



**Pilgrim Uniting Church**  
**12 Flinders Street, Adelaide**  
**8.00am MORNING WORSHIP**



Easter 4A

*Welcome to this time of worship, of gentle reflection, and caring community.*

**WELCOME and GREETING**

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

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

In the stillness of this moment, God comes to us, keeping company with us. In this place, we find ourselves surrounded by God's presence.

**In humility and sincerity, we gather to worship God.**

God is our still, quiet centre,

when all around us is noise, conflict and distraction

**Holy God, we place our hope in you**

In the quietness and peace of this sacred space,

we gather to pray and meditate on God's word.

**O God, draw near to us, as we draw near to you. Amen.**

**THE PRAYERS OF WHO WE ARE (PRAYERS OF CONFESSION)**

*(inspired by Psalm 23) \* words in italics for quiet reflection*

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

*But, O Lord, we are consumed with wanting more.*

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

*But, O Lord, other pastures seem greener.*

*The waters aren't always still. Our souls still thirst.*

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

*O Lord, we long to be led by you, though we may complain along the path.*

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff - they comfort me.

*And yet, O God, we do sometimes fear.*

*May we feel your presence, your comfort and your forgiveness anew.*

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

*O God, sometimes we refuse to sit down at your table.*

*Forgive us and help us to see your overflowing mercy.*

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

*Forgive us, God, and lead us into your presence. (Rev. Emily Schlaman Larsen)  
A silence is kept.*

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Persistently, patiently, lovingly, God pours out grace and joy into our lives, healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin. Loved, we are sent to love; Forgiven, we are freed to forgive; Graced, we can offer our gifts to everyone we meet. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God, who sets us on a journey to discover, dream and grow,  
Stir our spirit, stretch our minds, grant us vision. Amen.

## **BIBLE READING AND REFLECTION**

### **PRAYERS FOR OTHERS**

We offer our prayers for the world: This is my prayer/**this is our prayer**

We see the hope that lies among us, that we could care and live in community with each other and the world. Give life to this hope in us, God of community. We pray in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray:

### **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 from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **COMMUNION**

### **THE INVITATION**

### **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 you our thanks and praise, O God, for you spread a banquet of abundant life before us and invite us to eat and drink in celebration.

In the first of your wonders and signs you created the earth,  
tending it with goodness and love.

You created a people for yourself and gave them your law  
that they might know your voice and follow in your ways.

When our ancestors wandered away like lost sheep, stumbling through  
death's dark valley, Jesus Christ was sent to reveal your enduring love for  
us. He called us to listen to his voice and return to you. He endured unjust  
abuse and suffering and returned only mercy and life. He was killed by  
those political and religious leaders who feared that this reign of love  
would upset their reign of power. And in his risen life, he calls us to follow  
him, guiding our ways like a shepherd and the guardian of our souls, along  
sure paths to life in abundance.

And so we lift our voices, filled with joy, joining them with the glad songs of  
every place and generation, all creation praising your name:

**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**

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be a communion in  
the life and love of Christ. Make us one with Christ and with all who share  
this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love.

**Amen.**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD** *Communion is shared*

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life and the cup  
of compassion. May this strengthen us in love and help us to serve you as  
we serve each other. We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

**WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING** *Candles are extinguished*

We carry the light of Christ with us into our day,  
a light that shines into dark places, offering hope, mercy and compassion.  
Go into this day, strengthened by the great love of God,  
enfolded in the compassionate love of Jesus Christ,  
filled with the active love of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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

*The sign of the peace is exchanged*