

Ormond Uniting Church



Look towards Heaven, He Qi

Pentecost 9

August 10, 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

Call to worship

Acknowledgement of Country

1 Hymn: 690 Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION 忏悔祷告

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD 敬听圣言

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 以赛亚书 5: 1-5

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

2nd Scripture Reading: John 约翰福音15: 1-8

”I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a

branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

This is the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Abide in Me

2 Hymn: 586 Abide with me

Offering:

Announcements and concerns of the church

Prayer of the People

A prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession: Author: Bruce Prewer

Let us pray.

God of surprises, Saviour and Friend, we bless you for this world which is like a banquet of good things.

We thank you for the abundance of nature:

The minerals and trees, the vineyards and orchards, the cornfields and market gardens. For the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and the animals of plains, hills, rainforest and desert.

We pray that we may look after this abundance more carefully, and share earth's prosperity more fairly among the communities of this world

We thank you for the abundance of people:

Asian and South American, Indian and British, Chinese and Australian Aborigine, Arab and Scandinavian, African and Polynesian, European and Latin American, Greek and Melanesian.

We pray that we may be set free from all prejudice, fear, exploitation or hatred of one another. That each may be respected, treasured, given equal opportunities, and cared for in their hour of need.

We thank you for the unique abundance of the grace of Jesus:
For his compassion and mental toughness, his vision and teachings, his healing and his forgiving, his laughter and his tears, his dying and his rising.

We pray for all who love Christ, all who preach him, teach him, write about him, celebrate him, and all who this day are suffering in his cause.

We thank you for the abundance of the church; active in many lands and set in many cultures; with varying customs and rituals; serving in different ways, but cleaving to the one Lord and Saviour.

We pray for the many arms of your church, in its strength and weakness, its glory and its shame: let us follow the Christ who called us and gave us the Good News.

God of surprises, we pray that our thanksgiving may lead us into a better stewardship of all your gifts to humanity.

Enlarge our faith, toughen our courage, enlighten our ambitions, forgive our errors, enliven our worship and every day deepen our love for your world.

Through Christ Jesus our Saviour.

Amen!

The Lord's Prayer

**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.

3 Hymn: 351 Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

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

Thursdays, 9.30am-2.30pm

Fridays, 9.30am-2.30pm

Phone: 0411 958 127

office@ormond.unitingchurch.org.au

Website: www.ormondunitingchurch.org

NEWS & NOTICES