

wording re the hearing loop

Pilgrim logo etc etc

COCU 49B 9.30am service 29th July 2018

## **Finding hope in despair**

*Lighting of the community candles*

**Reading:** Ephesians 3:14-21 (*from the letter to the early church in Ephesus*)

I bow before God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of God's glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever.

**May it be so!**

**Song:** SPG4 94 Where the Spirit is

**Welcome**

## **Acknowledgement of Land**

Interview with Dr Amanda Ruler

Introduction to the service

*A gong sounds. We hold silence. We listen to the gong, calling us to remember, calling us to pray and act for peace.*

**Song:** The world needs love (*Words: Philip Sudworth, Tune: Finlandia*)  
(solo, please remain seated)

The world needs love; so many hearts are hurting.  
Lord, work through us, help us to spread your peace,  
bringing to all - through your forgiving spirit -  
freedom from guilt, from bitterness release.  
Reconcile us; help us to share your calmness,  
'till anger stills and all our conflicts cease.

*A gong sounds.*

Blessed is God, now and unto the ages of ages.  
Blessed is God,  
who grants us peace and is the source of all peace.

**Blessed are the peacemakers  
for they shall be called children of God.**

God who is Love, you create and sustain  
all that is good and beautiful.  
You give life to the earth.  
You have called us to wholeness;  
to the fullness of life.

As we gather here, we are conscious of our brokenness  
- as persons, as communities, as nations, as a global village.  
We have heard the cries for justice and peace

from all the corners of the earth.  
We are moved by the tears, the pain and the agonies  
of millions around the world.  
We sense the dark clouds of war that creep over us;  
We sit in the shadow of death and despair.

*A gong sounds. We hold silence together.*

**Song:** The world needs love v.2 (*we sing together, seated*)  
The world needs hope, a vision for the future,  
what life might be, if all would live in you.  
Help us to lead - through your transforming spirit -  
lives that reflect what you would have us do,  
to share our gifts, show forth your loving kindness,  
encourage all to find their hope in you.

Help us to long for that vision of unity  
without which we would perish.  
Teach us not to deal with others falsely,  
saying "peace, peace" when there is no peace.  
Grant us grace that we may walk  
in the paths of righteousness.  
Bring us to yourself, that our hearts and minds  
may discern the way of peace shown by Jesus.  
For you have been our help in ages past,  
And you are our shelter in the years ahead.

*A gong sounds. We hold silence together.*

**Song:** The world needs love v.3 and v.4 (*please stand to sing if you are able*)  
The world needs faith, a willing dedication  
of all we are and all we might yet be.  
Help us to serve - through your empowering spirit -  
in active faith in our community.  
Love for each soul, respecting and upholding,  
declares the worth of all humanity.

The world needs joy, a sense of celebration  
that human lives have such diversity.  
Help us to see - through your dynamic spirit -  
each person's part in life's vitality.  
Sharing our joys, supporting others' sorrows  
make our small world a better place to be. (*please remain standing*)

God, we thank you for the many people  
who have followed your way of life joyfully:  
for the many saints and martyrs, men and women  
who have offered their lives for the sake of others  
so that your life abundant may become manifest  
and your reign may advance.  
They chose the way of Jesus,  
our brother, Jesus Christ.  
In the midst of trial: **they held out hope;**  
in the midst of persecutions: **they witnessed to your power;**  
in the midst of despair: **they clung to your promise.**  
We thank you for the truth  
they have learned and have passed on to us.  
Grant us courage to follow their way of life.  
*Please remain standing in silence. A gong sounds.*

**Song:** Beatitude Song (*words: Helen Wiltshire; Music C16 French Melody*)  
(add words - Helen Wiltshire)

*Please be seated*

**Presentation:** Dr Amanda Blair

**Song** Geoff's song - please insert words - Geoff has another verse to add in too which he'll send

### **Prayers for others**

It is easy to see the way the gift of life has been squandered.

The good life of a few built on the pain of many;

the pleasure of a few on the agony of millions.

As if life were divisible. As if love were divisible.

We pray for the millions in our world who will go hungry today, all who are exploited and marginalized because of their caste or class, colour or sexuality or gender, that they may not lose their hope, and may find the strength to struggle for their dignity.

**We cradle hope.**

*Sung response:* O Lord hear my prayer SPG4 64

O Lord hear our prayer

O Lord hear our prayer

When we call, answer us

O Lord hear our prayer

O Lord hear our prayer

Come and listen to us

We name those who are persecuted, imprisoned, tortured or threatened with death because of their witness to justice and peace. For those who have “disappeared” because they dared to speak, that their spirits may not be broken by their bodies’ pain.

We name our dismay at the commodification of the weapons industry that fuels war and our country’s part in it - in the name of our economy. We lament the lack of moral leadership in our global village to guide us to the ways of peace.

We remember those who live in regions torn by tension and war, by disaster, famine and poverty...*(We bring to mind places and situations in the world)*

We pray for the millions of refugees around the world, that in the midst of tears and bitterness they may discern signs of hope.

**We cradle hope.**

*Sung response:* O Lord hear my prayer

We offer these prayers - for people and places we have spoken about, or remembered in the silence of our hearts this day.

**We cradle hope. May our will strengthen for peace and justice; our faith increase in the reign of God where “love and faithfulness will meet, righteousness and peace will embrace” and may God’s will be done here on earth as it is in heaven. Amen**

**Song:** SPG4 23 For Sake of Life

*(the offering will be collected during this song)*

### **Prayer of dedication**

God of abundant blessing and generosity to match, your vision is not restricted to the available resources, and your purposes extend far beyond our limited vision. While we worry about retaining what we have, those who have very little yield their all – and thousands are enriched.

Teach us the economics of kingdom living: a shirt-sharing, extra-mile-walking, have-my-lunch, way of life. For then many shall be the richer. And we shall be among them. Amen.

*(Source: Rev Grant Barclay)*

## Words of mission

As we approach the anniversary of Hiroshima Day, let us renew our commitment to peace individually, collectively and globally: to “peace within” which calms our anxieties and fears; to “peace between” which overcomes differences, animosities and conflict; and, to “the great peace,” beyond even our understanding, that is God’s gift and which we attempt to be stewards of for the world.

God’s peace be with you/**and also with you** *A sign of peace is shared*

**BACK PAGE - note: if this is too long I’ll shorten it.**

This service has been prepared by Dr Blair Badcock, Dr Amanda Ruler and Rev Sandy Boyce. The service has been prepared in light of Amanda’s involvement with MAPW and ICAN, and humanitarian programs, and anticipating the anniversary of the devastation of the nuclear bomb over Hiroshima (August 6th). Some of the liturgy has been adapted from one prepared for midday prayers at the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva, Switzerland - Prayers for Peace and Justice) Norm Inglis led the musicians, Colin Telfer led the singing and Rose Milton-Head provided the technical support.

Amanda comes from an academic background in biology, psychology, and nursing and has worked in many practice settings, specialising in gerontological and palliative care. She has written general health articles specialising in nuclear, ageing and end of life issues. She is also the Coordinator, SA Branch of Medical Association for the Prevention of War, [mapw.org.au](http://mapw.org.au)

The **Medical Association for Prevention of War (Australia)** is a professional not-for-profit organisation that works to promote peace and disarmament. MAPW aims to reduce the physical and psychological impact, as well as environmental effect of wars throughout the world. MAPW has branches in every State and Territory in Australia.

MAPW is the Australian affiliate of **International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW)**. This international federation has affiliates in 58 countries and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1985. In 1986, during the International Year of Peace, MAPW was chosen by the Government to receive one of the Australian Peace Awards, presented by then Prime Minister Bob Hawke.

Since its foundation in 1981, MAPW has been a strong voice in the work to eliminate weapons of mass destruction, promoting the use of resources for human and environmental well-being rather than the acquisition of armaments. We promote solutions through advocacy, education and partnerships.

In 2007, MAPW launched **ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons**, which was the key civil society organisation working with governments to achieve the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 7 July, 2017. **ICAN was awarded the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for its key role in the adoption of the treaty.**

MAPW works to:

**Educate** medical professionals and the broader public on the health consequences associated with war and conflict, particularly nuclear weapons.

**Advocate:** urges governments – federal or state/territory – and other decision-makers in Australia to seek alternatives to armed conflict and to allocate funds instead to the advancement of human health and welfare.

**Respond** to current events and provides public commentary on a range of issues through media releases, opinion articles, letters and via social media.

**Network** with other health groups and with many other organisations around the world sharing our goals.