

# Ormond Uniting Church



Church, Frederic Edwin, 1826-1900. *Vision of the Cross*, from "Art in the Christian Tradition"

## Pentecost 20

### October 26, 2025

Minister: Rev Dr Ji Zhang 张骥

Chair of Council: Dr Mardie Townsend

Music: Karen Roberts

# THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE 聚集敬拜

## Call to worship

## Acknowledgement of Country

**1 Hymn:** 474 Gather us in

## PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION 忏悔祷告

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD 敬听圣言

**1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading:** Joel 约珥书 2:23-32

O children of Zion, be glad, and rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given the early rain for your vindication; he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain; the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army that I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days I will pour out my spirit. I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the

LORD comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved, for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading:** Psalm 诗篇 65

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,  
and to you shall vows be performed,  
O you who answer prayer!

***To you all flesh shall come.***

***When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,  
you forgive our transgressions.***

Happy are those whom you choose  
and bring near to live in your courts.

***We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,  
your holy temple.***

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,  
O God of our salvation;

***you are the hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the farthest seas.***

By your strength you established the mountains;  
you are girded with might.

***You silence the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.***

Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs;

***you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.***

You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it;  
the river of God is full of water;

*you provide the people with grain,  
for so you have prepared it.*

You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,  
softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

*You crown the year with your bounty;  
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.*

The pastures of the wilderness overflow;  
the hills gird themselves with joy;

*the meadows clothe themselves with flocks; the valleys deck themselves  
with grain; they shout and sing together for joy.*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Scripture Reading:** Luke 路加福音 18:9-14

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'

I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

This is the Word of God.

*Thanks be to God.*

**2 Hymn:**            602        O Love that will not let me go

**Sermon:** “I will pour out my spirit on all flesh”

**Music Video:** Beautiful Savior – Stacey Plays Hymns

**Offering**

**Announcements and concerns of the church**

**Prayer of the People**

Our prayer today takes on the theme of pastoral care. Care for others in our immediate community and humanity in general.

In a couple of weeks, we're starting an experiment - the Unity Coffee Stop. The coffee stop is based on the experience that Heather has had with Frilly's coffee shop in Darwin and my experience many years ago at the coffee shop in the Wayside Chapel in a rough area in Kings Cross in Sydney.

Will our coffee stop be a roaring success or a dismal failure?  
It will be successful because anything tried with good faith and humility will be successful.

Let us pray. This is our pray today for others and for ourselves

Our God teaches us that we are to be merciful to the stranger for we were all once strangers in this land. May God grant us the strength and courage to honour the dignity of every human being, to speak the truth to one another in love and walk humbly with each other and our God for the good of all people in this nation and the world.

As we pray, we reflect on what pastoral care means in practical terms, within our own church community and within the broader community.

Examples of pastoral care are:

Caring through healing - not just the doctors and nurses, but also the hospital administrators and the cleaners.

Caring through listening - psychologists and social workers. Those who work with mentally disturbed patients.

Caring for the elderly - the sometimes apparently thankless task of feeding, cleaning and providing emotional support for the elderly.

Caring for the very young - support for newborns, babies and toddlers provided by paediatricians and childcare workers.

Caring expressed by those who protect us - emergency workers, police, ambulance officers, firemen, security workers.

Caring as an expression of managing our communities - politicians, public servants, bureaucrats.

Caring for the oppressed - Amnesty International, pro bono lawyers, aid workers and those who expose injustice.

Finally, caring as expressed in our own church community - for each other, and our own Pastoral Link Network.

The principal reason that the Homo Sapiens species is the dominant species on earth (for better and often for worse) is that it is the most cooperative species. No single person invented or developed or constructed a motor vehicle, an aircraft, or an MRI. We thank you for the gift of human cooperation and care for others.

Amen

**Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as it is 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

## **THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE** 差遣信徒

**The Peace:**

**3 Hymn:** 422 Come, Holy Spirit, come!

**Benediction**

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

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Church Office

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**NEWS & NOTICES**