



Pilgrim
Uniting Church

11.00am Choral Worship

Sunday, 17th March 2019

Lent 2
COCU20C

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



THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

ORGAN PRELUDE

The people stand for the entrance of the Bible.

CALL TO WORSHIP

"Even those who believe that God is everywhere set aside a place for a sanctuary. For the sacred to be sensed at all moments everywhere, it must also at this moment be somewhere."
(Abraham Joshua Heschel)

In the stillness and beauty of the morning,
God comes to us, keeping company with us.



12 Flinders Street
GPO Box 116, Adelaide SA 5001

Phone: 08 8212 3295
Fax: 08 8212 9637
E-mail: office@pilgrim.org.au

In this place, we find ourselves surrounded by God's presence.

Let us worship God who is our light, our strength, and our salvation.

When our confidence is in God of whom shall we be afraid?

One thing we ask of God, one thing we seek:

to live in the company of God all the days of our lives.

That we may behold the beauty of God in creation – and in one another.

One thing we ask of God, one thing we seek - to trust the ways of God.

That we may know God's goodness and strength all the days of our lives.

Let us worship God!

HYMN 208 Blessed city, heavenly Salem vv 1-4 and Doxology

WELCOME and GREETING

Those who wish to do so may share a sign of peace with those immediately around them using words such as 'God's Peace be with you / and also with you'. Please respect those who wish to use the time for quiet contemplation.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Today where sun rises on hills of fresh sorrow
tomorrow where stars set upon fields of old pain
we will do the day's work to bring comfort and healing
this is Christ's labour, fulfilled the third day.

**Today where souls suffer, despairing and fearful
tomorrow where whole lives are crushed under strain
we will do the day's work to bring peace, to bring courage
this is Christ's labour, fulfilled the third day**

Today where the parched and scarred earth yields no bounty
tomorrow where war-weary ground gives no grain
we will do the day's work to bring hope to the hungry
for this is Christ's labour, fulfilled the third day

**Today where the foxes of evil still threaten
tomorrow where tenderness so often is maimed
we will do the day's work to bring love and compassion
for this is Christ's labour, fulfilled the third day**

Today where the forces of greed rule the kingdoms
tomorrow where powers of death hold their sway
we will do the day's work to bring justice and caring
we are Christ's labour, fulfilled the third day. (© Andrew King)

This is our worship. Amen.

CONFESSION

We have heard the call to Christ's labour
**but struggle to bring comfort and healing;
trust eludes us.**

Presiding Minister
Scripture Reader
Organist & Choir Director

Rev Dr Greg Elsdon
Charlie Kelso
Peter Kelsall

The Choir of Pilgrim Church
Copyright material © ST5772

Please join us for tea or coffee and fellowship in the Lounge.

**Do not cast us off, do not forsake us,
O God of our salvation!**

Though all forsake us,
God will take us up.

**We believe that we shall see the goodness of the Lord
in the land of the living.**

Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!

**Though all forsake us,
God will take us up. Amen.** *(Based on Psalm 27)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(printed inside cover of hymn book)*

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

HYMN 443 God is our strength and refuge

WORDS OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION

God is our light, our hope, our all in all:
Blessed be God, now and forever!

Christ is our home, our life, our joy:
Blessed be God, now and forever!

Our worship concludes; our service continues.
Blessed be God, now and forever!

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen. *(Thom Shuman)*

*You are invited to be seated for the playing of the postlude,
or to leave at this point without disturbing those who wish to listen.*

POSTLUDE Jerusalem, du hochgebaute Stadt
(Jerusalem, thou high and fair city) Max Reger 1873-1916

Please stand as the Bible is taken from the church.

We know our calling to bring peace,
but lack courage and are quick to protect ourselves.

We remember those who are hungry
yet fail to bring hope.

We long to bring love and compassion
but we are tired and drained;

We know justice and caring is the only day's work
but we are overwhelmed.

Hear us, Holy One, as we confess our frailty and failings.

Silent prayers of confession

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Our citizenship is in heaven.
Christ will transform our humiliation.
Stand firm, for we are not rejected—
we are forgiven and beloved.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

KCO COMMISSIONING

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

ANTHEM Hide not thou thy face Richard Farrant d. 1580

The children are invited to go out to the Lounge for special activities.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God,
in these ancient words
may we hear your words.
May these written words
become alive in us,
guiding us into truth. **Amen.**

FIRST READING Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18

In this is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27

- 1 The Lord is my light, and my salvation; whom then shall I fear
the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?
- 2 When the wicked, even mine enemies, and my foes, came upon me to
eat up my flesh they stumbled and fell.

- 3 Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid and though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.
- 4 One thing have I desired of the Lord, which I will require even that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the fair beauty of the Lord, and to visit his temple.
- 5 For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his tabernacle yea, in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me, and set me up upon a rock of stone.
- 6 And now shall he lift up mine head above mine enemies round about me.
- 7 Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness I will sing, and speak praises unto the Lord.
- 8 Hearken unto my voice, O Lord, when I cry unto thee have mercy upon me, and hear me.
- 9 My heart hath talked of thee, Seek ye my face Thy face, Lord, will I seek.
- 10 O hide not thou thy face from me nor cast thy servant away in displeasure.
- 11 Thou hast been my succour leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 12 When my father and my mother forsake me the Lord taketh me up.
- 13 Teach me thy way, O Lord and lead me in the right way, because of mine enemies.
- 14 Deliver me not over into the will of mine adversaries for there are false witnesses risen up against me, and such as speak wrong.
- 15 I should utterly have fainted but that I believe verily to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.
- 16 O tarry thou the Lord's leisure be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart; and put thou thy trust in the Lord.

Please stand and sing the concluding Gloria

**Glory be to the Father, and / to the / Son:
and / to the / Holy / Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now and / ever /shall be
world without / end. A / - / men.**

SECOND READING Philippians 3: 17 - 4: 1

In this is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM The Lamentation Edward Bairstow 1874-1946

Please stand for and face the gospel

A reading from the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord

GOSPEL READING Luke 13: 31-35

The gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

HYMN 97 Lord Jesus, think on me

SERMON

THE RESPONSE TO GOD IN WORD AND ACTION

HYMN 598 There's a wideness in God's mercy

*During the singing of this hymn our offering will be received.
Remain standing for the dedication prayer.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We bring our gifts to you, Gracious God, in gratitude and hope. Dedicating them, we dedicate ourselves again to be your people in the world. May the strength and enabling power of the Spirit of Jesus abide in us, in everything we do and say. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

Most loving God, according to our true needs, please confront and save your earth children. Discipline or soothe, break down or build up, discomfort or comfort us. May we know both the pain and joy of being in the hands of your love.

**Hear, O Lord, when we cry aloud,
be gracious to us and answer us!**

We pray for our nation Australia, that the values of Christ may be embraced, and that the love of Christ may be our desire for all people. May we be a nation of true sanctuary.

**Hear, O Lord, when we cry aloud,
be gracious to us and answer us!**

We pray for family, neighbours, and friends who live in the pain of confusion, depression, suffering, sadness; who are heartbroken, weary, ashamed, lonely; who suffer with physical illness— we pray for ourselves.

**Do not turn your servants away in anger,
you who have been our help.**