



Pilgrim
Uniting Church

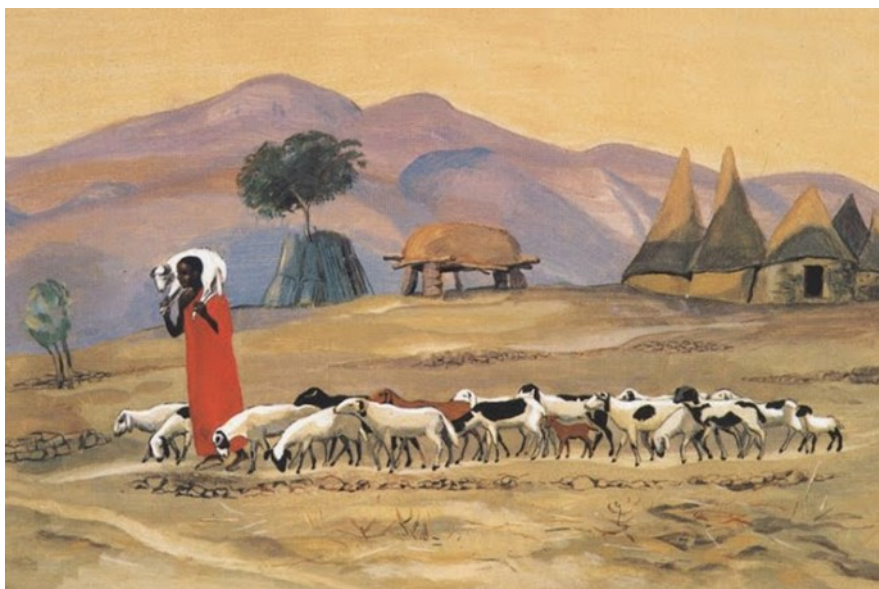
8.00am Morning Eucharist

Sunday, 25th April 2021

Easter 4
COCU34B

The church is fitted with a hearing loop. Hearing aid wearers are advised to sit in the front half of the church and 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.



WELCOME AND GREETING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY



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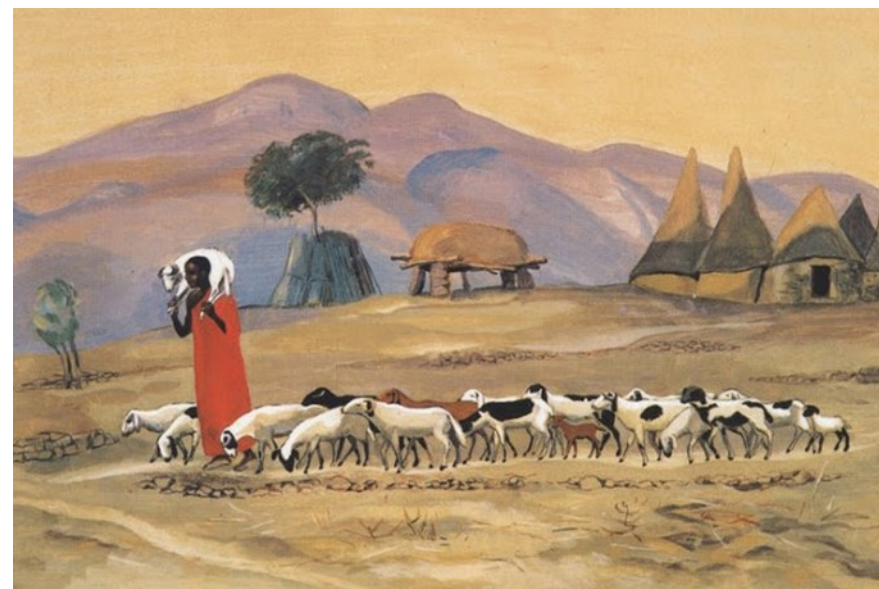
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GATHERING *(based on Acts 4: 5-12)*

The Suffering Servant becomes the healing source.

The stone rejected becomes hope's cornerstone.

The Crucified One is raised to new life.

The God of healing, hope and life is in our midst:

Let us celebrate and worship our good God! *[Susan Blain]*

HYMN: Another New Day 12 Come and Sing

1.
Come and sing creation's praise,
sun and stars in glory blaze;
dawn light wakens sea and sky;
Earth in splendour makes reply,
Love infusing Earth and space,
life renewed by hope and grace.

2.
Come and sing of faith reborn;
share the news each gifted morn;
spirit, heart and mind rejoice
praising God with joyous voice,
Love infusing Earth and space,
life renewed by hope and grace.

3.
Come and sing of hope renewed,
daily life with joy imbued;
oneness and community,
signs of hope and harmony,
Love infusing Earth and space,
life renewed by hope and grace.

4.
Come and sing of love that lives;
share the greatest gift God gives,
love, abundant, flowing free,
love as joyous symphony:
Love infusing Earth and space,
life renewed by hope and grace.

Words: Helen Wiltshire
Music: Te Laudant Omnia;
James Frederick Smith 1847-1931

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank you for every good thing in our lives, for all the beauty and loveliness in the world which lifts our hearts and makes us glad; for life itself with all its promise and possibility. We thank you that you come to us in the ordinary and everyday things of life. We thank you that in every great experience of life, when it seems as if we are passing through water and fire we find we are not alone, but you are there as companion and friend. We thank you that you have called us all by name, that through Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, your love will never finally let us go, or ultimately give us up. **Amen.**

(Source: Neil Dixon)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(inspired by Psalm 23)*

We believe I need a shepherd.

Because I am sometimes timid and other times overconfident,
because I often don't know the best path yet pretend I do,
because I rush into dead ends or lead others into hazardous places,
because my brightest ideas are seamed with darkness,
because the things I crave may not be what is good for me,
I need a shepherd.

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I need a shepherd.

I believe in Jesus, the best possible shepherd;
his wisdom leads me to the best opportunities,
his word comforts me when I'm anxious or afraid,
his arm steadies me when I feel weary and heavy-laden,
his wounded body displays the cost of my rescue.
I believe in Jesus, the best possible shepherd.
I believe that I do not find him but he finds me,
that I under his care by virtue of sheer grace,
the love he gives me is to be shared with others,
that he treasures my name and prepares a place for me,
that his fold transfixes earth and heaven.
I trust Jesus, the good shepherd. **Amen.**
[Bruce D. Prewer]

A time of silence as we reflect on these words for ourselves

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God gathers us, and embraces each of us with love, mercy and grace.
God offers peace and tranquility into our lives. God accepts us as we are,
and draws us up to our full stature, to be the people God made us to be.
Thanks be to God.

BIBLE READINGS:

1 John 3: 16-24

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

John 10: 11-18

¹¹ 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father

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knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

REFLECTION

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

Lord of love, we bring our thanks for the peace and security we enjoy. We remember those who in a time of war sacrificed so much. Make us a people who are desperate for peace, and hurry the day when people do not lift sword against each other.

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
On earth as it is 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.**

OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We look for a gentler humanity, a kinder world:
with our money and our hearts,
with our minds and with every good intention,
let this be our prayer.

HYMN: TiS 538 Feed us now

1. Feed us now, Bread of life, in this holy meal; let us know your love anew: we hunger for you. Feed us now, Bread of life, come and live within; let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray.	2. Piece of bread, glass of wine: Lord, this food is good; love and mercy come to us your promise we trust. Piece of bread, glass of wine; who can understand how his mercy works in these? Yet, Lord, we believe.
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3.
God is here, O so near,
nearer than our thoughts.
Stay with us where'er we go;
Lord, help us to grow.
God is here, O so near,
in this heaven's meal.
May we always feed on you
on the bread that is true.

Robin Mann 1949

COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God. At the dawn of time you spread creation out like a banquet. Through your prophets you promised a good shepherd, who, though rejected, would become the cornerstone of salvation. In the life of Jesus of Nazareth we have seen the fullness of love that lays down even its own life for others. He was crucified, but you raised him from the dead, and through his love we have the boldness to approach you. Because he abides in us, and in all who listen to his voice, our cup overflows with goodness and love and our feet find safe paths. Therefore with the faithful of all generations, we offer our praise:

Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the Lord's name.

Glory to God! Hosanna!

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and this bread and wine that as we take them into our bodies they may be the life of Christ in us. May this meal may be a communion in the life and love of Christ. **Amen.**

Communion is shared

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of amazing grace, we are grateful for your presence always surrounding us. We pray this presence will strengthen us to follow the way of Christ, and to reflect the compassion and love of God. **Amen.**

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WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

As you leave this place remember those who you have never met, but sacrificed everything for your freedom. Whoever you meet, wherever you travel, speak words of God's love and peace.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

The sign of the peace is exchanged

**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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