



Pilgrim
Uniting Church

11.00am Choral Eucharist

Sunday, 7th April 2019

Lent 5
COCU23C

*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.*



COMMUNION SETTING

Mass in honour of St Joseph

Flor Peeters 1903-1986

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

ORGAN PRELUDE

The people are invited to stand for the entrance of the Bible.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Open our lips O Lord:

And we shall declare your praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.



12 Flinders Street
GPO Box 116, Adelaide SA 5001

Phone: 08 8212 3295

Fax: 08 8212 9637

E-mail: office@pilgrim.org.au

www.pilgrim.org.au | facebook.com/pilgrimunitingchurch

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Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
**As it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Let us praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 424 Fill thou my life

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 INVOCATION

Loving God,
you prepare a new way in the wilderness
and your grace waters the desert.
Help us to recognize your presence
in the everyday wonders of living.
Open our hearts to be transformed
by the new thing you are doing,
so that our lives may proclaim
the extravagance of your love for all. **Amen**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of wilderness and water,
your Son was baptized and tempted as we are.
Guide us through this season,
that we may not avoid struggle,
but open ourselves to blessing.
**Help us to set aside the former things
and forget the things of old,
for you wait to do a new thing in and through us.**

A time for silent reflection

KYRIE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.
Rejoice and be glad, new life is ours.
Thanks be to God. Amen

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

HYMN 323 Strengthen for service, Lord

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go now, and press on in the path to which God has called you.
Do not get caught up in the things of the past,
or in the things that the world prizes,
but welcome the new things God is doing,
and take the new paths that open to you.

And may God pour life-giving waters into your wilderness;
May Christ Jesus make you his own;
And may the Holy Spirit strengthen you
for the journey, ever onward. **Amen**

*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 Allein Gott in der Hoh' sei Ehr' J.S. Bach 1685-1750
Alone to God on high be honour

Please stand as the Bible is taken from the church.

Presiding Ministers	Rev Dr Greg Elsdon
Scripture Reader	John Pope
Organist & Choir Director	Peter Kelsall
Assistant Organist	Christopher Bridge

The Choir of Pilgrim Church
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*Please join us for tea or coffee and fellowship in the Lounge
after the service.*

And when our journeys have come to an end,
when we are gathered with our sisters and brothers
around that resurrection Table of wonder,
we will sing your praises forever, God in Community, Holy in One. **Amen.**
(Thom Shuman)

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
The gifts of God for the people of God.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

AGNUS DEI

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please come forward in double file down the centre aisle to receive the elements and return by the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please indicate to the ushers who will arrange for communion to be brought to you. There is wine in the chalice and grape juice in the glasses. Please place empty glasses in the baskets.

COMMUNION MOTET He that shall endure to the end
Felix Mendelssohn 1809-1847

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As we broke the bread and poured the wine,
as we held out our hands and drank our fill,
we became part of something beyond ourselves,
part of Christ, part of each other, part of creation.
We can scarcely imagine the significance
of what we have just participated in;
we only know it is a designated place of encounter,
a thread that binds us across centuries and continents.
We come expecting so little,
Christ comes, wanting to give so much.
Familiarity and repetition may blur the meaning,
but a cloud of witnesses breaks into Alleluias.
Coming here has not changed our situations,
but strength, hope, grace and love have been poured into us
for the journeys we return to.
**Holy is this time, holy is this meal,
holy is this sacred space we have set apart,
and holy is the life we are returned to
to be broken and poured out for others. Amen.**

A Report from Kid's Camp Out [KCO]

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

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open our hearts and minds to the new thing you are doing, Loving God.
May we have ears to hear your Word in scripture. Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 43: 16-21

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

PSALM 126

- 1 When the Lord turned again the captivity of Sion
then were we like unto them that dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with joy.
- 3 Then said they among the heathen
The Lord hath done great things for them.
- 4 Yea, the Lord hath done great things for us already whereof we rejoice.
- 5 Turn our captivity, O Lord as the rivers in the south.
- 6 They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.
- 7 He that now goeth on his way weeping, and beareth forth good seed
shall doubtless come again with joy, and bring his sheaves with him.

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: 4b-14

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

Please stand for and face the gospel

A reading from the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.
Glory to you, Lord

GOSPEL READING John 12: 1-8

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HYMN 415 Eternal light, shine in my heart

SERMON

THE RESPONSE TO GOD IN WORD AND ACTION

HYMN 279 And now, O Father, mindful of the love

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**May our gifts be our pledge
to forget what lies behind
and to press on toward the goal
of the renewal and reconciliation
of the whole creation. Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sisters and brothers,
as Jesus, in the days before his passion,
offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears,
let us pray for those who suffer, those who are in need,
and those who seek reconciliation.

a time for silent prayer

God of compassion,
keep us aware of your presence and give us your wisdom
to attend to the needs of this hour
with the extravagance of those
who pour out their hearts in love. **Amen**

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

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

At this table all are welcome.
All share in the bread and the cup.
**By the power of God's Holy Spirit,
these gifts shall be for us the living presence of Christ.**

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.

We give you all thanks and praise, O God,
for there is nothing else in life that can compare
with the surpassing value of knowing you.

The newborn earth sprang forth at your touch
and life burst free as you lavished your love upon it.
You formed a people to declare your glory
and led them to freedom on a road through the sea.

Your child, Jesus Christ, honoured our outpoured devotion,
but was betrayed and killed by those
who profit from corruption.

You raised new life in him, and called us to leave the past
and look to the new wonders you are doing:
opening pathways through inhospitable places
and pouring forth springs where all was dry and lifeless,
so that we, and all who have laboured in sorrow,
may yet rejoice and be of good courage.

Therefore, with all the company of the joyful, we sing:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

THE NARRATIVE OF THE INSTITUTION

We remember the words from our tradition:
On the night that Jesus was betrayed
while sharing a meal with his friends he took bread,
after giving thanks he broke it and gave it to them saying:

Take, eat this is my body given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

After supper he took the cup
and again giving thanks he gave it to his friends, saying:
**This is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you
and for all people for the remission of sins.**

Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

From the grain of the fields, you shape the Bread of life for us;
from the fruit of the vine, you fill the Cup of grace for us,
pouring out your Spirit upon these gifts
and upon those who gather around your Table.

You provide that brokenness which makes us whole enough
to go and serve a hungry world.

You do not withhold anything from us,
but pass us that Cup of simple grace which cost everything that was dear
to you,

**so we could love those who are not easy to love;
so we could pray for those who would speak hate to us;
so we could do to others as you have done for us.**