

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

**8.00am MORNING WORSHIP**

**Epiphany 3C.COCU11C**

**27th January 2019**

**GREETING AND WELCOME**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND**

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Our land is alive with the glory of God;  
desert sands hum and gum trees dance,  
brown grasses sing  
and mountains breathe their stillness.  
All created things add their rhythms of delight  
and even stones rap out their praise.  
Let our voices mingle with those of the earth.  
May our hearts join the beat of her joy, for God is with us -  
the Source of all being surrounds and upholds us.  
Christ Jesus walks beside and before us.  
the Spirit moves within and between us.  
Blessed be God, our wonder and delight.

**HYMN TIS 188**      Where wide sky rolls down

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Ground of our being,  
it is you who inspires every noble thought  
and every loving deed.  
When we draw near to you in worship,  
save us from wanderings of mind and coldness of heart,  
that with a deep longing for more truth  
and a warm desire for more love,  
we may know you, embrace you, and worship you  
in the incarnate life of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Gift-giver, you call us together:  
**with our different gifts,  
our different ideas,  
our different tastes.**  
You call us together:  
**to build each other up,  
to serve each other in love.**  
You call us together:

**knowing that we need all parts of the body  
if we are to be whole.**

Gift-giver, you have given each of us many gifts:

**sometimes we fail to recognize  
the gifts we have to share,  
or we withhold them, or discount them.**

Gift-giver, you remind us that all gifts are needed:

**but sometimes we let ourselves be convinced  
that some gifts are more special than others.**

*A time of silence is held as we reflect upon these words for ourselves*

### **WORD OF ASSURANCE**

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.” *(Marianne Williamson, from her book, A Return To Love, and quoted by Nelson Mandela at his inauguration).*

**BIBLE READING:** Luke 4: 14-21

**HYMN:** Praise the one who breaks the darkness

Praise the One who break the darkness  
with a liberating light.

Praise the One who frees the prisoners  
turning blindness into sight.

Praise the One who preached the Gospel  
healing every dread disease.

Calming storms and feeding thousands  
with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children  
with a strong yet gentle word.

Praise the One who drove out demons  
with a piercing two-edged sword.

Praise the one who brings cool water  
to the desert's burning sand.

From this well comes living water  
quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate:

Christ who suffered in our place.

Jesus died and rose for many  
that we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness  
seeing what our God has done.

Praise the one redeeming glory,  
praise the One who makes us one.

*(Words: Rusty Edwards; tune: Nettleton or Joel)*

## REFLECTION

### PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

Gracious God, the comfort of all who sorrow,  
the strength of all who suffer, hear our prayers.

Prayers are offered: this is my prayer/**this is our prayer**

In a cynical and despairing world, O God,  
**give us a quietly prophetic voice  
to proclaim your hope.**

In a violent and angry world, O God,  
**give us a quietly prophetic voice  
to proclaim your peace.**

In a dismissive and disinterested world, O God,  
**give us a quietly prophetic voice  
to proclaim your compassion.**

In a lonely and inhospitable world, O God,  
**give us a quietly prophetic voice  
to proclaim your love.**

In a grieving and weeping world, O God,  
**give us a quietly prophetic voice  
to proclaim your joy.**

May we be so captivated by your hope, O God,  
that we cannot help but to whisper,  
to sing, and to enact the message of your reign  
which is always coming into our world;  
And may our quietly prophetic lives,  
be channels of your restoring grace wherever we may go.

*(Source: John van de Laar, Sacredise)*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**HYMN** TiS 420 Holy Spirit go before us *(alt. tune Austria TiS 93)*

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May the Holy Spirit be upon us now, to cleanse our hearts, to hallow our gifts, and to perfect the offering of ourselves for love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## COMMUNION

### THE INVITATION

This is the joyful feast where Jesus is host and we are the welcome guests. We do not presume to come to this table trusting in our own righteousness, but in God's manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under the table. But God's nature is always to have mercy. Come, taste and see that God is good.

## THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God be with you. **And also with you.**  
Open up your hearts. **We open them to God.**  
Let us give thanks and praise.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right to give our thanks and praise, O God. You are before all things, in the midst of all things and you have made yourself known to all peoples. In Israel's ancient codes and prophetic oracles, in stories of women and men, of communities and nations seeking identity, feeling their strength, and struggling with their weakness, you have made yourself known. In Jesus of Nazareth, in compassion for the outcast, forgiveness for the fallen, hope for the poor and hungry; in his life poured out for others and broken in rejection and disdain, you have made yourself known.

We greet the one who comes in your name, your true light, your true love, revealed to us this day in the bread of life, and the wine of renewal. And so we join our voices with our spiritual ancestors, with the angelic choirs and with people all around the world this day who lift their voices to praise you:

**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**

Come to us, Spirit of our Lord of love, and let the bread and wine before us bear your life to our life. Nourish us with Christ's vision of hope, and unite us in one body of peace. **Amen.**

*Communion is shared*

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Giver of life and love, we thank you that you renew us in this meal. Living in unity with the Spirit, may we boldly use your gifts to continue your work in the world. Amen.

#### **WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING**

May God's Spirit open our eyes anew to the vastness and splendour of beauty all around us. Let us see God's beauty even in the brokenness of our brothers and sisters - all of them, created in God's image.

May you have the heart of Christ, tender for mercy.

May you have the eyes of Christ, to see a world in need.

May you have the feet of Christ, to bring good news.

God's peace be with you. **And also with you.** *A sign of peace is exchanged.*