



WODEN VALLEY UNITING CHURCH

10 a.m. Worship 6 July 2026

Poems and reflections on the Spirit of God



Jesus practiced radical inclusion! All are welcome here.

We would like to advise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples that this service may contain the names of people who have died.

We Gather as People of God

The Gong is sounded three times - We quieten and prepare ourselves for worship

Prelude

Join with me in

Acknowledgement of country

We remember the land on which we meet. We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people and others with links to this place as the traditional custodians of this piece of God's creation. We acknowledge the way Aboriginal peoples' connection to country nurtures body, mind and spirit and sustains the life and wellbeing of creatures. The elders teach that the land is not ours to own, but a gift to care for and delight in. If we listen deeply, we may hear in the life of the world the calling of the eternal spirit.

Light the Community Candle

Join with me in the Call to worship

Call to worship

You are here, O God,
Your Spirit is with us.

We feel your comfort
Your Spirit is with us.

We are surrounded by love
Your Spirit is with us.

You are in this place
Your Spirit is with us.

Today is a day of connecting, talking and remembering and feeling closer to the Spirit of God

Before we start let us sing together

Morning Has Broken Eleanor Farjeon Tune: Bunessan, TIS 156

Verse 1

Morning has broken
Like the first morning;
Blackbird has spoken
Like the first bird.
Praise for the singing,
Praise for the morning,
Praise for them, springing

Fresh from the word.

Verse 2

Sweet the rain's new fall
Sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall
On the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
Of the wet garden,
Sprung from completeness
Where his feet pass.

Verse 3

Mine is the sunlight;
Mine is the morning
Born of the one light
Eden saw play.
Praise with elation,
Praise every morning,
God's recreation
Of the new day.

And please join with me in our next prayer.

Prayer

God of the still small voice,
we who are conflicted by
needs, hopes, dreams, and dreads
often cannot hear you.

Have mercy on us.

**Help us recognise the God-melody
in tune with our human heart beat. Amen**

Welcome and introduction.

Before we start let us sing together

Come And Find The Quiet Centre *Shirley Murray* *Tune: Gaelic Air, TIS 477*

Verse 1

Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,

clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.

Verse 2

Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

Verse 3

In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our lives and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

Reading 1

Psalms 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

When we explore nature, we are surrounded by a magnificent display of God's creativity. Each sunset, mountain, and river sings a song of His glory. Nature's wonders remind us of their presence and majesty. As we take a moment to breathe in the fresh air and observe the beauty around us, we are invited to recognize that the creation speaks of the Creator. Our hearts are filled with awe, and we find ourselves encouraged to appreciate the world around us, witnessing their handiwork in every detail of the natural environment.

First remembering

Reading 2

Beach Baptism

The early morning beach is a still
liquid reflection of the pale sky.

Only my bare feet touch the calm
smoothness of the wet sand
and leave not a mark behind.

Softly, a gentle wave reaches up
to wash my feet.

Spirit
surges within me,
responding to the gentle pull of power.

‘Not just my feet, but all of me!’

And I plunge into the cool strength
to be buffeted and baptised
by the oceans waves —
cleansed for a new day. Adele Coombs

Second remembering

Reading 3

Evening by the creek

When shadows are long and gentle,
and in between are shafts of gold
touching the grass and my hair
and the trees, turning them all into light —

And the birds are playing in the air
into softest, clearest notes of wonder,
dancing through the light and shadows,
and then being still, hushed with awe
because the moment is so holy —

And the colour is slowly drawn
up into the western sky over the mountains
where it becomes an orange fire,
and the ancient stars take the light and
burn diamonds
in the deep, dark velvet —

I know you've been here by the creek this evening. Adele Coombs

Third remembering

Reading 4

Mountain Communion

As I walk into the soft fine mist
floating gently through the mountain air,
my upturned face, my child-like dance,
my every breath is a prayer.

And the soft cool rain is your gentle answer,
your loving fingers touch my cheek,
and the moment is such holy joy
that I cannot speak. Adele Coombs

Fourth remembering

My Reflection

Ritual with water, stones, leaves and sticks

We Respond to the Word

Our offering will now be received

We give thanks for the monetary gifts to further our missions and the gifts of friendship, talents and energy that make up this community of faith.

We light the care candle

Prayers of the people

Share with each other what is closest to your heart then we will sing the next song as our prayer.

Verse 1

Wake, now, my senses and hear the Earth call;
Feel the deep power of be-ing in all;
Keep with the web of creation your vow,
Giving, receiving as love shows us how.

Verse 2

Wake, now, my reason, reach out to the new;
Join with each pilgrim who quests for the true;
Honour the beauty and wisdom of time;
Suffer your limit and praise the sublime.

Verse 3

Wake, now, compassion, give heed to the cry;
Voice of suffering fill the wide sky;
Take as your neighbour both stranger and friend,
Praying and striving their hardship to end.

Verse 4

Wake, now, my conscience, with justice thy guide;
Join with all people whose rights are denied;
Take not for granted a privileged place;
Our love embraces the whole human race.

Verse 5

Wake, now, my vision of ministry clear;
Brighten my pathway with radiance here;
Mingle my calling with all who will share;
Work t'ward a planet transformed by our care.

We Go out into the World

May The Mystery Of God Enfold Us Joy Cowley

May the mystery of God enfold us,
May the wisdom of God uphold us,
May the fragrance of God be around us,
May the brightness of God surround us.
May the wonder of God renew us,
May the loving of God flow through us,
May the peace of God deeply move us,
May the moving of God bring us peace.

Blessing we sing to each other

For You, Deep Stillness X 2 Robin Mann

For you, deep stillness of the silent inland
For you, deep blue of the desert skies
For you, flame red of the rocks and stones

For you, sweet water from hidden springs.

From the edges seek the heartlands
and when you're burnt by the journey
may the cool winds of the hovering
Spirit soothe and replenish you.

In the name of Christ, In the name of Christ

Music for reflection

The Candles are extinguished
'This week' at Woden Valley Uniting Church

Notices

Significant birthdays, anniversaries or events (eg: decade birthdays)

Fellowship

Morning tea is now served.

You are invited to share in the time of fellowship.

References for OOS: CCLI licence#546647; : Call to worship, prayer and acknowledgement of
Country from Pools of Grace by Sarah Bachelard 2026 WIPF & STOCK; reading 1

Pastor David; readings 2,3 and 4 From Barefoot
Dreaming Adele Coombs 1992 An Albatross book.