*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.*

**Pilgrim Uniting Church**

 **12 Flinders Street, Adelaide**

 ***9.30 COMMUNITY WORSHIP***

**Ref….(COCU45A 20140629 9.30 Service)**

**Pentecost 4A 2 July 2017**

**“Life after 40”**

**THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

 **Song SPG4 19 Dreams and Visions**

**Lighting the Community Candles during this song**

**Welcome and Acknowledgement of country**

We acknowledge that the site of this church is placed adjacent to Tandanyangga

 (Victoria Square), which is the site of ceremony and ritual of the Kaurna people,

the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains.

**We are awed that they celebrated the religious significance of place, plant and all**

**living creatures; and that care for the earth was implanted in their law.**

**We honour them and also delight in the sacred in our midst.**

**We pray that in the power of the Holy Spirit we might work together for**

**reconciliation and justice in this land.**

**Opening Prayer**

Holy One,

today the cold wind

chased us from our homes

across the car park

and into the warmth

of this church, the warmth

of your welcoming love, and

the warmth of our community.

As we gather together today,

let us not forget those who are homeless,

and have no warmth awaiting them:

keep us aware and compassionate.

**May the fire we kindle here**

**fill our hearts with Your love,**

**and may we carry it away within us**

**and warm the hearts of others.**

**AMEN.**

**Song: All is Wonder** (sing 3 times while seated)

 In this moment, in this place
 All is wonder, all is grace
 In this moment, in this place,

 Silence waits

 In this moment, in this place
 All is wonder, all is grace
 In this moment, in this place

 We are one. (Trisha Watts )

**Silence:** (You are invited to read Psalm 40 and reflect upon it)

**Psalm 40: v. 1-17**

I waited patiently for the Lord;
    he inclined to me and heard my cry.
2He drew me up from the desolate pit,
    out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
    making my steps secure.
3He put a new song in my mouth,
    a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
    and put their trust in the Lord.

4Happy are those who make
    the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
    to those who go astray after false gods.
5You have multiplied, O Lord my God,
    your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
    none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
    they would be more than can be counted.

6Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
    but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering
    you have not required.
7Then I said, “Here I am;
    in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
8I delight to do your will, O my God;
    your law is within my heart.”

9I have told the glad news of deliverance
    in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips,
    as you know, O Lord.
10I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,
    I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness
    from the great congregation.

11Do not, O Lord, withhold
    your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
    keep me safe forever.
12For evils have encompassed me
    without number;
my iniquities have overtaken me,
    until I cannot see;
they are more than the hairs of my head,
    and my heart fails me.

13Be pleased, O Lord, to deliver me;
    O Lord, make haste to help me.
14Let all those be put to shame and confusion
    who seek to snatch away my life;
let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
    who desire my hurt.
15Let those be appalled because of their shame
    who say to me, “Aha, Aha!”

16But may all who seek you
    rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation
    say continually, “Great is the Lord!”
17As for me, I am poor and needy,
    but the Lord takes thought for me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
    do not delay, O my God.

**Song: SFP 26 In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful**  (sing 3 times while seated)

John 1: 1-5: The Word became FleshThis very well-known passage has the powerful image of the word or speaking of God taking form in the world in the life of Jesus. God’s voice acts in the world. Language brings things into being, as Genesis 1 makes clear. God speaks and the world emerges.
Even human language brings things into being – shaping relationships, influencing the way we see and understand events around us, expressing laws and delivering judgments, making agreements between peoples.
To be mute is not only to be speechless, but it is to be robbed of one way to shape the world. When a people’s language is destroyed they are robbed of one of the ways they have control over their life. Imagine what it would mean for the church to have no language to celebrate the sacraments, and no words to share the story of Jesus.
Now imagine what it means for First Peoples to reclaim and relearn their languages.

This needs to be a

Horizontal shaded

Text Box!!

**Prayer of Confession**
Creator and giver of life,
You who spoke and all things came to life,
Word that became flesh in Jesus. We praise and worship You in all things.
Enable Your Word to take life among us this day.
Give us voice that we might honour You,
and witness to the transforming life of Jesus, living Word.
Forgive us for cheap and careless words, or deliberately harmful words,
for words of war rather than peace, for words of exclusion and words that make enemies, rather than words that build neighbourhoods and welcome.
Forgive us when our words make others silent, or when we refuse to listen to other words.
Forgive us that we belong to a community which has in so many ways robbed First Peoples of their languages, culture and sense of the world.
May we support efforts to reclaim and re-learn languages.
Hear these our words to You. **Amen.** (Worship resources for NAIDOC Week)

**Early Word (**you are invited to share memories with others about “Life at forty”)

**Witness**

**Song SFP 7 Come And Find The Quiet Centre.**

 (Following the singing of this song, you are invited to move out to the front

 and form a circle, as you are able, or sit in the front pews, bringing your

 Order of Service and SPG4 book with you. Please place your offering in the

 bowls provided.)

**Offering Prayer**

We long for the time
when the meek shall inherit the earth
and all who hunger and thirst after justice
shall be satisfied,
and we believe that, despite the persistence of evil,
now is always the time
when more good can be done
and we can make a difference.
**May it be so, through the offering of these gifts**
**and the offering of our lives. Amen.**(Source: Prayer for Justice and Peace, Iona)

**Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

**Affirmation of Faith**

**We take a risk**

**and we place ourselves**

**at the service of the Gospel**

**knowing that to do so**

**will involve us in a struggle**

**that is both inner and outer,**

**knowing that we have come**

**to a point where we cannot**

**make sense of life without God.**

**We take a risk today,**

**by leaving this community**

**to go and create community,**

**knowing that to do so**

**will put us in conflict**

**with those who seek their own interest.**

**We take a risk today**

**that in going our separate ways,**

**You, Jesus Christ, come with us**

**and that is all that matters.**

**So send us out now,**

**we are ready to come with You.**

**Amen**

**Blessing**

**Where are we going? (*A prayer for the next 40 years)***

 Where are we going?

**Wherever that may be, we will travel with the One who walks beside us.**

Let us not dwell nor sit.

**Rather let us walk the path of life, faith and love**.

We listen to the voice of the past.

We dream for the future.

**We embrace God’s *NOW*!**

May the God who was, and is, and will be, draw us in and send us out!

May the Peace and love of Christ urge you onwards.

May the Passion of the Spirit guide and sustain you.

**Amen!**

(Rev Bob Hutchinson 2017)

**Passing of the peace**

The peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

*The sign of peace is exchanged*

This service was prepared by Rev Bob Hutchinson and Didy Pederick

Our grateful thanks to the Music Team, led by Norm Inglis, with song leader……….., Allan Forbes who directed the sound and all who participated in the service.

*Please join us in the Hall, after the service for*

*conversation and light refreshments.*