



## **WODEN VALLEY UNITING CHURCH**

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



## **The peace that Jesus gives**

**10 a.m. Worship 25 May 2025**

Jesus practiced radical inclusion! All are welcome here.

# **We Gather as People of God**

**The Gong is sounded 3 times**

**Prelude Music**

**Lighting the Community Candles**

**Acknowledgement of First Peoples**

**Call to Worship**

Give thanks to the Lord.

**God is good.**

God made us, and all that is.

**God is good.**

God made this day and this community.

**God is good.**

Let us come together to remember.

**God is good.**

Let us come together and sing out –

**God is good.**

God of love,  
we know that we can be honest and open with you  
in a way that we cannot be with other people  
and even, sometimes, with ourselves.  
You know us as we are  
and you love us as we are.  
Today, we come together to remember  
that we are loved,  
all of us,  
everywhere,  
for all time,  
in all situations.  
We are loved, and this is enough.

Thanks be to God!

**Amen.**

## **Song – Praise to God, The World’s Creator – Tune Abbots’s Leigh (TiS 153)**

Praise to God, the world’s creator,  
Source of life and growth and breath,  
Cradling in her arms her children,  
Holding them from birth to death.  
In our bodies, in our living,  
Strength and truth of all we do,  
God is present, working with us,  
Making us creators too.

Praise to God our saving Wisdom,  
Meeting us with love and grace,  
Helping us to grow in wholeness,  
Giving freedom, room, and space.  
In our hurting, in our risking,  
In the thoughts we dare not name,  
God is present, growing with us,  
Healing us from sin and shame.

Praise to God, the Spirit in us,  
Prompting hidden depths of prayer,  
Firing us to long for justice,  
Reaching out with tender care.  
In our searching, in our loving,  
In our struggles to be free,  
God is present, living in us,  
Pointing us to what shall be.

- J Berry

## **Welcome & Introduction**

## **Prayer of Approach**

## **Passing the Peace**

## **Call to Reconciliation**

## **Song – Tell out my soul – TiS 161**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## **We Reflect on the Word for our time**

## **Readings from the Bible and the World Around Us**

## **Psalm 67 – Our God, be gracious unto us – TiS 37**

## **John 14:23-29**

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered him, “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup> Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

<sup>25</sup> “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate,<sup>[a]</sup> the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup> You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.

## **Reflection – The Peace that Jesus Gives**

### **We Respond to the Word**

## **Song – Make me a channel of your peace – TiS 607**

## **Offering Prayer**

## **Light the Care Candle**

## **Prayers of the People**

Loving God,

We thank you that you have sent your son Jesus to show us your way, and to give us the privilege to be your precious children.

Lord, we pray today for our world. We have made a mess of your gift of creation. We have and continue to plunder our earth. And we have created a social world in which those with power grow ever more powerful, at the expense of those who are powerless.

**By your Holy Spirit, transform the mess we find ourselves in. Change people’s hearts, from greed and hate, to love and compassion.**

This morning, we remember those who are caught up in any number of horrible situations around the world: we pray especially for those still under the terror of the war in the Ukraine and for the loss and devastation so many face in Palestine. It is hard for most of us to comprehend what they are facing this day.

**By your Holy Spirit, pour out your love and compassion. Bring peace to our world and comfort to those who mourn.**

Be with our leaders. Guide the decisions they make, so that the poor and the weak are protected. And that our resources are used well to help those who are in need.

Be in all that your church is doing in this world and in our region. Help us to be your presence in our communities, moving quietly through and around the lives of people, supporting, encouraging and loving them, working as agents of change.

**By your Holy Spirit, show us how to love as you love. May we be your hands and your voice for those who so often go unnoticed.**

Continue, Lord, to watch over those who are unwell or struggling with the situations they find themselves in. God of compassion, meet people in the darkness and pain of their lives. Show them that they loved unconditionally by you.

Please take a moment to lift before God those who are on your hearts.

*(Silence)*

Loving God,  
**Show us your path  
Teach us your ways  
That we might walk with you.  
Amen.**

## **Holy Communion**

Jesus invites us to this table.

The meal is open to all who hunger.

It is a place for peace making, and nourishment by God's love.

Through these elements, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we remember that Jesus was present with his disciples, that he is present with us today and that he will be with us for all eternity with his Father.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

Be present, risen Lord Jesus, as you were with your disciples,

And make yourself known to us in the breaking of the bread;  
For you live and reign with the Father, and the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever  
**Amen.**

According to our saviour's command, we set this bread and this cup apart for the holy supper to which he calls us.

The Lord be with you.  
Lift up your hearts.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.**  
**We lift them to the Lord**  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise**

Thanks, and praise, glory and honour are rightly yours, our Lord and God, for you alone are worthy. In time beyond our dreaming, you brought forth life from darkness, and in the love of Christ, your son, you set humanity to join you in caring for your creation.

You have called us to be your church in this place, to give voice to every creature under heaven. We rejoice with all you have made, as we join with all the company of heaven in their eternal song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might**  
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessing and honour and glory are yours,**  
**forever and ever, Amen.**

Loving God, accept us, as we offer and present ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a holy and living sacrifice, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen**

And so, we join together in prayer as believers have been doing for centuries:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**  
**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours**  
**now and for ever.**  
**Amen.**

On the night when he was betrayed, Jesus shared a meal with his friends.  
He took some bread, and giving thanks, he broke it, saying  
“This is my body which is given for you.  
Take, eat and remember me”  
After the meal, Jesus took the cup, and he said to them,  
“This is the new covenant of my love.  
Take, drink and remember me.”

Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and cup.  
Make us one with Jesus, one with each other, and one in ministry in the world, until at  
last, all things are reconciled and renewed.  
**Amen**

Christ is the bread of love, who shares food with all who are hungry.  
Christ is the cup of life, for a broken world.  
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Come, for all is ready

*(The elements are distributed)*

Most gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
You have fed us and renewed us for your service. Now we give ourselves to you and ask  
that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom. May our love be your love,  
reaching out into the life of the world.  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **We Go out into the World**

**Song – Shalom – TiS 778**

**Blessing**

**The Community Candle is extinguished**

**Postlude**

## **'This week' at Woden Valley Uniting Church**

*Notices*

*Significant birthdays, anniversaries or events*

*Travel Candles*

### **Fellowship**

*Morning tea is now served.*

*You are invited to share in the time of fellowship.*

**Order of Service** has congregation responses printed in **bold**

**Leader:** Pastor Julie Connah

**Reader:** John Campbell

**Prayers:**

**Music:** Helen Swan

**Communion servers:** Volunteers on the day