



WODEN VALLEY UNITING CHURCH

<https://woden-valley.uca.org.au/>

Service location: Curtin



Cosmic Humility

10 a.m. Worship
20th October 2024

Jesus practiced radical inclusion! All are welcome here.

We Gather as People of God

The Gong is struck 3 times

The gong sounds. We hold silence.

We listen to the gong, calling us to gather, calling us to be present at this time.

Prelude

Acknowledgement of First Peoples

- We acknowledge that we are worshipping on the land of the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people. They have kept good stewardship of this land and have much to teach us. We honour their teachers, their elders - past and present - and continue to work for reconciliation and justice for all.

We Light the Community Candle

As we light this candle may we see the light of Christ in this service, in each other and in those we meet.

(We light the community candle)

Call to worship

Come to seek the will of God

We come with open minds and hearts

See and hear the Power and Wisdom of the God we Love

We open our eyes to see and our ears to hear

Welcome & Introduction

A warm welcome is extended to all. An especially warm welcome to those who are worshipping at Woden Valley Uniting Church for the first time, or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us and this time of celebration together. Welcome to those at Goodwin and those at home joining us on Zoom. In the printed liturgy the responses are in bold.

Hymn Jesus Calls us here to meet him TIS 477

Please stand as you are able

Passing the Peace

As followers of the God of Peace, we strive together to live in Love, Humility and in Peace.

May the God of Love, Humility and Peace be with you

And also with you

Let us share that Love, Humility and Peace with each other

We Reflect on the Word for our time

Readings

A Reading from Job 38:1-7, 34-41

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

Gird up your loins like a man.

I will question you, and you shall declare to me,
“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Tell me, if you have understanding.
Who determined in measurements – surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?
On what were its bases sunk,
Or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together,
and all the sons of God
Shouted for Joy?

“Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, that a flood of waters may cover you?
Can you send forth lightnings, that they may go and say to you, ‘Here we are’?
Who has put wisdom in the clouds. Or given understanding to the mists?
Who can number the clouds by wisdom?
Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,
When the dust runs into a mass and the clods cleave fast together?
“Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,
When they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert?
Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God,
And wander about for lack of food?

Psalm 104 (PFAS 104B) – The Mountains Stand in Awe

The mountains stand in awe. The Thunder speaks your name.
Creation waits to serve its God with wind and flame.
The heavens know your power. None question what you do.
The oceans riot unrestrained but bow to you.

The mighty rains pour down as blessings from above.
The storms that seem to howl and rage are storms of love.
They water all the earth. Your rivers fuller flow.
They bring the faithful care that all your creatures know.

Almighty, Sovereign Lord, I wait at your command.
I live and move and breathe within your mighty hand.
With earth and sea and sky, with all your love has made,
With every thought and breath I rise to give you praise.

Reading from Hebrews 5:1-10

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well for those of the people. And one does not take the honour upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, “Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee”; as he says also in another place, “Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchiz’edek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard for his godly fear. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and being made perfect he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchiz’edek.

Reading from Mark 10:35-45

And James and John, the sons of Zeb’edee, came forward to him, and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptised?”

And they said to him, “We are able.”

And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptised; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you: but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.

For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

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 Have we grown to big for our britches?

Music for reflection

We Respond to the Word

Hymn Kneels at the Feet of his Friends TIS 640

Affirmation of our Mission

Christ has no body but ours
No hands, no feet on earth but ours,
Ours are the eyes with which he looks with compassion on this world
Ours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Ours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Ours are the hands, ours are the feet,
Ours are the eyes, we are his body.

Offering

Our offerings for the celebration of life in this place and beyond, will now be received.

May all our gifts, talents and offerings, build towards the reign of Love in our neighbourhood and our world.

Amen

Prayers of the People

We sing the Care Candle song as we light the Care candle. (composed by Aaron Harper)

**We take a match,
And light a spark,
To show the want,
Within our hearts,
To share each joy,
To bear each pain,
We take a spark,
and light a flame.**

**We take a flame,
And light a fire,
To represent,
Our hearts desire,
To share our hopes,
To bear our shames,
We take a spark,
And light a flame,
We light a flame.**

We pray for the humility to realise that we are not on our own selfish individual journey but a shared journey with humanity and the God of Love. We pray for wisdom and guidance to stay on that path.

We open our hearts to humility

We open our minds to wisdom

We pray for the earth, for wise decisions for all in dealing with the damage done by past wrong decisions.

We open your hearts to repentance

We open our minds to wisdom

We pray for strength for the world when so many wrong decisions result in death and destruction.

We open our hearts to strength

We open our minds to wisdom

We pray for right understanding so that decisions are made for the good of all rather than the privilege or revenge of some.

We open our hearts to generosity

We open our minds to wisdom

We pray for open minds for all, so that we may understand what it is like inside someone else's skin.

We open our hearts to Compassion, as we walk this journey together

Amen

A 21st Century Lord's Prayer (by Roger Courtney)

Great divine spirit of love that is at the core of everything

And from whom all life flows,

We acknowledge your healing and transforming power.

May the spirit of unconditional love and forgiveness flow through each of us and enable

The realm of love to spread throughout the world.

Like the flowers in the fields, ensure that we have the basics we need to live

And give us the love and commitment to ensure that others have what they need too.

Give us the courage to acknowledge when we have done wrong,

to seek forgiveness from those we have hurt

And to forgive those who have hurt us,

So that we may be reconciled.

We acknowledge the power of self-giving love to transform individual hearts and the world.

We recommit ourselves to the unconditional love of others and the work of justice and peace.

Amen

We Go out into the World

Hymn Inclusive Love, by George Stuart (1935-) (Tune: There's a light Upon the Mountain)

There's a breeze of hope a - blow - ing, There's a stir - ing of the soul. There's a
love that knows no lim - its; It re - news and makes us whole. There's a
jour - ney - ing to - geth - er, There are joys and pains to share; And the
Lord whom we all fol - low Is the One who says, "I care."

For the lonely and the failure,
There are many hurts to bear.
For the sick and for the homeless,
For the ones who cringe in fear,
For the ones who feel rejected,
Those who think they're always wrong,
There's the Lord whom we can follow,
He shows how we can be strong.

There are many who are different,
Those with whom we disagree,
There are those we judge as guilty,
Who no longer should be free.
There are those whom we might banish,
Who have lost the right to live;
But the Lord whom we all follow,
Is the One who says, "Forgive."

We are salt to give the flavour,
And a light upon a stand
We are set upon a hill,
And we are seen throughout the land.
So our love must be inclusive,
Given fully, given free;
For the Lord whom we all follow
Shows what love can do and be.

Words of Mission and Blessing

We go forth now to be servants to all
To seek the will of God in all we do
To care for the World we have been given.
To see the face of God in all we meet.
May we be blessed with humility,
To know that it is God who leads us.
May we be blessed with strength to right the wrongs we have done in our arrogance
And Love to power the journey.

Amen.

The Community Candle and Care Candle are extinguished

Postlude

'This week' at Woden Valley Uniting Church

Notices
Joys and Concerns
Significant birthdays, anniversaries or events, travel

May the work this community does, the joys we celebrate, our concern for others, make a difference.

Amen

Fellowship

*Morning tea is now served.
You are invited to share in the time of fellowship.*

Leaders John Schmidt, Sue

Readers Trevor, Wendy, Marika

Music Joan Pratt

Inclusive Love by George Stuart in *Singing a New Song Well Loved Hymn Tunes with Modern Words* published by The Centre for Progressive Religious Thought, Sydney, NSW, 2005. CCLI Licence 546647.