

**Pilgrim Uniting Church
12 Flinders Street, Adelaide**

8.00am MORNING WORSHIP

Lent 2B

25th February 2018

WELCOME and GREETING and COMMUNITY NEWS

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of God's Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, we gather again - in this sacred space, in this sacred moment. Just for a time, leave daily concerns aside, for here we recall the stories of faith, here we see God moving amongst us, here we are known by name, here we remember whose we are. You are here - the beloved of God.

HYMN All people that on earth do dwell (boxes?)

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing out your faith with cheerful voice;
Delight in God whose praise you tell,
whose presence calls you to rejoice.

Know that there is one God, indeed,
who fashions us without our aid;
who claims us, gives us all we need,
whose tender care will never fade.

Proclaim again that God is good,
whose mercy is forever sure,
whose truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

(Words: Thomas Troeger; Tune: TiS 59, William Kethe 1561)

PSALM OF THE DAY

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Loving God, we praise your holy name. You knit us together in one communion and fellowship through Jesus Christ. You guide us with steadfast love and faithfulness. By your grace, fill our minds with your love, pour your Spirit upon us so we may reflect your glory in the fabric of our lives. In Jesus' name we pray, **Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of our ancestors in the faith, we are a people who have known the hurt of broken promises, and have spoken words we could not keep. We are quick to condemn those who make wrong choices, but want only gentle criticism directed our way. We let our lives be guided so much by our past, rather than opening our eyes, our hearts, our hopes to your amazing future. Forgive our distrust of the vows you have made to us, God of Sarah. Forgive our disbelief that you can bring hope to those places where we see only despair, God of Abraham. Forgive our hesitancy in denying all that keeps us from committing ourselves completely to you, God of Peter and the psalmists. Forgive us, so we may take up the life you offer to us

in Jesus Christ.

In this time of silence, let us be honest with ourselves as we reflect on these words for ourselves.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

God's covenant in Christ brings new life and forgiveness. God's relationship created so long ago remains. God does not hold back, but pours abundant grace and forgiveness into our lives. Forgiven, we can follow; filled with hope, we can empty ourselves for others; restored to new life, we can live in relationship with God, with our neighbors and enemies, with ourselves.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let the fire of your Spirit shed light on your word, O God. As we open these pages, may we find a breath of fresh air, a word for our hearts, a light for our path. **Amen.**

BIBLE READINGS: Romans 4: 13-25 Mark 8: 31-38

HYMN TiS 691 Faith will not grow from words alone

REFLECTION

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

In the spirit of prayer, the offering is collected in silence.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of infinite patience and compassion, we pray that today we will offer not only our gifts of money, but also our gifts of ourselves. We think of ourselves as followers of Christ, but we realize in this holy season that, too rarely, we deny ourselves in living out our discipleship. We have risked little and sacrificed even less for you. Our prayer today is that we might find the faith and courage to love you more than life itself. In Christ, we pray. **Amen.** (*Mark 8:31-38*)

COMMUNION

HYMN: With the body that was broken (boxes?)

With the Body that was broken,
to the Body who proclaim,
by the Blood that is life's token,
for the life found in his Name:
so the Word-made-flesh has spoken,
and his presence here we claim.

In the cross of Christ confiding,
by the cross we bear as sign,
through the Spirit's gifts and guiding,
with these gifts of bread and wine:
so the Church in faith abiding
keeps the feast Christ made divine.

Fed by breaking and outpouring,
joined in breaking-forth of praise,
given the peace of God's restoring,

sent in peace to live always:
so we show forth our adoring
as God's servants all our days.
(Words: Carl P. Daw Jr, Tune: Picardy TiS 684)

THE INVITATION

We come in anticipation, perhaps out of habit, perhaps scarred by the pain of life, perhaps with a deep sense of unworthiness. Christ meets us at this table in the name of God who embraces us and names us as beloved. All are welcome here and Christ is our host!

THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER

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.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right to give our thanks and praise. You are holy, God of Abraham and Sarah. In the life of Jesus Christ, you revealed the breadth and depth of your love for us. When he could have stumbled over distrust and disregard, he called us to follow him into your promises. When rejection could have weakened his faith, he grew strong in his commitment to deny himself. When he could have remained silent, he declared your salvation to all. When he could have hidden his face in fear, he turned towards Jerusalem, going to his death and into the grave, that you might give life to all. 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.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Here, at this Table, the gifts of the bread and the cup are offered. Pour out your Spirit of healing and hope, O God. Feed us with the food of heaven which can make us whole once more, so we can go to serve all. Nourish us with the cup of life and transform our hesitating faith that we may grow into the likeness of Christ. Amen.

The bread of life, the cup of compassion.

The gifts of God for the people of God. *Communion is shared*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of amazing grace, we are grateful for your presence always surrounding us. We pray this presence will strengthen us to follow the way of Christ, and to reflect the compassion and love of God. **Amen.**

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

The candles are extinguished.

Go now, and speak of what you have seen and know of God's glory. Listen to Christ and follow him from the places of revelation to the places of mission. And may God shine the light of glory into your hearts. May Christ be with you and never leave you. And may the Spirit renew the image of God within you.

God's peace be with you. **And also with you.**

The sign of the peace is exchanged