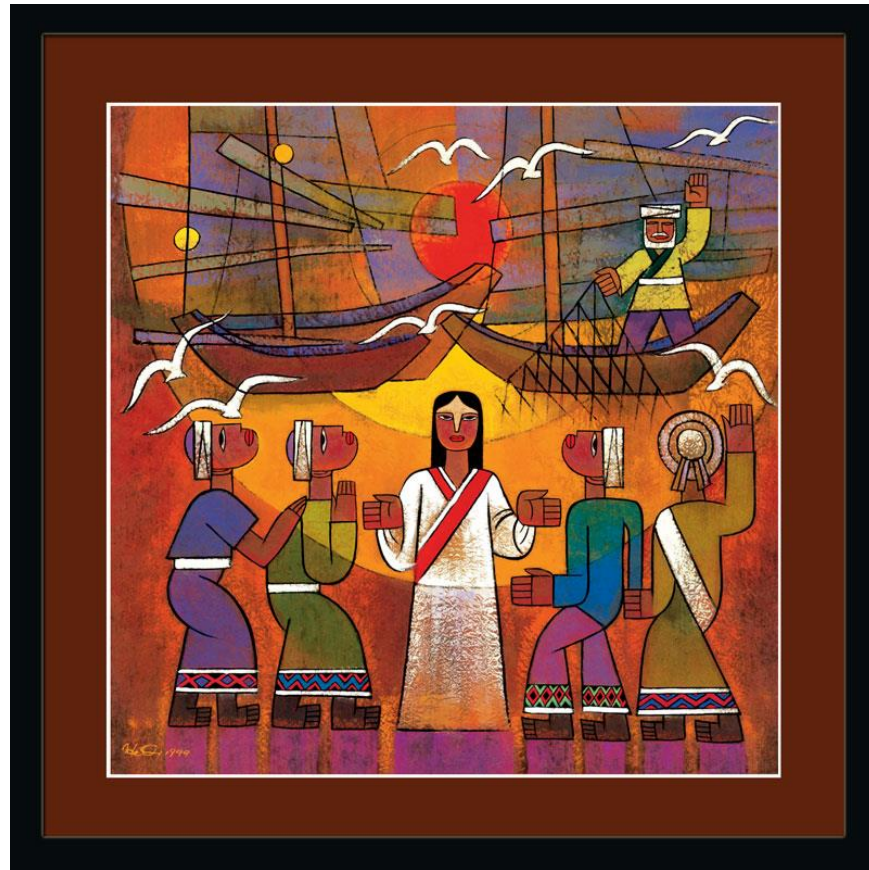


Ormond Uniting Church



Calling the Disciples, He Qi

The Uniting Church Anniversary

Pentecost 2, June 22, 2025

Minister: Rev Dr Ji Zhang 张骥

Chair of Council: Dr Mardie Townsend

Music: Dr Karen Roberts

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE 聚集敬拜

Call to worship

Acknowledgement of Country

1 Hymn: 457 The Church's one foundation

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION 忏悔祷告

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD 敬听圣言

1st Scripture Reading: Ezra 以斯拉记1: 1-5; 64-67

In the first year of Cyrus, king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the Lord spoken by Jeremiah, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation throughout his entire kingdom, both by word of mouth and in writing.

“Thus says Cyrus, king of Persia: ‘All the kingdoms of the earth the Lord, the God of heaven, has given to me, and he has charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Those among you who belong to any part of his people, may their God be with them! Let them go up to Jerusalem in Judah to build the house of the Lord the God of Israel, that is, the God who is in Jerusalem. Let all those who have survived, in whatever place they may have lived, be assisted by the people of that place with silver, gold, goods, and livestock, together with voluntary offerings for the house of God in Jerusalem.’”

Then the heads of ancestral houses of Judah and Benjamin and the priests and Levites—everyone, that is, whose spirit had been stirred up by God—prepared to go up to build the house of the Lord in Jerusalem

The entire assembly taken together came to forty-two thousand three hundred and sixty, not counting their male and female servants, who numbered seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven. They also had two hundred male and female

singers. Their horses numbered seven hundred and thirty-six, their mules two hundred and forty-five, their camels four hundred and thirty-five, their donkeys six thousand seven hundred and twenty.

2nd Scripture Reading: Psalms 诗篇100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

***Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.***

Know that the Lord is God.

***It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.***

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.

Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good;

***his steadfast love endures for ever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.***

3rd Scripture Reading: John 约翰福音17: 1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I

have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

This is the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

Children's address:

2 Hymn: 265 O come, O come, Emmanuel

Sermon: Return from the Exile

3 Hymn: Christ be our Light
(During the music people are invited to light a candle)

Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to You
Make us Your own, Your holy people
Light for the world to see

*Christ, be our light
Shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness
Christ, be our light
Shine in Your church gathered today*

Longing for shelter, many are homeless
Longing for warmth, many are cold
Make us Your building, sheltering others
Walls made of living stone

*Christ, be our light
Shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness
Christ, be our light
Shine in Your church gathered today*

Many the gifts, many the people
Many the hearts that yearn to belong
Let us be servants to one another
Making Your kingdom come

*Christ, be our light
Shine in our hearts
Shine through the darkness Christ, be our light
Shine in Your church gathered today*

(Hymn Writer: Bernadette Farrell)

Offering

Announcements and concerns of the church

Prayer of the People

As we wait expectantly to move back into the Ormond Uniting worship space next Sunday,

We pray for ourselves. We wonder who we will be as a people. Calm our anxieties as we find our way around new and changed spaces in the building which we left in Christmas 2024. Open our hearts, Father, to the new possibilities that will arise.

We pray for the community of Glen Eira: Ormond, McKinnon, Carnegie and Caulfield. Give us, Father, hearts of love for the people who visit the block of land on the corner of Booran and North Roads. Remind us Lord, that you are found on the edges: with the poor, lonely, dis-connected and marginalised. We pray that we will find you in the people we meet and connect with.

We grieve the loss of the people who caught a vision of how things could be at Ormond Uniting, but who have died before the full realisation and completion of the changes that have been made. We pray for these saints of Ormond Uniting who are now at rest in your presence.

We pray for the land on which our building is situated – the sandy scrub. We recognise that the actions of our forbears almost 125 years ago, in building this church, have placed your creation at risk. We pray for loving hearts prepared to restore land, trees, air and waterways in our area by thoughtful use of resources at our disposal.

In silence we pray for situations which are close to our hearts.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

We pray together as Jesus has taught us:

**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.

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE 差遣信徒

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

4 Hymn: 717 Give thanks with a grateful heart

Blessing to Church of Christ Ormond Congregation

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

Tuesdays, 9.30am-2.30pm

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NEWS & NOTICES