

If you can use the church to heal the broken hearted and to be a home for everyone who comes – **then make us that community.** All things are possible with you. Our flawed and human church can be Christ's body, by your grace, O God – **so help us do Christ's ministry.**

(Words: Elizabeth J Smith)

May the grace of God be found in all corners of your days, the love of Christ meet you in every conversation, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit keep you aware of the needs of others, this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

Passing of the peace

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

A sign of peace is exchanged

This service was prepared by Sandy Boyce.
Rev Liellie McLaughlin presented the witness.

Jenny Ward was at the piano and Marelle Harisun led the singing, assisted by other musicians. Rose Milton Head was on the A-V desk.

If you want to assist in preparing or presenting a service in the future, please speak with one of the Ministers or worship leaders. If you play an instrument and would like to join the musicians each week or occasionally, please speak with Norm.

The Community Connections project includes collaborations with Clayton-Wesley Uniting Church, Spire Community, Hope's Cafe, Uniting Communities, Scots Uniting Church, Brougham Place UC, and CityView church plant.

Please join us in the Hall, after the service for conversation and light refreshments.



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Pilgrim
Uniting Church

9.30am
Community Worship

Sunday 29 September 2019

Pentecost 16
COCU58C

The church is fitted with a hearing loop which covers the body of the church. To receive most benefit, hearing aid wearers are advised to switch their hearing aid to T-setting.

Social Justice Sunday

Candles are lit and we begin with silence.

"Justice is the Body of Love ~ Love is the Soul of Justice"

(John Dominic Crossan)

GATHERING

We gather:

In the name of the Creator, the fountain of life,
in the name of Christ, the pulse of life,
and the name of the Spirit, the breath of life.

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Earth is filled with God's presence.

As we gather in worship, we call to mind the places where people gather:

to work, to play,
to grieve, to celebrate,
to love, to struggle.

There is no place that God is not present,
no people beyond God's care.

May God be revealed to us in this place,
and may we see God revealed in all creation.

Holy! Holy! Holy!

Earth is filled with God's presence.

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Song SMS 38 Great God your love has called us here *(Words: Brian Wren)*

Solo for verse 1, and then please join in

1. Great God, your love has called us here,
as we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonoured, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.
2. We come with self-inflicted pains
of broken trust and chosen wrong,
half-free, half-bound by inner chains
by social forces swept along,
by powers and systems close confined,
yet seeking hope for humankind.
3. Great God, in Christ you call our name,
and then receive us as your own,
not through some merit, right or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy-seat,
and find you kneeling at our feet.
4. Then take the towel, and break the bread,
and humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed,
and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings,
to fill all words, to crown all things.

Welcome

Acknowledgment of Country

The prayers of who we are

O God, you created us in divine likeness, diverse and beautiful:
In every person, every race is your image.

But too often we fail to recognize your image in all:

Grant us forgiveness.

You created us in divine freedom, to be free:

In every decision, every choice is your possibility of justice.

But too often we fail to choose to advocate for your justice for all:

Grant us forgiveness.

You created us for divine abundance, to tend and share:

In every garden, every social structure is your seed of community.

But too often we fail to create that community which includes all
and gives to all equal access to your abundant life. *A silence is kept*

Open our eyes to distinguish good from evil

Open our hearts to desire good over evil

Strengthen our will to choose good over evil,

So that we may create among us your beloved community.

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news: God's gift of grace in Jesus Christ forgives us and sets
us free to live full human lives in community.

**We go forth confident of the grace to imagine with renewed fervor
justice and mercy for all, and to create with a new will a community
where all are given access to God's abundant life. Amen.**

(Source: Rev. Susan A. Blain)

*Representatives of collaborating partners in the Community Connections
project come forward, plus Sandy and Marelle who have been working directly
with Liellie)*

They say:

Liellie, we welcome you and offer you our friendship and support as we join
together in this work to which God has called us.

The Chairperson, addressing the minister and the representatives, says:

You have been called by God to work together in ministry. Will you promise, in
faith and obedience to Christ, to share this ministry, supporting one another in
love, and through your harmony of spirit inspiring God's people in their
common ministry for Christ?

We will, by the grace of God.

INDUCTION PRAYER

The minister to be inducted kneels and the Chairperson says:

Let us pray:

Almighty God, in every age you have chosen servants to speak your word and
lead your people. We thank you for Liellie whom you have called to serve you.
Fill her with the Holy Spirit and give her gifts for this ministry. May she have
the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and be a faithful disciple, being an
example to the people of God and witnessing before the world; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord bless you and keep you;

the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you;

the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

DECLARATION OF INDUCTION

The minister stands and faces the people.

The Chairperson says:

In the name of Jesus Christ, the sovereign Head of the Church, and by the
authority of the Transitional Presbytery of South Australia, we declare Rev
Liellie McLaughlin to be inducted to serve as a Minister of the Word in
placement, giving leadership to the Community Connections project.

*People may acknowledge with applause. There will be an opportunity to greet
Liellie at morning tea.*

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

We began our service with worship; now we continue our worship with service.

If you can use the church, O God,

to wake a sleeping world again,

transforming apathy to hope –

then use us; we are yours to send.

If you can use the church's voice

to tell the truth in spite of fear,

to cry for justice, plead for peace –

then have us speak, that all may hear.

Induction Service for Rev Liellie McLaughlin

(led by Transitional Presbytery Chairperson, or delegate)

The Transitional Presbytery has resolved to induct Rev Liellie McLaughlin, Minister of the Word, to provide leadership for the Community Connections project.

Liellie, my sister in Christ, you are called to be a servant and shepherd. It is your work to proclaim Christ's gospel, to share in the conduct of worship, to encourage God's people in their ministry, to care for those in need, to stand with those who suffer, and to pray and act for justice. You will take Christ the Good Shepherd as your example, caring for his people and serving with them in their witness to the world.

In view of this solemn trust, we ask you to reaffirm the declaration of faith and obedience that you made at your ordination.

Do you confess anew Jesus Christ as Lord?

I do.

Do you embrace the faith and unity of the holy, catholic and apostolic Church, as set forth in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, expressed in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds and described in the Basis of Union?

I do.

Do you accept the discipline of the Uniting Church and the oversight of this presbytery?

I do.

Do you affirm and commit yourself to the covenant made between the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and the Uniting Church and accept the obligation to serve both First and Second peoples?

I do

Will you take part in the work of this presbytery and other councils of the Uniting Church, and will you share in the life and witness of the wider Church?

I will.

A group of people, representing those amongst whom the minister will serve, comes forward. They bring a Bible, and water, bread and wine. Other symbols may also be brought.

One of them says:

We are the people of God. We bring the Holy Bible, and water, and bread and wine

as signs of the ministry to which you were ordained.

Another says:

We are the people of God.

We bring the symbols of our common life and service.

(these symbols may be a tray with mugs and biscuits for hospitality; a phone for communication and a listening ear)

The minister takes the Bible, opens it and places it on the lectern or pulpit; takes the jug and pours water into the font; and takes the bread and wine and places them on the communion table. She then takes any other symbols and places them in front of the communion table. The representatives return to their places.

Song SMS 11 Christ be our light

(Words: Bernadette Farrell)

1.
Longing for light, we wait in darkness,
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own,
your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Refrain:

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light! Shine on your
church
gathered today.*

2.
Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us you living voice.

Refrain:

Readings 1 Timothy 2: 1-8

"We do not think ourselves into new ways of living, we live ourselves into new ways of thinking".

(Richard Rohr)

Witness

Rev Liellie McLaughlin, Community Connections

Song

Called as partners (Words: Jane Parker Huber; Tune: Beach Spring TIS493)

(offering collected during this song)

1.
Called as partners in Christ's service,
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfil God's chosen end.

2.
Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering,
Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
All God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold.

3.
Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Refrain:

4.
Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Refrain:

5.
Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making you kingdom come.

Refrain:

3.
Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens,
Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action
Make us colleagues, free and fair.

4.
So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
Then surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.

PRAYING

Prayer of Dedication

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.**

(Source: Prayer for Justice and Peace, Iona)

Prayers for Others

"The place where God is calling you to, your true *vocare*, your vocation, is the place where the deep gladness/longing of your soul meets the need of the world."
(Frederick Buechner)

God of Justice! We call on you to guide all those on this Land to seek Justice.
Bless and renew our hearts and minds,
so that we may see with your insight,
mindful of the calling
to walk in your way of peace and reconciliation.
Seed in us the desire to be agitators
for holy change.

May the blessings we receive
inspire and nourish us
to bless those around us
with words of comfort
and actions of healing.
Inspire in our mouths
the words of your good news
for the sake of the world you love.

May we grow in the courage of Christ,
becoming and being prepared to take up the cross,
rather than buy in to the pressure
of dehumanizing and demeaning
that places avarice before generosity.
Gift us with the desire to share in joyful community.
Make us into catalysts for relationships.
Form us as people who become nourishment for the world.

May we deepen in our reading of your Scriptures,
that we might see your promises of mercy written in our souls.
May we work, throughout Australia,
and through our international partnerships,
to bring about a foretaste of the state of mercy and blessing
that characterizes the realm of God.

Just as we seek mercy,
teach us to recognize the power imbalances
that prevent the full experience of abundant life.
May we learn to repent of those habits
that destroy your beautiful plan.
Rather, let us learn the creativity of your nature,
to better use our gifts for the sake of grace.

God of Justice,
be our Teacher and our Defender!
Correct us, so we can learn how to speak Truth.
And, when we do – protect us from the evils we confront,
For this is your will to be done
And we are honoured by your call.

So, we commit this day,
to be your holy and vocal people.
We commit to stand up for your beloved creation,
especially those who are marginalised
by the cultures of judgement and shame around us.
May we stand with them. So be it. *(Source: Amelia Koh-Butler, Hyphenated Faith, 2017)*

Song

Hands shaped like a cradle
(Tune: Dominus regit me TIS 145, Words: Fred Kaan)

1. Put peace into each other's hands
and like a treasure hold it,
protect it like a candle-flame,
with tenderness enfold it.
2. Put peace into each other's hands
with loving expectation;
be gentle in your words and ways,
in touch with God's creation.
3. Put peace into each other's hands
like bread we break for sharing;
look people warmly in the eye:
our life is meant for caring.
4. As at communion, shape your hands,
into a waiting cradle;
the gift of Christ receive, revere,
united round the table.
5. Put Christ into each other's hands,
he is love's deepest measure;
in love make peace, give peace a chance,
and share it like a treasure.