

# Ormond Uniting Church



*Entering Jerusalem, He Qi*

Pentecost 7  
July 27, 2025

Minister: Rev Dr Ji Zhang 张骥  
Chair of Council: Dr Mardie Townsend  
Music: Peter Hurley

# THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE 聚集敬拜

## **Walk around the garden**

(Ji Zhang and Mardie Townsend lead the Congregation.

The people with mobility concerns may stay in the Church)

## **Call to worship**

(Ron Townsend in the Car Park)

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

(Warwick Barry before the door)

From river to ocean,  
from campfire to hearth,  
may the First People of this area,  
the Bunurong people, who have cared for this Land  
be blessed.

From breath to song,  
from step to dance,  
may those who follow your Songlines  
guide us on the journey of living honourably in this place.

From greeting to Amen,  
from silence to chorus,  
may our worship join with  
the voices of the First Peoples of this Land.

# **1 Hymn: 129 Amazing Grace**

(Sing as the Congregation entering the morning tea area)

1 Amazing grace (how sweet the sound)  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

2 As grace first taught my heart to fear  
so grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come:  
God's grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

# BLESSING OF THE NEW CHURCH 落成祝福

## Station 1: The Reception

Flower 1 for the Project Team

(Cate)

Wisdom cries out in the streets,

**in the squares she raises her voice:**

‘God gives wisdom;

**from God’s mouth come knowledge and understanding’.**

**We bless this Reception area.**

## Station 2: The Minister’s Office

Flower 2 for the Ministry Team

(Ji)

Jesus said:

‘Come to me all that are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest.

**Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;**

**for I am gentle and humble in heart,**

**and you will find rest for your souls.**

For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

**We bless this Minister’s office.**

## Station 3: The Kitchen

Flower 3: for the Formation Group

(Robyn Ford)

Taste and see that the Lord is good;

**happy are they who trust in God.**

How shall I repay the Lord

for all the good things he has done for me?

**I will lift up the cup of salvation**

**and call upon the name of the Lord.**

**We bless this Kitchen.**

### **Station 4: the Storage**

Flower 4 for the Church Council's oversight of the Project  
(Neville Parker)

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

**We bless this Storage area.**

### **Station 5: the Link**

Flower 5 for the Learning Hub  
(Heather Baxter)

This room of learning is part of the house of grace.

We gather here to learn our needs:  
not to justify ourselves

**but to say we are sorry,  
not to cling to the familiar  
but to risk the untested,  
not to enjoy our own decency  
but to worship a holy God,  
not to practice positive thinking  
but to be caught up in God's joy.**

**We bless this Meeting Room.**

### **Station 6: the Memorial Book and the Garden**

Flower 6 for the Remembrance  
(Dianne Richter)

Listen to me, O house of Jacob,  
all the remnant of the house of Israel,  
who have been borne by me from your birth,  
carried from the womb;

**even to your old age I am God,  
even when you turn grey I will carry you.**  
I have made, and I will bear;  
**I will carry and will save.**

**We bless this Memorial Book and the Garden**

## **Station 7: The Church and the AV system**

Flower 7 for the audio-visual system  
(Gary Richter)

Blessed are you, O God,  
for you framed the universe as the dwelling place of creation  
and your Word pitched a tent in humanity's midst.

**Grant the grace of your presence in this Church.**

May you dwell within this house of God,

**like the saints of the past,**

and may those who enter here,

and those who worship here,

**find shelter in your loving presence.**

**We bless the Church Hall and the audio-visual systems.**

## **2 Hymn: 132 Holy holy holy Lord God almighty**

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty,  
early in the morning to you our praise shall be;  
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

### **Carrying in the Bible, Bread, Wine, and Water**

(During the second verse: Mardie Townsend, Hans Tilstra, Lisa Saffin, Jan Davenport carry the items into the Church)

2 Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore you,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before you,  
God everlasting through eternity.

3 Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide you,  
though the sinful human eye your glory may not see,  
you alone are holy, there is none beside you,  
perfect in power, in love and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty,  
all your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

## **Lighting of the Christ Candel**

(Rev Dr Tony Floyd)

Jesus said: I am the light of the world.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
And the darkness has not overcome it.

## **Flowers placed before the Communion table**

(Cate, Ji, Robyn, Nevil, Heather, Dianne, Gary)

## **PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION 忏悔祷告**

### **THE SERVICE OF THE WORD 敬听圣言**

**1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading:** Psalm 诗篇138

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
*before the gods I sing your praise;*

I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your  
steadfast love and your faithfulness,  
*for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.*

On the day I called, you answered me;  
*you increased my strength of soul.*

All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,  
*for they have heard the words of your mouth.*

They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
*for great is the glory of the LORD.*

For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,  
*but the haughty he perceives from far away.*

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
*you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.*  
The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
*Do not forsake the work of your hands.*

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading: Luke 路加福音11:1-13**

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

This is the Word of God.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**Sermon:** Let Us Pray – the Beginning of Ministry

**3 Hymn:** 745 Seek ye first the kingdom of God

1 Seek ye first the Kingdom of God  
and His righteousness,  
and all these things  
shall be added unto you,  
Allelu, alleluia.

2 Ask, and it shall be given unto you.  
seek and ye shall find.  
knock and it shall be opened unto you  
Allelu, alleluia.

3 We shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God  
Allelu, alleluia.

## **Offering**

## **Announcements and concerns of the church**

## **Prayer of the People**

Loving God,  
we give you praise, and thanks for the joy of this longed-for day, for the return to worship in this renewed space at Ormond Uniting Church. We give grateful thanks for all those in our faith community who have prayed and worked so hard and long to realise this dream. May our delight and embracing of it, inspire us to more love and good works, that make a real difference to others in our community.

We praise and thank you O God, for your relentless love, for its abundant availability, and for so flooding our lives with love, that some must inevitably overflow and warm others with its touch.

You see we would really prefer it Jesus if the big problems of our world could be

resolved quickly; we don't mind the effort, the hard work, or even the sustained hours over a few weeks or even months. It's the years of faithful commitment that we struggle with.

But, from the perspective of eternity, a lifetime of commitment to your reign, is really not that much to ask; and so we would pray that you would help us to stay faithful to love ones in our homes and families, who need to know they can depend on us. (Silent pause to pray for those in need)

We remember our brothers and sisters in the faith here at Ormond, who need us to pray for them, strengthen and welcome them, even as we need their companionship; and the people of our neighbourhood and city who need us to be good citizens and conscientious justice seekers.

We think of the varied races of people who make up our nation, some at present who need our constant prayers, and our commitment to participate in political, economic and social systems, thoughtfully. We remember the people of the world who need us to embrace them, and care for them, even though it may offer us no benefit and have no real impact on our lives. ( Silent pause to pray for those in our world on our hearts at this time.)

Teach us the love that stays faithful for the long haul, Jesus, the persistence that will not give up, and the grace to trust your faithfulness, even when we cannot always see the results.

We ask all these things in Jesus' name.           **Amen**

(Source Sacredise adapted)

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION 圣餐**

(Rev Dr Ji Zhang, Rev Ron Townsend, Rev Dr Tony Floyd, dress in Robe and the liturgical colour **RED**)

### **The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you:

*And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts!

*We lift them to the Lord.*

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

*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.*

## **The Lord's Prayer**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

## **The Communion**

## **Prayer after communion**

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

## **The Peace**

### **4 Hymn:           154 Great is your faithfulness**

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning we see;  
you never fail and your love is unchanging  
As you have been you for ever will be.

*Great is your faithfulness!*

*Great is your faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning new mercies we see;*

*All we have needed your hand has provided—*

*Great is your faithfulness," Lord God, to me*

2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,

Join with all nature in unspoken witness  
To your great faithfulness, mercy and love.

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that's enduring,  
your living presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
these are the blessings your love will provide.

## **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