



Pilgrim
Uniting Church

9.30am Community Worship

Sunday 1st August, 2021

Pentecost 10
COCU50B

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.

Please help us to comply with the current COVID rules by wearing a mask in church this morning - and wherever you are in the vicinity of others including afterwards in the hall. We are not able to have community singing this morning. A temporary inconvenience for the greater good. Thank you to the music team for their offering of music to us.



Lighting of the community candles



Pilgrim
Uniting Church

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MUSIC

PRAYER OF APPROACH

God of new beginnings, a new day dawns.

A fresh start awakens.

Not all is right in the world -
because all is never right in the world.

Yet there is hope to be found, joy to be shared,
compassion to be activated, care to be given,
good to be done, grace to be offered,
And love to be lived. *(Source: Jon Humphries, July 2021)*

God calls us here, to worship in spirit and in truth.

In the revealing light of God's grace
we know ourselves welcomed with love.

In spirit, truth, light and grace, God meets us here today.

SONG All are welcome (no congregational singing)

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,

a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.

Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;

here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.

Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;

let us bring an end to fear and danger.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

SONG SPG 7 May the kindness

May the kindness of our Lord Jesus,
And the love of our God,
And the friendship and the unity of the Spirit
Be with us, be with us. (sing 2x)

God's peace be with you
and also with you!

PASSING THE PEACE (COVID safe)

Our offerings are in cash, cheques and via electronic transfer. Offerings may be left in the wooden pillar box by the eastern door, or food donations in the box also by the eastern door.

We recognise that the greatest gift is the gift of love.

May our offerings distribute this love to the world:
the small world we inhabit with the suffering people we know;
the larger world where the power of love is sorely needed.

(Source: unknown)

BSB: 035-006 (Westpac)

Account Number: 224080 (Pilgrim Church UCA)

Lodgement Reference: Offering

This service was planned by Sandy Boyce. Thanks to everyone who took part.

Image on front page by Tom Barrett, unsplash.com.

Music was led by Norm Inglis with Jenny Ward (piano), Genevieve Bassani (flute), Jeff Telfer (clarinet) with singers Alison McDougall and Colin Telfer.

**Please help us to comply with COVID-SAFE Regulations
by wiping areas you have touched on the pews.
Thank you for your assistance.**

Re-ignite the passion of those who have slumped
into idle lethargy and lukewarm apathy.
Give them a boldness to correct, eradicate and transform
the wrongs which reject and isolate those
who do not fit neatly within the norms of society.

Challenge us when we are silent on controversial issues,
when our silence condones the destruction and rejection of goodness,
truth and life.

Rid the Church of any ecclesiastical ghetto mentality
and which is alien to the teachings of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

(Source: Nigel Robb, Church of Scotland, adapted)

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother
Holy and blessed is your true name:

**We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence
Beyond the evil of our days -
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen.**

(Source: Parker Palmer)

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION Ephesians 4: 1-6 (The Message)
Paul, writing to the early church while in prison in Rome, writes:
Here's what I want you to do. While I'm locked up here, a prisoner for the
Lord, I want you to get out there and walk - better yet, run! - on the road
God called you to travel. I don't want any of you sitting around on your
hands. I don't want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes no-
where. And mark that you do this with humility and discipline - not in fits
and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of
love, alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences. You were
all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay
together, both outwardly and inwardly. You have one Lord, one faith, one
baptism, one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all,
and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated
with Oneness.

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

(Text: Marty Haugen; Tune: TWO OAKS)

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND

We acknowledge that we meet on the land of the Kurna people, ancient
custodians of this land, dispossessed by colonisation. Land that has never
been ceded. We acknowledge the racism and injustice that continues
to blight their lives. We commit ourselves to a different future, a future
marked by reconciliation and a shared journey towards justice, mutual
respect and shared citizenship.

PRAYER REFLECTION

*"But you desire honesty from the heart,
so you can teach me to be wise in my inmost being."* Psalm 51:6

Not just in my heart but in the secret space it holds.

In the heart of my heart. In the place where I am myself.

In the space that I protect the most and share the least.

In the hidden chamber that I sometimes close off

- even from myself.

In the realm where you wait and watch,
where you see each thing that lies in shadow,
where you know the names of all
that makes its home in me.

Here, in my secret heart;

here, teach me to move with your wisdom,

to open the doors that will draw me deeper still,

to live in the truth that you desire;

here, let me open the windows wide

so that those who pass by will see you looking out.

(Source: Jan L. Richardson, The Painted Prayerbook)

Time for quiet reflection

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The invitation is not to focus on our inadequacies, but on God's gifts of
grace and love which transform our hearts and minds. That gift is given
to us again, here and now. Be encouraged. May the peace of God be with
you. **And also with you.**

(Source: adapted, Ann Siddall, Stillpoint Spirituality Centre)

SONG There's Trouble All Around

We thank you, God, for faith that says that it's okay,
to cry out as the Psalmist cried out, when we pray.
We thank you that in times when everything goes wrong,
we're once again reminded that your love is strong.

We thank you, God, for hope that daily sees us through -
and for the gift of Jesus Christ who makes us new.
We thank you, too, for hope that truth and science bring.
The time will come when, once again, we'll laugh and sing.

We thank you, God, for love, for kindness and for smiles,
for friends and loved ones reaching out from far and wide,
and for your Spirit's gifts that help us through these days.
God, may we know these blessings and give thanks and praise.

(Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette; Tune: Leoni)

EARLY WORD Mr Vu Ho and Baa the sheep

READING 2 Samuel (11:1-15); 11: 26-12:13a

King David, to whom God had given the most abundant of blessings in every way, used his power to seduce a poor man's wife and then put the man to death. God does not stay silent in the face of this, but sends the prophet to challenge and confront David. David repents, as Psalm 51 reveals, but even this does not stop the consequences of his actions - the internal conflict within his family that ultimately destroyed the unity of God's people and split the kingdom in two.

VIDEO Psalm 51, The Work of The People
<https://www.theworkofthepeople.com/a-clean-heart>

WITNESS

A time for reflection

SONG In Halls of Wealth and Power

In halls of wealth and power where shadowed deals are made,
The heartless ones devour; the helpless are betrayed.
The ones who make decisions seem confident and strong
Yet sometimes blur divisions between the right and wrong.

O God of love and justice, when we feel sure and strong,
May power never tempt us to venture toward the wrong.
In all of our endeavors, give wisdom, Lord, we pray,
That we may love our neighbors and seek your kingdom way.

In halls of wealth and power, in home and neighbourhood,
May we reject the evil and turn to what is good.
May justice dance with mercy and service dance with grace;
May nations lift the lowly till peace and love embrace.

(Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette; tune: Llangloffan)

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

(includes time for personal and community prayers)

Great and Loving God

We know we are tenants of this good earth.

Strengthen our resolve to lean into your reign of love.

May the leaders of our nation, and all nations,
act with a healthy respect for the dignity of human life,
recognise the worth of the individual
and the need to consider the everyday issues
as well as the wider issues in politics and society.

Sustain those with special talents -
of laughter, healing, teaching, leadership, parenting,
production of food and necessities of life -
and encourage them to see you as the source of all their gifts.

Startle the wavering and the tempted;
the unsure and the procrastinating.

Refresh the weary and the war-torn,
the oppressed and the suffering
with the sense of your unlimited and unexpected mercies.

Motivate the hearts of compassionate men and women
to the cries of the hungry and the plight of the undernourished.

Shake the complacent out of their inertia of self-satisfaction,
and stimulate them to action
on behalf of those with no 'clout', or no political weight,
and no means of being heard for themselves.

Give patience to those who labour to alter the ideas of society
and challenge the patterns of the growing gap between rich and poor.
Direct and embolden those who grapple with the problems
of insufficient shelter and inadequate clothing,
the lack of ample resources in education,
and abuse of power, oppression and injustice.