

12 Flinders Street GPO Box 116, Adelaide SA 5001

Phone: 08 8212 3295 **Fax:** 08 8212 9637

E-mail: office@pilgrim.org.au



9.30am Community Worship

Sunday, 2nd May 2021

Easter 5

Uniting Church

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.



Candles are lit, followed by a time for quiet reflection and contemplation.

We gather here as the human ones of creation. We name ourselves threads in the web of life. We give thanks for connection, that we are all part of one another and that we are part of the Sacred. So let us celebrate the richness and diversity of life. (Rex A E Hunt)

SONG: SMS 12 Christ is Alive

- 1 Christ is alive, and the universe must celebrate.
 and the stars and the suns shout out in Easter-tide!
 Christ is alive, and his family must celebrate
 in a great alleluia,
 a great alleluia
 to praise the power that made the stone roll away.
- 2 Here is our hope: in the mystery of suffering is the heartbeat of Love, Love that will not let go, here is our hope, that in God we are not separate, and we sing alleluia, we sing alleluia to praise the power that made the stone roll away.
- Christ Spirit, dance through the dullness of humanity to the music of God, God who set us free!
 You are the pulse of the new creation's energy;
 with a great alleluia,
 a great alleluia
 We praise the power that made the stone roll away.

 Words Shirley Erena Murray (adapted)
 Music: [illian Bray]

Where did you experience wonder or love this week?

You are invited to come to the front and light a candle to celebrate this

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

A PRAYER OF WHO WE ARE When we treat our faith as nothing more than a self-help system and You, God, as simply a cure for whatever ails us, **Where is the love?**

When we use the gifts our planet gives us with little care for our wastefulness and destruction, *Where is the love?*

When we deny and disdain truths and practices that others hold dear.

Where is the love?

When we ignore the sickness, the loneliness, the struggle and the vulnerability of others, because it doesn't affect us,

Where is the love?

When we berate ourselves for our failures, or holds ourselves to impossible trivial standards *Where is the love?*

This service was prepared by Denise Griffen and Margaret Chittleborough.

Our Musicians:

Conductor: Norm Inglis, Piano: Jenny Ward Instrumentalists: Genevieve Bassani (flute), Don Bell (guitar), Ruth Farrent (djembe) and Graham Brice (percussion). Singers: Bronwyn Blight, Margaret Chittleborough and Michael Heathcote

Acknowledgements:

Vine image: stefano-zocca-bZ6mW_wteXE-unsplash **Acknowledgement of Country image:** Trentino Priori: Transformers_-_Victoria_Square_Adelaide_SA_-_panoramio.jpg
communion - james-coleman-dEkXDo6hcv8-unsplash.jpg

Video: Simple acts of kindness by Chad Brownstein https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eu9UtVaWYal

Reflection The fruitfulness of staying connected

Michael K Marsh on interruptingthesilence.com (adapted)

For you Deep Stillness Images:

uluru-2058380.jpg walkerssk - Pixabay kings-canyon-1076317.jpg Jacqueline Wales - Pixabay Hopetoun Falls Australia - steve-bittinger-GXasHuHbDmY-unsplash.jpg Uluru - vladimir-haltakov-7-yQ6z-jZF8-unsplash.jpg



God's peace be with you. **And also with you.**

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 assistance.

Everyone is welcome for conversation and a cuppa after the service, in the Hall across the car park.

We acknowledge our failures and shortcomings. May we, and our world, learn and practise what it really means to love.

(John van de Laar Adapted)

SONG: Ubi Caritas (Where charity and love are, God is there) (*3)



VIDEO: Simple acts of kindness

A READING FROM OUR TRADITION John15: 1-8

Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. God desires us to bear fruit, and to do so we must remain in Christ.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower.

He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide 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. I 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.

Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

For the word of God in Scripture, for the word of God among us, for the word of God within us, thanks be to God.

REFLECTION The fruitfulness of staying connected

Reflection questions:

Do we even consider that we should be productive spiritually? Do we choose where we abide and how we stay connected?

Do we become an extension of and manifest Christ's life, love, and holiness? Where do you experience the love of God, the love for another and the love for yourself becoming one love?

3

SONG: TiS 650 Brother, sister, let me serve you

1.
Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey and companions on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

3.
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

4.
I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you; I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.

6.
Brother, sister, let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you; pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

Words: Richard Gillard Music: Richard Gillard arr Betty Pulkingham

OFFERING PRAYER

God of great wonders, we join with you in the joy of giving. You give us life and breath, you fill the world with beauty, our hands with bounty, and our hearts with the desire to give.

May these gifts further the work for justice and peace in our world. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

God – we know that compassion is enough; that when we allow ourselves to feel, compassion will lead us to do what we can, and that this will make a difference. And so, we pray for ourselves: that you would soften our hearts, and still our fears, and lead us into those acts of compassion that we are capable of doing.

We pray for others whose lives can be changed through small, simple acts of care; that you would disturb us, and others like us, until we finally step up and play our part in the saving of your world; and that enough of us would answer your call, that the needs of the hurting ones may be met.

Amen.

(John van de Laar, adapted)

SONG: HaND 30 Love made visible

1.
Joy is love made visible,
laughter, tears and smiling eyes;
joy is love as inner glow,
spreading warmth from wisdom's
flow.

2. Time is love made visible, days and years of kindly care; time is love as space to be, giving life and energy.

3.
Touch is love made visible,
hands to hold the pain we bear;
touch is love as sweet caress,
healing balm of gentleness.

Work is love made visible, passions, dreams and artistry; work is love as human skill, talents born of heart and will.

5. Food is love made visible, meals to share with gathered friends; food is love as welcome space, where a traveller finds a place.

6.
May our love be visible,
born of words and actions clear;
may our love be gentle grace,
shining in each shadowed place.

Words: Helen Wiltshire Music Reginald Owen Morris 1886-1948

WORDS OF BLESSING

In the love of God, may we be warmed and welcomed. In the joy of Jesus, may we be strengthened and made whole. In the breath of the Spirit, may we be challenged and blessed. (Ruth Burgess/bb)

May it be so.

May it be so with us.

SONG: SfP 12 For You Deep Stillness

For you, deep stillness of the silent inland; for you, deep blue of the desert skies, for you, flame red of the rocks and stones; for you, sweet water from hidden springs.

From the edges seek the heartlands, and when you're burnt by the journey may the cool winds of the hovering Spirit soothe and replenish you.
In the name of Christ. (repeat)
(Last time, last line 3 times)

Words: Julie Perrin Music: Robin Mann