



WODEN VALLEY UNITING CHURCH

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

Bridging Now to Next



10 a.m. Worship
1 June 2025

Leader: Kate McLoughlin
Reader: Matt Jackson
Music: Brendan O'Loughlan

Jesus practiced radical inclusion! All are welcome here.

We Gather as People of God

The Gong sounded 3 times

Prelude Music

Lighting the Community Candle

Acknowledgement of First Peoples

From before recorded time, the Ngunnawal and Ngambri Peoples have cared for this Land. We praise the Creator for the beauty of this Land and honour those who have offered themselves in tending it. We acknowledge the Elders and communities who have told the sacred stories and nurtured faithfulness to the Creator. We ask God's blessing on those who continue to work for the healing and restoration of this Land and Her Communities.

©Amelia Koh-Butler, 2017, adapted.

Call to worship

Are you searching for God,
but do not know where to look?
Don't worry – God knows where you are.
Are you searching for faith,
but do not know what to believe?
Don't worry – you are not alone.
Would you love to be able to pray,
but can't seem to find the words?
Don't worry – Christ is praying for you.

Hymn Now Thank we all our god, TIS 106

(People stand as they are able)

Welcome & Introduction

Prayer for Living Attentively

Blessed God, Ancient Spirit of Gondwana,
You are the one in whom we live and move and have our being
You are the one who nurtures and feeds us
With the pure nectar of our ancient faith.
Come now Blessed One, gather us together in a spirit of hospitality,
**That we may welcome your own wisdom in each other's wisdom,
and hear your own voice in each other's voices.**
We pray earnestly this day for reconciliation between First and Second Australians.
Help us to walk and talk a renewed vision for Australia;
And give us the courage to see it through.
Ancient Spirit of Gondwana,
Come upon your people gathered here.
Bless and keep us in the changes we make this day.

Amen

(Garry Worete Deverell, Gondwana Theology, 2018)

Song: We Won't Cry, Archie Roach

[We Won't Cry \(feat. Paul Kelly\)](#)

[Verse 1 *Archie Roach*]

If your burden's too heavy
Then it's gonna break you
And you might go crashing
To the ground
Keep yourself steady
And don't let it take you
Take you on down
Take you on down

[Verse 2: *Paul Kelly*]

Well I'm here beside you
Don't you forget it
I'm with you walking
Down this road
Give up what's inside you
You won't regret it
Together we can
Lighten this load

[Chorus: **Both**]

Oh, we won't cry
We won't cry
Oh, we will lift our spirits high
Up to the sky
(Up to the sky, we won't cry)
Up to the sky (We won't cry)
We will fly (up to the sky)
We won't cry (We won't cry)
(We won't cry)

[Verse 3: Archie Roach/**Both**]

You did the same for me
When I was in trouble
I wanted to disappear
Out of sight
You wouldn't let me
You were so stubborn
You brought me out of
That dark night

[Chorus: **Both**]

Oh, we won't cry
We won't cry
Oh, we will lift our spirits high
Up to the sky

Oh, we won't cry
We won't cry
Oh, we will lift our spirits high
Up to the sky

[Post-Chorus: Archie Roach/*Craig Pilkington*]

Passing the Peace

May the peace of our Creator, the Ancient Spirit of Gondwana
who creates, loves, forgives, redeems and sustains, be with you ...

and also with you.

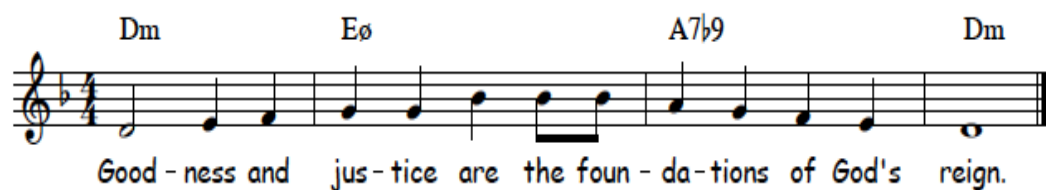
Please share a sign of peace with those around you.

We Reflect on the Word for our time

Readings from the Bible and the World Around Us

Acts 16: 16 – 34

Psalm 97



Refrain: Goodness and justice are the foundation of God's reign.

God rules, let the earth rejoice; let the many coast lands be glad!
Clouds and thick darkness are all around;
Lightning lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles.
The mountains melt like wax, before the God of all the earth.

Goodness and justice are the foundation of God's reign.

The heavens proclaim God's goodness; and all the people see glory
Worshippers of images are put to shame, those who boast in worthless idols
Zion hears gladly, the towns of Judah rejoice because of your justice, O God.

Goodness and justice are the foundation of God's reign.

For God is most high over all the earth; exalted far above all gods.
God loves those who hate evil; and guards the lives of the faithful;
Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.
Rejoice, O you righteous, and give thanks to the holy name!

Goodness and justice are the foundation of God's reign.

Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21

John 17, 20-26

Response: Thanks be to God

Reflection

Music for Reflection

We Respond to the Word

Hymn Community of Christ TIS 473

(People stand as they are able)

Offering

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

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

Amen.

Light the Care Candle

Prayers of the People

Response: Bring goodness and justice to those in need

Aboriginal Our Father

You are Our Father, you live in heaven
We talk to you, Father you are good

We believe your Word Father
We your children, give us bread today

We have done wrong, we are sorry
Help us Father not to sin again

Others have done wrong to us
And we are sorry for them, Father today

Stop us from doing wrong, Father
Save us all from the evil one

You are Our Father, you live in heaven
We talk to you, Father you are good

The Lord's Prayer from the "Missa Kimberley", Diocese of Broome, Western Australia.

We Go out into the World

Words of Mission

As you go,
Remember that the Spirit whispers in your ear all the day long.
She whispers her message of love and liberation;
She beckons for you to follow her into paths as yet unimagined.
Go from this place as people of the Spirit,
People unafraid to dream and to vision,
To lament and to protest,
To work and to pray until the Kingdom is come.

Hymn God gives us a future TIS 687

Blessing

Friends, let us go in joy,
and in gratitude for the love of God,
the care and compassion of Jesus
and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Let us go into the world
to share that love and joy
with all we meet.

**And as we do,
may the blessing of God,
Father, Son and Spirit,
the One who Mother's us all,
rest and dwell with us.**

Amen.

Koonung Heights Uniting Church, Service of Worship at Home

The Community Candle is extinguished

Postlude

'This week' at Woden Valley Uniting Church

Fellowship.