! **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**  
Gracious and Holy God, grant us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Amen.

**BIBLE READINGS** Haggai 1:15b-2:9

Luke 20: 27-38

**REFLECTION**

**HYMN** TiS #653 This is a day of new beginnings

**PRAYERS FOR OTHERS**

This is my prayer/**this is our prayer**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**HYMN** TiS #687 God gives us a future

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We offer our gifts to a loving God  
**who claims us as children and names us beloved.**   
We offer our gifts to a loving God   
**who is revealed in us, as we love and serve others in the world.**   
Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

**COMMUNION**

**THE INVITATION**   
God of life, what we long for is a united table. We long for a table where our differences do not separate us, but enrich and challenge us. God of life, lead us to a table of reconciliation, where we can sit together

with our differences and our distinctiveness united in your caring love. God of life, lead us to justice, of the table of abundance where there is room for all, where there is generous sharing so that no one lacks signs of your grace.   
God of life, lead us to justice and peace of people gathered around an open table of solidarity - a table at which you will wish to sit - so that together we can celebrate our faith. *(WCC 2013)*  
This is the table of the Lord – all are welcome here!

**THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER**  
We remember the stories from our tradition... how, on many occasions, Jesus would share a meal with friends. Bread and wine shared in community. How the bread would be taken, a blessing offered, and then shared between them. And all of them ate. How some wine would be poured out, a blessing offered, and then passed between them. And all of them drank. The bread and the wine symbolised human lives interconnected with other human lives, and the power of giving and receiving.

**THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you/ **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts/ **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
I**t is right to give our thanks and praise…..**  
We give you all thanks and praise, O God. You created the heavens and earth, sea and land, and every age proclaims your love and justice. When your people faced ruin and discouragement, your prophets spoke your word of promise and the splendour of your worship was revived. Through Jesus Christ, your good news was proclaimed. In his risen life, we are able to know life in all its abundance. And so, with all the company of heaven and earth we rejoice before you and praise your holy name saying:  
**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might**  
**heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**  
**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**   
**Hosanna in the highest.**  
*(The bread is broken)* We break the bread for the broken earth, ravaged and plundered for greed.  
**May there be healing of our beautiful blue and green planet.**  
We break this bread for our broken humanity, for the powerful and the powerless trapped by exploitation and oppression.  
**May there be the healing of humanity.**  
We break this bread for the unhealed hurts and wounds that lie within us all. **May we be healed.**  
*(The cup is lifted)* This is the cup of peace and of new life for all. A sign of love for the community of hope. A sign of reconciliation with God.   
**A reminder of the call** **to live fully,** **to love wastefully, and** **to be all that we can be.**

**PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on the gifts of the bread and cup, and upon those who, by faith, come to your table. As we receive these signs of a grace we cannot see, may we be transformed into signs of peace and hope for our time. As we taste the broken Bread, may we draw strength to serve a shattered world. As we drink of the gift of grace, may we become robust in our giving to others. As we open our hands to you, may we go to hand out justice to the lost, the little, the least.

The bread of life. The cup of compassion.   
Gifts of God for the people of God. *Communion is shared*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Divine Presence in all of life, we give thanks that we have gathered together in this sacred place. We rejoice in the giftedness of each person here. We are grateful for who we are for each other. May we continue to be truly thankful in all we do and in all we become, and offer ourselves in service to others. Amen.

**WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING** *The candles are extinguished*  
*(inspired by 2 Thessalonians 2:15-17)*  
Brothers and sisters, stand firm. Hold fast to what you have been taught, and to the example that has been set for you. And may our Lord Jesus Christ bring comfort and encouragement to your hearts, and give you strength to accomplish every good work.  
  
Let our world be a place of celebration. Let our world be a meeting place.  
Let justice spring from our earth, and let the fruits of love flourish. Let us make it possible by respecting our diversity, by sharing in solidarity, by uniting hands and hearts, by living together in harmony with creation. And then peace will be reborn! *(WCC 2013)*

**Together may we re-imagine the world**.

**Together may we work for reconciliation, peace and justice.**

**Together may we celebrate the possibilities and hope** **we each have and are called to share.**

The peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

*The sign of the peace is exchange*d