



Woden Valley Uniting Church
<http://www.woden-valley.uca.org.au/>

28 May 2023

We Gather as people of God

The Gong is struck three times

The gong sounds. We hold silence. We listen as the gong calls us to gather in this time of worship.

Prelude Music

Acknowledgement of Country

Lighting community candle

Call to worship

Come and see, the Holy Spirit is here:

the wild wind who blows away our doubts and fears;

the warm fire who sets our hearts ablaze;

the one who remains with us forever.

Come and worship God our maker,

who has sent the Spirit to guide us and give us comfort.

Come let us worship God,

Parent, Son and Spirit.

Song: TIS 474 Gather Us In
Welcome

Passing of the Peace

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be always with you!

And also with you.

Let us share signs of peace with one another

Gathering Prayer

Song TIS411 Filled with the Spirits power

We Reflect on the Word for our time

First Reading John 14:8-17

⁸ Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves. ¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

¹⁵ "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he

will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

Second reading Acts 2:1-21

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³ But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

A Reflection They spoke in other languages

We Respond to the Word

Music for reflection

Offering and Prayer

Prayers of the People

The care candle is lit

We celebrate Holy Communion

Song **TIS 537** Let us talents and tongues employ

Communion

We come to this table of remembrance and celebration united in the Spirit of Peace and reconciliation that enveloped Jesus. Christ. At this sacred moment we remember the events on the night before Jesus died, when, sitting with his friends at the table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God be with you all.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts;

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God!

It is right to give God our thanks and praise!

We remember the stories from our tradition.

How on many occasions

Christ would share a meal with friends.

Bread and wine shared in community.

The Table of the Lord is ready;

Christ waits to give his gifts.

So let us thank the Lord for all his blessings.

As children of our Creator God

We join with all creation,

And bless you, Lord, for the fruit of the land.

You have given the earth and all its wonders

For the benefit of all living things.

We thank you for the wheat that grows,

And for the bread made from it that we share

For this bread is a symbol of brokenness.

May we, in our brokenness

Receive your life and bring nourishment to others.

We thank you for the grapes for harvest,

And for the wine made from it that we share

For this wine is a symbol of your precious lifeblood

Given so freely for each one of us.

May we eat and drink deep of these

Your gifts to us;

And may your abundant Life flow in us,

And through us to a hurting world.

For on the night before he died Jesus took bread, *(The bread is broken)*

gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying

“Take eat; this is my body.”

Then he took the cup,

gave thanks and offered it to them, saying *(The cup is raised)*

“This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many,”

Whenever you drink from it, remember me,

For all people the gifts of God,

(the bread and cup are raised)

***In this Bread and Wine
We see the hope of that Kingdom -
The renewing of all Creation;
And we wait, in anticipation,
For all things to be made new.
In this Bread, and in this Wine, you call us
Into a new, freed relationship
With yourself and all of your creation.
And we shall eat;
We shall drink;
And we are thankful.***

Let us join together in saying the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

***God who cares for us,
the wonder of whose presence fills us with awe,
Let kindness, justice and love shine in our world.
Let your secrets be known here as they are in heaven.
Give us the food and hope we need for today.
Forgive us our wrongdoing
as we forgive the wrongs done to us.
Protect us from pride and despair,
and from the fear and hate which can swallow us up.
In you is truth, meaning, glory and power
while worlds come and go. Amen.***

Sharing the Meal *the people are to be served in their seats*

By sharing this bread and wine with one another,
We remember Jesus and what he was,
And what he is, and what he always will be,
Our Gateway into the awareness of the Divine Presence.

Eat and drink for all is ready and all are invited.

Prayer after Communion

Our God, you have blessed us, and fed us
With your very life force.
By your Holy Spirit.
You have come close to us,
And we have come close to you
In this precious feast,
Where Heaven meets earth,

***And so, with all the realm of Nature
The growing and creeping things;***

***The running and leaping things;
The flying and the swimming things,
We proclaim your glory
Which reaches to the heavens
Holding all in sovereign love and care.***

Send us out, nourished and refreshed,
To work in partnership with you,
Bringing your resurrection message
To all the inhabitants of this world,
In earth, and sea and sky.

***Give us vision and new commitment
To take up the challenges to which you call us;
That in company with all created things
We may sing the joy, the beauty and the glory
That is Creation's song. Amen.***

We Go out into the World

Song TIS 687 God Gives Us A Future

The Community Candle is extinguished

Words of Blessing

Spirit of wind and fire,
Spirit of mystery and promise,
Spirit of God, our Helper,
***blow at our backs,
breathe in our hearts,
be the energy for all we do
to spread love and justice.***
The blessing of God the Father,
God the Son and God the Holy Spirit,
the One who Mothers us all
be with you always. Amen.

Postlude (*a time for quiet reflection – please remain seated*)

'This week' at Woden Valley Uniting Church

Notices

Church News, Joys and concerns, significant birthdays, anniversaries or events, journeys.

Fellowship

Gathering over a cuppa together

*Communion adapted from www.thesanctuarycentre.org/resources/written_prayer_creation_communion.pdf
(this site is no longer active)*