

May God the Creator bless you.
May God in Christ walk with you.
May God the Spirit weave love into your lives.

Amen.

(Source: Common Prayer: From Conflict to Communion. Lutheran-Catholic Common Commemoration of the Reformation in 2017)

*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 Christ lay in Todesbanden Johann Pachelbel 1653-1706
(Christ lay in the bonds of death)

Please stand as the Bible is taken from the church.

Presiding Ministers	Rev Dr Greg Elsdon
Scripture Reader	John Pederson
Organist & Choir Director	Peter Kelsall

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.

Please leave the church through the East Door or Lounge.

Thank you for your assistance.



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Pilgrim

Uniting Church

11.00am
Choral Eucharist

Sunday 2nd May, 2021

Easter 5

COCU35B

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.

COMMUNION SETTING Missa brevis

Andrea Gabrieli 1533-1585

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

ORGAN PRELUDE

The people 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.**

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 87

Hail to the Lord's Anointed vv 1, 2, 4, 6

1.
Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

2.
He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

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4.
Arabia's desert-ranger
to him shall bow the knee;
the Ethiopian stranger
his glory come to see;
with offerings of devotion
ships from the isles shall meet,
to pour the wealth of ocean
in tribute at his feet.

6.
O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest;
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever,
his changeless name of love.

Words: James Montgomery 1771-1854
Tune: 'Crüger' Adapted from J.
Crüger 1598-1662 by W.H.Monk 1823-1889

WELCOME AND GREETING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Teach us to love one another
with that passion which comes
from your overflowing heart, Vine Grower.

**Teach us to serve one another
with that compassion which comes
from our broken-open hearts, Vine of our lives.**

Teach us to include others
with that embracing welcome which comes
from your inviting heart, Fruit-bearing Spirit.

**Teach us, here and now,
God in community, Holy in One. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The seeds of grace, hope, joy, and love are planted deep with us,
so they can bear fruit in our lives.

But we resist staying connected to the Vine,
thinking we can flourish on our own.

Let us confess our sins,
so we might once more know deep within our spirits
what it feels like to abide in God.

God of Compassion:

called to be one body,

we fragment ourselves into a million selfish pieces;

called to be your children of love,

we insist on the right to despise our sisters and brothers;

though your Perfect Love was broken for us,

we are afraid to give of ourselves to the world.

We long to abide in you, Vine Grower.

**Forgive us our wrong doings, so we may live boldly, love fearlessly,
and proclaim unceasingly the love of Christ.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy, gracious, God,
here at this table your promise of life is made tangible.
We have rested in the depth of your love;
We have tasted your nourishing, nurturing presence;
We accept you into our bodies, into our lives.
Together, at this table, you have offered us life.
Together, by your grace, we accept the life you offer.
And we give you thanks. **Amen.**

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

HYMN 442

God is Love: let heav'n adore him

1.
God is Love: let heav'n adore him;
God is Love: let earth rejoice;
let creation sing before him,
and exalt him with one voice.
He who laid the earth's foundation,
he who spread the heav'ns above,
he who breathes through all
creation,
he is Love, eternal Love.

3.
God is Love: and though with
blindness
sin afflicts the souls of all,
God's eternal loving-kindness
holds and guides us when we fall.
Sin and death and hell shall never
o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love for ever
o'er the universe must reign.

2.
God is Love: and he enfoldeth
all the world in one embrace;
with unfailing grasp he holdeth
every child of every race.
And when human hearts are
breaking
under sorrow's iron rod,
then they find that selfsame aching
deep within the heart of God.

Timothy Rees 1874-1939
Tune: 418 Abbot's Leigh; Cyril Taylor 1907-
1991

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

For all that God can do within us,
for all that God can do without us,

thanks be to God!

For all in whom Christ lived before us,
for all in whom Christ lives beside us,

thanks be to God!

For all the Spirit wants to bring us,
for where the Spirit wants to send us,

thanks be to God!

Life - a path of peace, justice, mercy, reverence, love. You provided wise men and women as judges for your people to show them the path to Life. You called forth prophets who dared to speak the truth of Life to worldly powers that promoted death. You sent Jesus, your Son, to walk in the way of Life - that we might follow. He suffered and died because of his refusal to participate in the death-dealing violence of the world. He rose again in victory because the powers of death cannot overcome the Divine power of Life. So, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

THE CONSECRATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us that this meal may be a communion in the life and love of Christ. Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast. Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love.

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

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 bread and wine, and return by the side aisles, placing the empty glasses in the baskets. If you are unable to come forward for communion, please indicate to the ushers who will arrange for communion to be brought to you.

COMMUNION MOTET

Ubi caritas

Alistair Knight b. 1983

Translation:

Where charity and love are, there God is,
The love of Christ has gathered us into one.
Let us exult, and in Him be joyful.

Let us fear and let us love the living God.
And from a sincere heart let us love each other and Him.

Where charity and love are, there God is.
Together also with the blessed may we see,
Gloriously, Thy countenance, O Christ our God:
A joy which is immense, and also approved:
Through infinite ages of ages. Amen.

KYRIE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God's love is alive, beating, breathing in us. Because God abides in us, we can live for others, allowing God's love to bear fruit in us.

Thanks be to God. Amen

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

May we abide in your Word, and your Word abide in us,
so that we may bear the fruit of love for one another
and know the fullness of joy. **Amen**

FIRST READING Acts 8: 26-40

²⁶ Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) ²⁷ So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

²⁹ Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' ³⁰ So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' ³¹ He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. ³² Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' ³⁵ Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. ³⁶ As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' ³⁸ He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. ³⁹ When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. ⁴⁰ But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

In this is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 22: 25-31 Chant: H. Smart 1813-1879

- 25 My praise is of thee in the great congregation
my vows will I perform in the sight of them that fear him.
26 The poor shall eat, and be satisfied: they that seek after the Lord shall
praise him; your heart shall live for ever.
27 All the ends of the world shall remember themselves, and be turned
unto the Lord and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before
him.
28 For the kingdom is the Lord's and he is the Governor among the
people.
29 All such as be fat upon earth have eaten, and worshipped.
30 All they that go down into the dust shall kneel before him
and no man hath quickened his own soul.
31 My seed shall serve him: they shall be counted unto the Lord for a
generation.

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 1 John 4: 7-21

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. ¹⁵God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. ²¹The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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 for ever. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE INVITATION

Come, all you who are loved by God.
Come to this table where bread is shared,
and the fruit of the vine is shared. Come and eat food with no cost.
Come and drink with no money to pay.
We come to eat, to drink, and our hearts are glad.

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."**

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you our thanks and praise, O God! You created the world by speaking life into being. You placed within us and within each plant and animal of your creation amazing abilities to form and nurture new life, so that your creation might be renewed, reborn, season by season, child by child. You covenanted with your people and gave them Law that showed the way of

THE RESPONSE TO GOD IN WORD AND ACTION

HYMN 516 Love divine, all loves excelling

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

3. Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

2. Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee, without
ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Charles Wesley 1707-1788
Tune: Blaenwern; W.P. Rowlands 1860-1937

Please remain standing for the dedication prayer.

OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**May we not hoard these gifts for ourselves,
but offer them back to you,
that those who are poor might be fed,
those who are lonely befriended,
and those who are despairing be filled with hope. Amen**

PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

Holy God, you have called us to follow in the way of Christ,
and to care for those who are our companions,
not only with words of comfort, but also with acts of love.
Seeking to be true friends of all,
we offer our prayers on behalf of the church and the world.

... Lord, in your mercy
Lord, hear our prayer.

Guide us in the path of discipleship,
so that, as you have blessed us,
we may be a blessing for others,
bringing the promise of compassion near
by our words and deeds. **Amen.**

In this is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

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

Glorify to you, Lord

GOSPEL READING John 15: 1-8

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

HYMN 306 I hunger and I thirst

1. I hunger and I thirst:
Jesu, my manna be;
ye living waters, burst
out of the rock for me.

2. Thou bruised and broken Bread,
my life-long wants supply;
as living souls are fed,
O feed me, or I die.

3. Thou true life-giving Vine,
let me thy sweetness prove;
renew my life with thine,
refresh my soul with love.

4. Rough paths my feet have trod
since first their course began:
feed me, thou Bread of God;
help me, thou Son of Man.

5. For still the desert lies
my thirsting soul before:
O living waters, rise
within me evermore.

J.S.B. Monsell 1811-1875
Tune: Maria jung und zart; *Psalteriolium*
Harmonicum 1642

SERMON