

*This 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 aid to T-setting*

Pilgrim Uniting Church
12 Flinders Street, Adelaide
9:30 COMMUNITY WORSHIP

Pentecost 8

7th August 2011

Love in hard places

Lighting of the candles

Opening words

On a winter's morning on this first Sunday in August,
it is a good morning to be together!

**Drawn by the warmth of faces familiar and new,
to the welcoming space of this sacred place.**

It is a good morning to be together

For this is a place where truth, love, and challenge meet.

B Cheatham/adapt.

Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us:

**here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us,
always!**

Here are gathered those daring enough to step out of comfort into the
unknown:

**here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to recognize
our need.**

We have gathered here in community, in company with each other, in
company with God. There is a safe place for each of us. In our gathering,
let us be open to new understandings, reassurance and hope. Let what we
say and do here be both real and honest, thus preparing ourselves for the
life of the world. **Amen.**

Song: SfP 3 Body of Christ

Welcome

**International Day of the World's Indigenous People
recognition (August 9)**

This year the focus is on indigenous designs, celebrating stories and
culture, and indigenous people crafting their own future.

Kaurna acknowledgement:

(we say together) **We acknowledge the Kaurna people, the traditional custodians on whose land this church was built. We commit ourselves to actively work alongside Aboriginal people for reconciliation and justice.**

Prayer

Song: The kingdom of God is justice and peace *(Taize)*

The kingdom of God is justice and peace
and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Come, Lord, and open in us
the gates of your kingdom.

Sharing the story (Matthew 14:22-33)

Sharing around the word

A quiet time

Song: SfP 5 By Gracious Powers

Prayers for others

Song: SfP 15 God to enfold you

Prayers for ourselves

Song: God is

In loving, God is gift;
in giving, God is care;
in caring, God is grief;
in grieving God is grace.

Words: Helen Wiltshire

The music will be led by musicians at first, then by the singer and musicians, as a time of reflection. You are invited to join in the final two repeats.

At the conclusion of the song, you are invited to move to the front and gather in a circle. Please bring your offering and order of service.

Offering prayer

It's a tough thing for us to learn, Jesus, how you hide in the most unlikely places; how you beckon us into life and compassion by disguising yourself in broken humanity. But, when our eyes are opened, we discover that we are never far from your heart, from your kingdom. And so we ask you to show yourself to us again, and lead us into prayerful action.

Help us to share your grief when lives are needlessly lost simply because they have no money for food or shelter, because they have no access to medicine and care, because they have no choice but to live where war and violence constantly threaten. Help us to feel your offense when the least are exploited by the lust of those who are physically stronger, by the greed of those who are financially richer, by the disregard of those who are politically more powerful. Help us to know your pain when what you have created is destroyed by the carelessness of expediency, by the short-sightedness of progress at all costs, by the sense of entitlement of proud humanity.

Teach us to welcome you, Jesus, by welcoming those in whom your image is hidden, and by working, in our small worlds, to make visible your kingdom where all are welcomed. Amen.

by John van de Laar © 2008 Sacredise

Song: The love we share

Words: Helen Wiltshire

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1
The love we share is born of grace;
its beauty shines on every face.
The love we feel and daily give,
melts hurt and offers hope to live.</p> | <p>2
The love we share is touched with pain,
as grieving hearts weep once again.
The love we trust and seek to show,
links peace and hope as blessings flow.</p> |
| <p>3
The love we share will hurt forgive;
its gentle grace again will live.
The love we risk and once more
bear,
heals wounds with oil of generous
care.</p> | <p>4
The love we share will always sing;
its music soars with joyous ring.
The love we cast and scatter free,
endures for all eternity.</p> |

Words of mission

The time has now come for us to leave this sacred place.

As we do, may we embrace the challenges of our lives and our world...

The candles are extinguished

May we go forth from this place thankful for the life that sustains and renews us, and open to the grace that surrounds and surprises us.

May we go forth from this place with openness and with thanksgiving!

C.A.Howe

Blessing/benediction

As we go,

May the God of Love who shared love,
strengthen us in our love for others.

May Jesus Christ, who shared his life,
grant us grace that we might share our life.

And may God's Spirit indwelling us
empower us to be only and always for others. Amen.

The peace of God be with you.

And also with you! *(the peace is shared)*



"The Expulsion" by Arthur Boyd

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This service was prepared by Jeff Telfer, Jeannette Clarke and Sandy Boyce.
The musicians were led by Norm Inglis and Ruth Farrent.

Please join us for fellowship, coffee, tea or water in the hall after this service.