

Presiding Minister  
Scripture Reader  
Choir Director  
Organist

Rev Dr Greg Elsdon  
Brian J Ward  
Kim Worley  
Christopher Bridge

The Choir of Pilgrim Church  
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**Please help us to comply with the COVID-SAFE Regulations by wiping the areas you have touched on the pews, after the service.  
Thank you for your assistance.**



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**Pilgrim**  
Uniting Church

11.00am  
Choral Eucharist

Sunday, 4th October 2020

Pentecost 18  
COCU59A

*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.*

**This Service is being live streamed. The Service will also be available for viewing on YouTube at 'Pilgrim Uniting Church Adelaide' for two months.**

COMMUNION SETTING: Short Service Thomas Tallis c. 1505-1585

#### THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

#### ORGAN PRELUDE

*The people are invited to stand at 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.**

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 forever. Amen.**

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

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PROCESSIONAL HYMN 250 All creatures of our God and King vv 1-4, 7

1.  
All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden  
beam,  
thou silver moon with softer gleam:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

2.  
Thou rushing wind that art so  
strong,  
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,  
O praise him alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice:  
ye lights of evening, find a voice:

3.  
Thou flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for thy Lord to hear,  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou fire, so masterful and bright,  
that givest us both warmth and  
light:

4.  
Dear mother earth, who day by day  
unfoldest blessings on our way,  
I praise him, alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee  
grow,  
let them his glory also show:

7.  
Let all things their creator bless,  
and worship him in humbleness;  
I praise him, alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the  
Son,  
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:  
*O praise him, O praise him,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*William Henry Draper 1855-1933  
Based on St Francis of Assisi 1182-1226*

WELCOME AND GREETING

OPENING PRAYER [*inspired by Psalm 19*]

Eternal God, whose signature we see, if we dare to look, in the creation of the universe, help us this hour to look and to listen for your handwriting and your voice in this place, among these people. Connect our temporary praise to your timeless rhythms, your ageless melodies, your everlasting joyful noise.

Guide us now to focus upon you, knowing that in you, our distractions become new possibilities for action. Breathe life into our singing, our praying, our speaking, our listening, our touching, that all these activities might become more than they are. In our worship we reach out to you, O God, knowing that you have already enfolded us in your arms. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, present and near, you are beyond our words and our understanding.  
Help us to remember that you are at once infinite, boundless, timeless and eternal  
but, at the same time intimately entwined with our lives.

COMMUNION MOTET Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes  
Thomas Attwood 1765-1838

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Loving God, for refreshing us at this table.  
We arise from here to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you. **Amen.**

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

HYMN 423 Fight the good fight

1.  
Fight the good fight with all thy  
might;  
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy  
right;  
lay hold on life, and it shall be  
thy joy and crown eternally.

3.  
Cast care aside, lean on thy guide;  
his boundless mercy will provide;  
trust, and thy trusting soul shall  
prove  
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

2.  
Run the straight race through God's  
good grace,  
lift up thine eyes, and seek his face;  
life with its way before us lies; Christ  
is the path, and Christ the prize.

4.  
Faint not nor fear, his arms are near;  
he changeth not, and thou art dear;  
only believe, and thou shalt see that  
Christ is all in all to thee.

J.S.B. Monsell 1811-1875

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go now into the world, strengthened by the gifts  
with which Christ has fed you.  
Be generous to others, for Christ has given extravagantly.  
Live by God's word, avoiding lies and violence.  
Walk in God's paths and never stray.

And may God's wonderful love be with you everywhere;  
May Christ Jesus feed you with his body and word;  
And may the Holy Spirit confirm the truth in you  
and fill you with God's presence always. **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 Dies sind die heiligen zehn Gebot  
(These are the holy Ten Commandments)

J.S. Bach 1685-1750

*Please stand as the Bible is taken from the church.*

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,  
for we know you by faith and are known to you by grace.

You breathe life into the entire universe:  
the sky tells of your glory,  
day and night reveal the genius of your ways.  
You brought your people out of slavery  
and gave them your laws and commandments,  
that they might be rich in Spirit and clear in vision.

Though we repeatedly rejected your ways  
and destroyed your messengers,  
you sent your Son to us to renew heaven's call.  
The crowds recognised him as a prophet,  
but those who coveted his inheritance seized and killed him.  
You raised new life through him:  
the cornerstone of righteousness, the first fruits of the kingdom  
and the incomparable hope towards which we press.

Therefore we join with the all the company of heaven and earth to sing  
your praise:

#### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

##### THE CONSECRATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, loving God,  
that this meal may be a communion  
in the on-going and everlasting life and love of Christ. **Amen.**

##### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The one whom the universe could not contain,  
is present to us in this bread of life.

*The bread is broken*

The one who redeemed us and called us by name  
now meets us in this cup of compassion.

*The cup is lifted*

So take this bread and this wine,  
aware of the presence of God in all things and in you.  
The gifts of God for the people of God

#### 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 aisle. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please  
indicate to the ushers who will arrange for communion to be brought to  
you. **Due to current public health concerns only the small individual cups  
of grape juice are being used today.***

You are with us no matter where we find ourselves.

When we have forgotten you: **Lord, have mercy.**

When we have failed to speak words of love: **Lord, have mercy.**

When we have neglected the need of another: **Lord, have mercy.**

Loving God, present and near, help us to recognise your presence and  
nearness with us as we offer worship together.

#### KYRIE

##### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, we cannot fall short of God's holding grace.

In Christ we are renewed to continue the journey,  
pressing on towards the hope of reconciliation and renewal for the whole  
of creation.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*The children will leave at this time for special activities in the Lounge.*

#### THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

##### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We come to hear the stories of other people  
in another world long ago.

We come to hear the stories  
that are also about us today, in this place.

God, give us ears to listen, eyes to see, hearts to accept.

##### FIRST READING Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20

<sup>1</sup> Then God spoke all these words:

<sup>2</sup> I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out  
of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup> you shall have no other gods before me.

<sup>4</sup> You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything  
that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the  
water under the earth.

<sup>7</sup> You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for  
the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

<sup>8</sup> Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>For six days you shall  
labour and do all your work.

<sup>12</sup> Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in  
the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

<sup>13</sup> You shall not murder.

<sup>14</sup> You shall not commit adultery.

<sup>15</sup> You shall not steal.

<sup>16</sup> You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

<sup>17</sup> You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your  
neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything  
that belongs to your neighbour.

<sup>18</sup> When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, <sup>19</sup>and said to Moses, 'You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.' <sup>20</sup>Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.'

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

PSALM 19 Chant: T.A. Walmisley 1814-1856

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God  
and the firmament sheweth his handywork.
- 2 One day telleth another and one night certieth another.
- 3 There is neither speech nor language  
but their voices are heard among them.
- 4 Their sound is gone out into all lands  
and their words into the ends of the world.
- 5 In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun which cometh forth as a  
bridegroom out of his chamber, and rejoiceth as a giant to run his  
course.
- 6 It goeth forth from the uttermost part of the heaven, and runneth  
about unto the end of it again and there is nothing hid from the heat  
thereof.
- 7 The law of the Lord is an undefiled law, converting the soul  
the testimony of the Lord is sure, and giveth wisdom unto the simple.
- 8 The statutes of the Lord are right, and rejoice the heart  
the commandment of the Lord is pure, and giveth light unto the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, and endureth for ever  
the judgements of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold  
sweeter also than honey, and the honey-comb.
- 11 Moreover, by them is thy servant taught  
and in keeping of them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can tell how oft he offendeth  
O cleanse thou me from my secret faults.
- 13 Keep thy servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get the  
dominion over me: so shall I be undefiled, and innocent from the  
great offence.
- 14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart  
be always acceptable in thy sight,
- 15 O Lord my strength, and my redeemer.

*Please stand for 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.**

## OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### THE INVITATION

We all have a place at this table where we celebrate the mystery we know and address as 'God' - ground and sustainer of everything that exists, in whom we live and move and have our being. We give thanks that God's love is most fully expressed in the life of Jesus. We acknowledge this mystery embodied in every human person, aware that each one of us gives God unique and personal expression.

**God is everywhere present. In grace-filled moments of sharing. In carefully created communities of loving solidarity.**

### THE INSTITUTION

We remember the way that Jesus showed us his love:  
On the evening before he died he shared a meal with his friends.  
During the meal, he took a loaf of bread, gave thanks for it,  
broke it and then passed it around with these words:

**This is my body broken for you. Eat this and remember Me.**

And, after the meal he took the cup of wine, gave thanks for it,  
and then passed it around with these words:

**This is my life-blood poured for you. Drink this and remember me.**

And now, every time we eat bread like this,  
and every time we drink wine like this,  
we remember Jesus - his faithfulness, his compassion,  
his indiscriminate love, his costly grace,  
and his courageous commitment to the righteousness of God.

### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us lift up our hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." <sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

HYMN 415 Eternal light, shine in my heart

1.  
Eternal light, shine in my heart;  
eternal hope, lift up my eyes;  
eternal power, be my support;  
eternal wisdom, make me wise.

3.  
Until by your most costly grace,  
invited by your holy word,  
at last I come before your face  
to know you, my eternal God.

2.  
Eternal life, raise me from death;  
eternal brightness, make me see;  
eternal Spirit, give me breath;  
eternal Saviour, come to me:

Christopher M. Idle b.1938

SERMON

### THE RESPONSE TO GOD IN WORD AND ACTION

HYMN 528 Not far beyond the sea

1.  
Not far beyond the sea, nor high  
above the heavens, but very high  
thy voice, O God, is heard.  
For each new step of faith we take  
thou hast more truth and light to  
break  
forth from thy holy word.

3.  
Help us to press toward that mark,  
and, though our vision now is dark,  
to live by what we see.  
So, when we see thee face to face,  
thy truth and light our dwelling-  
place  
for evermore shall be.

2.  
Rooted and grounded in thy love,  
with saints on earth and saints  
above  
we join in full accord,  
to grasp the breadth, length, depth,  
and height,  
the crucified and risen might  
of Christ, the Incarnate Word.

George B. Caird 1917-1984

SECOND READING Philippians 3: 4b-14

<sup>4</sup> even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 Matthew.

**Glory to you Lord.**

GOSPEL READING Matthew 21: 33-46

<sup>33</sup>"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.'" <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" <sup>41</sup>They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?' <sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God