

ORMOND UNITING CHURCH



7TH NOVEMBER

PENTECOST 24



Christ teaching - Rembrandt von Rijn

Congregational responses are printed in bold type

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed is the Holy Trinity of Love,
Father, Son, Holy Spirit,
One God, mothering all creation,
**and blessed is the reign of Christ
crucified and risen,
now and always and to the ages of ages.
Amen.**

HYMN: TIS 59

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice:
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;
come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make:
we are his folk, he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why the Lord our God is good;
his mercy is for every sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
The God whom Heaven and earth adore,

From all and from the angel host
Be praise and glory evermore.

Psalm 100
William Kethe
d. 1594 *alt.*

PRAYERS OF GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

In peace, as people of the light,
let us pray to the Lord:

Into your communion, Lord, gather all creation.

Joining our voices
with the deep sighs of creation
yearning for redemption;
with sun, moon and stars,
tree and plain, desert and bush;
the sea and its inhabitants,
with all creatures wild and tame,
let us pray to the Lord:

Into your communion, Lord, gather all creation.

For the Bun Wurrung people,
who came first to this place;
and for all faithful custodians of the earth,
let us pray to the Lord:

Into your communion, Lord, gather all creation.

For all who share life with others:
for parents and carers,
teachers, artists, healers,
peacemakers and reconcilers,
and those who seek to renew the face of the earth;
let us pray to the Lord:

Into your communion, Lord, gather all creation.

For all who know their need of others:
for children and old people everywhere,
the infirm and disabled,

the lonely and bereaved,
let us pray to the Lord:
Into your communion, Lord, gather all creation.

For those who complete the afflictions of Christ,
whose suffering seems without end:
who lack food, shelter, work and dignity,
and suffer the violence of the proud;
for all who cry for justice day and night,
let us pray to the Lord:
Into your communion, Lord, gather all creation.

For all in authority:
those who require wisdom and restraint,
and all who serve those in need,
keeping them from harm;
let us pray to the Lord:
Into your communion, Lord, gather all creation.

With the whole Church,
from *this place* to the ends of the earth;
with each one gathered here in prayer,
with absent brothers and sisters,
that we may be renewed in the faith of Christ,
let us pray to the Lord:
Into your communion, Lord, gather all creation.

Confession

O God, you search us out and know us,
and all that we are is open to you.
We confess our sin.

We use our power to dominate
and our weaknesses to manipulate:

We evade responsibility
and fail to confront evil:

We are seduced by fashionable dreams
and pursue our desires at the expense of others:

We despair of changing the world
and neglect to change even ourselves:

We fail to integrate spirit and flesh
and forfeit our wholeness and dignity:

KYRIE – sung TIS 756 – Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy.

We turn to you,
O God of infinite mercy;
we renounce evil;
we claim your love;
we desire to be made whole.

Sisters and brothers
Know that our sin is forgiven.
We are graced people;
be at peace.

Blessed are you, God of all creation,
and blessed is the communion
into which you gather us.

We thank you for the promise of Jesus:
‘Where two or three are gathered
in his name,
he is there among them.’
Send your Holy Spirit
to call us by name and lead us home.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet.

A light to our path

Hebrew Scriptures: Ruth 3. 1-17

Psalm 127

Unless the Lord builds the house,
those who build it labour in vain.

**Unless the Lord guards the city,
the guard keeps watch in vain.**

It is in vain that you rise up early
and go late to rest,

eating the bread of anxious toil;

for he gives sleep to his beloved.

Sons are indeed a heritage from the Lord,
the fruit of the womb a reward.

**Like arrows in the hand of a warrior
are the sons of one's youth.**

Happy is the man who has
his quiver full of them.

**He shall not be put to shame
when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.**

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gospel: Mark 12. 38-44

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

HYMN: Let us build a house where love can dwell

Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;

let us bring an end to fear and danger.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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Tune: TWO OAKS (see RW #219)

SERMON

HYMN: TIS 554

If we will trust in God to guide us
and hope in him along life's way,
we'll know his wonderful protection,
through cross and sadness, every day.
When we are led by God's strong hand,
we build on rock, not sinking sand.

How can our anxious worries help us?
Can crying take our cares away?
What use is all of our complaining,
as we prepare to face each day?
Our cross and sufferings only press
the heavier for our bitterness.

Let us be still, and find enjoyment
in life, with heart and mind content
to take whatever God our Father
in his all-knowing love has sent:

for all our deepest needs are known
by God, who chose us for his own.

Sing, pray, and be prepared to follow
with faithfulness along God's way,
and trust the heavenly Father's blessings:
then you will find them new each day.
For those who trust in God to lead,
he never will forsake in need.

Georg Deumark 1621-81
tr. David Arthur Schubert 1942-

OFFERING -

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Loving Christ, we stand in need
of forgiveness, freedom, homecoming;
you invite us by name.

Happy are those who are called to this supper.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

HYMN: TIS 506

Author of life divine,
you have a table spread,
furnished with mystic wine
and everlasting bread;
preserve the life yourself have given,
preserve the life yourself have given,
and feed and train us up to heaven.

Our needy souls supply
with fresh supplies of love,
till all your life we gain,
and all your fullness prove,
and, strengthened by your perfect grace,
and, strengthened by your perfect grace,
behold without a veil your face.

Charles Wesley
1707-88 *alt.*

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you, gracious God, sovereign in grace and love,
for all things come from you.

We praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ, the living Word;
crucified and risen,
he is the beginning of a new creation.

You poured out the Spirit, pledge and foretaste of the future,
that we might not lose the way
as we look for the renewal of all creation.

Therefore,
with the whole realm of nature around us,
with earth, sea and sky,
we sing to you.

With the angels and archangels who surround us,
with all the saints before us and beside us,

with brothers and sisters,
east and west, north and south,
we sing to you.

And with our loved ones,
separate from us now,
who yet, in this mystery are close to us,
we sing the hymn of never ending praise:

TIS 756

**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.**

Blessed are you, O God;
your Son, our mother
nourishes and sustains us
with the pure milk of his very self,
embodying the reign
of justice, mercy and peace;
suffering in his own body on the cross
the brokenness of creation,
embracing our brokenness
and making us whole.

Several spiritual writers have used
the image of Jesus as Mother: e.g.,
St Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury
(1033–1109) and Dame Julian of
Norwich (c. 1342–1416).

On the night he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:
‘This is my body, which is for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.’

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying:
‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this, whenever you drink it,
for the remembrance of me.’

So, as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

Therefore,
with the Church throughout the ages,
we celebrate the life that Jesus creates among his people,
the life that overcomes death.

Made one with him,
and thus one with each other,
we lay before you these gifts of bread and wine;
for here we offer and present to you ourselves,
our bodies, minds and spirits,
to be a holy and continual sacrifice
of praise and thanksgiving to you.

Come, Holy Spirit,
brood over this bread and this wine.
May they be for us
the body and blood of Christ,
vibrant with life,
healing, renewing
and making us whole.
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Spirit of Jesus,
draw us into your blazing heart,
that as these gifts are consumed in us,
we might be consumed in transfiguring love
and thus become one with you,
bone of your bone,
flesh of your flesh,

living our prayer
and praying our life
until love and loyalty embrace,
peace and justice kiss,
and all are free as Christ is free.

**Glory be to you, O God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be all honour and praise,
now and for ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Because you are one with us, O Christ,
make us one with you as we pray:

**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 forever. Amen**

Let us receive what we are.
Let us become what we receive:
The body of Christ.

AGNUS DEI

... The gifts of God for the people of God.

TIS 756

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

SHARING OF BREAD AND WINE

PRAYER

God of heaven and earth,
you make us one in Christ.

**Inspire us with new vision
and the wisdom of ancient dreams.**

**Give us strength to walk together
until we come to our eternal home.**

In Christ's name. Amen.

HYMN: TIS 691

Faith will not grow from words alone,
from proofs provided, scripture known;
our faith must feel its way about,
and live with question-marks and doubt.

The pattern Jesus showed, we share:
life comes through death, hope through despair.
God is made known in brokenness,
and faith feeds on God's emptiness.

The church still tells how Jesus came
through death to glorious life again -
the strangest story! Yet, maybe,
our faith will thrive on mystery.

Faith takes the little that we know,
and calls for hope, and tells us: Go!
Love and take courage, come what may;
Christ will be with us on the way.

Elizabeth J. Smith
1956-

BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

And now,
the blessing of the Holy Trinity of Love
be upon you:

may God take your hand as you go,
Christ be your constant companion,
and the Spirit guide you on the Way
this day and evermore. **Amen.**

WORD OF MISSION

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

POSTLUDE

*You can find a copy of today's sermon along with other congregational
information on the church website.*

Blessing from *Each Day and Each Night: Celtic Prayers from Iona*,
Philip J. Newell, Wild Goose Publications.
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Rev. Andrew Boyle
Office: 0411 958 127; Mobile 0409 869 009; Email: ajmboyle@outlook.com

Rev. Deacon Pam White
Mobile 0434 378 099; Email: pamdwhite@optusnet.com.au

Music Director: Mr Peter Hurley

Administrator: Mrs Cathy O'Connor
Tuesdays & Fridays, 9am-3.30pm – 0411 958 127
office@ormond.unitingchurch.org.au

Website: www.ormondunitingchurch.org

NEWS AND NOTICES

OPENING UP – FROM SUNDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

Following the lifting of government restrictions, we will be able to meet together again for worship from Sunday 7th November. The following guidelines will apply to us:

- We will continue to check in with QR codes or manually if we can't check in with a smartphone
- We will be asked by a Covid Marshall on the door to show proof of our vaccination status. This can be a certification on your smartphone or a printed copy of your vaccination status. If you are exempt please bring a copy of your exemption.
- For the time being, our numbers will be limited to 45 people in the church if all people present are double vaccinated
- If we are not all fully vaccinated, or someone is not willing to give their vaccination status, we will be limited to 30 people in the church
- We must continue to wear masks while in the church
- Our Covid Marshalls are Lorraine Denniston, Marg Davis and Robyn Mulder who are members of the OUC Covid Team.

As you will know there is some controversy in the community about being vaccinated and sharing vaccination status with others. Regrettably, this controversy is dividing families, workplaces and communities.

In order to protect each other and limit the further spread of the virus we are required by government to record the status of those present at church gatherings. Unless we are able to verify each person's vaccination status, we are required to limit our worship numbers to 30 (when we are permitted to accommodate 45). When you arrive at church you will be asked to show verification of your vaccination status. If you are not vaccinated, or are not willing to share your status, we will be required to limit our numbers to 30. We trust that you understand it is important we have this information in order that all who come can participate.

Need to know more or unsure what to do? Please contact Andrew Boyle (0409 869 009) or Pam White (0434 378 099).

Printed worship resources will continue to be delivered to those who are not able to make it to worship.

Notice of Congregational Meeting – 14th November – 11am

We will be holding a congregational meeting on November 14th after worship. At the meeting we will:

- Be asked to approve the budget for 2022
- Receive a Project Control group report on the progress of the building project
- Be asked to consider a proposal to increase the number of elected church councillors from six to seven.
- Hold an election for church councillors
- At the conclusion of the meeting, we will recognise the life of our halls, removing the plaques from the foyer of the North Rd hall as an act of completion.

CLEANING OUT THE HALLS - A TAKE-IT-AWAY-FREE GARAGE SALE

Saturday 13th November – 9am to 1pm.

Before demolition begins the halls need to be emptied of all their contents. Neville Parker has been leading a team of people doing a mammoth job to bring everything into the North Rd hall for sorting and decision – store it, sell it or dump it? There is much that won't go into storage, and these things are better sold or given away than dumped. On Saturday 13th there will be a garage sale where people can collect items for free. If you can help with this project or have your eye on something you would like than come along between 9am and 1pm. We will invite people to make donations to the ASRC. More details from Neville Parker.

Remembering and Celebrating our Halls... ..

Dotted through the latest October edition of Pathfinder you'll find people's memories of how our halls have been used. Thank you to everyone who has contributed articles (Warwick, Heather, David, Elizabeth, Dot, Jan) and to Lorraine for several of the photos– we hope you enjoy them. May they inspire you to reflect on your own memories and perhaps send something for next month – written articles and photos welcome. We will also be including material on the website.

If you'd prefer to tell someone your story so we can write it down for you, please contact Dianne Richter (0413 750 089).

We have also set up an online option “Ormond Uniting Video Memories” where you can record your memories so we can create a video record. Here is the link:

<https://app.memento.com/ormond-uniting-video-memories/bo5dlK8Ap/record>

If you require assistance to record your memory, please contact Gary (0411116415) or garyrichter@yahoo.com.au. You don't need sophisticated recording equipment, just a smart phone or laptop with camera.

ASRC KILOMETRES OF COMPASSION FUNDRAISER

When: Sat 20th November 11.30 am onwards

Where: ALLNUT PARK McKinnon Melways ref 69 C11. We plan to meet at the Central Rotunda and take it from there.

Please BYO chair, picnic rug, morning/afternoon tea and lunch depending on how long you wish to stay.

Around Australia, on the weekend of the 20th/21st November, supporters of the ASRC and the work they do will take on challenges such as walking, bike riding, rowing, swimming etc. We have registered Ormond Uniting Church as a team and at this stage are inviting everyone from OUC – families and friends to join us at Allnut Park and be part of a walking team challenge clocking up some kms. We will mostly be walking around the paths of the park but for those who would like to venture further – that is fine.

In this way, people who would like to participate can choose exactly how far they want to walk – every step counts!! We would also like this to be a ‘post lockdown’ social event. It will be a great opportunity to relax and enjoy the beautiful Allnut Park and catch up with each other. Everyone is welcome regardless of whether you are able to participate in some walking or not – a cheer squad would be great!!

Please look out for more details in next Pathfinder and in the meantime **PLEASE SAVE THE DATE!!** Any queries at this stage please contact Brenda Grootendorst by mobile 0433494600.

BOB’S BOYS – a message from Neville

Can you believe that we are able resume our monthly breakfast after about a couple of years. So our first breakfast for 2021 will be our Christmas breakup.

We will meet at:

Fig Jam

128 Koornang Road

Carnegie.

On Saturday 27th November at 8:30 am

ROSTER for Sunday 14 November 2021

READING	Dianne Richter	
PRAYERS	Marg Davis	
DOOR DUTY	Brenda G	Russell H
SOUND	Graeme D	
MUSIC	Peter Hurley	
COUNTNG	TBA Jan Davenport	
RESOURCES DELIVERY	Brenda G	

