

Eastwood Uniting Church



Lent 2

28 February, 2021

Holy Disruption



An Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Wallumattagal people of the Dharug/Eora nation,
the first inhabitants of this place.

We honour them for their custodianship of the land
on which we gather today.

MUSICAL PRELUDE

We Gather in Praise of God

WELCOME

Friends,
we delight in your presence with us
as we worship God this morning.

If you are returning after an absence,
welcome back!

If you are here for the first time,
thank you for the gift of your company,
we would love to get to know you
at the conclusion of our service.

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 22. 23-31

Here's the story I'll tell my friends when they come to worship,
and punctuate it with Hallelujahs:

***God doesn't let us down,
doesn't look the other way when we are being kicked around.
God doesn't wander off to do something else.
God is always right there, listening.***

Down-and-outers sit at God's table and eat their fill.

Everyone looking for God is here, praising God.

From the four corners of the earth people are running to God.

Long-lost families are falling on their faces before God.

God has taken charge; God has the last word.

All the power-mongers are before him - worshipping!

All the poor and powerless, too - worshipping!

Along with those who never got their act together - worshipping!

Babies not yet conceived will hear the good news.

That God's love follows through in action.

HYMN Tune *Sing Hosanna* TiS 52

Let us sing to the God of salvation,
let us sing to the Lord our rock!
Let us come to his house with thanksgiving,
let us come before the Lord and sing!

*Praise our Maker, praise our Saviour,
praise the Lord our everlasting King.
Every throne must bow before him,
God is Lord of everything!*

In his hands are the earth's deep places
and the strength of the hills is his;
all the sea is the Lord's, for he made it,
by his hands the dry land was formed.

Let us worship the Lord our Maker,
let us kneel to the Lord our God;
for we all are the sheep of his pasture,
he will guide us by his powerful hand.

Let today be the time when you hear him!
May our hearts not be hard or cold,
lest we stray from the Lord in rebellion,
as his people did in time of old.

Richard Thomas Bewes 1934- CCLI 65422

A PRAYER IN HUMILITY

Lent is a place of birth,
of dying,
of renewal,
of transforming.

A time of losing,
of seeking,
of questioning,
of relearning.

A way of revelation,
of discernment,
of faith-ing,
of perception.

This is Lent,
**where all things of faith
are taken to the cross,
left there
and allowed to die.**

And the things that speak of love
***are redeemed through death
and, transformed,
break into life once more.***

Roddy Hamilton alt., *Lent*, MP 20/3/09

HUMILITY MEETS GRACE!

God's promises all rest on grace.
Hear then Christ Jesus' witness of grace.
We are much loved!
And forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

DOXOLOGY ***Santo, santo, santo.
Mi corazón te adora!
Mi corazón to sabe decir:
Santo eres Señor!***

***Holy, holy, holy.
My heart my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you:
Holy are you, Lord.***

From Argentina TIS 723 © 1990 WGWR, Iona Community, CCLI 65422

THE PEACE

May the grace-filled spirit of Jesus be always with you.
And also with you.

We Listen for word of God

YOUNG PEOPLE'S TIME

WE SEND OUT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO PLAY & LEARN

FROM BIBLICAL WITNESSES

Listen for words of faith in early Christian writings.

Romans 4. 13-25

This is the witness of God's People!
Thanks be to God!

Listen for words of faith in the Gospel.

Mark 8. 31-38

In these readings are found the word of God.

***Words of life!
for us
and the world.***

A CONTEMPORARY WITNESS 'Holy Disruption'

We Respond to God's Character of Grace

AN EXPERIMENT IN FAITH

I invite you to stand
and join me now
as we experiment in expressing our faith.

***We are not alone,
we live in God's world.***

***We place our faith in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
Word made flesh to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.***

We trust in God.

***We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, especially those in need,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our love and our hope.***

***In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.***

***We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.***

The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968, alt. 1998

HYMN Tune *Servant Song* TiS 650

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I might have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey
and companions on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joys and sorrows
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in Heaven
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I might have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.

Richard Gillard CCLI 65422

OUR PRAYERS OF HOPE AND LONGING

From around the world
we hear many children crying, O God;
crying for food
and drink
and someone to enfold them in loving arms;.

Hear their prayers, dear Lord,
and make us instruments of your peace.

We see the desolate eyes of refugees, O God;
plodding
along war devastated roads,
blinking
from transit camps,
and from behind barbed wire,
looking for glimmers of hope.

Hear their prayers, dear Lord,
and make us instruments of your peace.

We read about

abused sisters and brothers, O God;
cringing from family and community violence,
suffering in paddy-wagons and jails,
assaulted in their own homes by strangers.

Hear their prayers, dear Lord,

and make us instruments of your peace.

We hear the sobbing of the broken hearted, O God;
betrayed by spouse or lover,
deserted by parents,
watching at the bed of the dying,
or following a hearse to the cemetery.

Hear their prayers, dear Lord,

and make us instruments of your peace.

We know about the disasters that afflict others, O God;
the bodies mangled in road accidents;
those devastated by disease or war,
and the minds that have cracked under pressure.

Hear their prayers, dear Lord,

and make us instruments of your peace.

We read about your church, O God;
in some places overcrowding its buildings,
in others battling to maintain services,
or in some countries
meeting secretly behind locked doors.

Hear their prayers, dear Lord,

and make us instruments of your peace.

We see the faces of both friends and enemies, O God.

Some of our friends
are doing it hard,
while enemies
seem to be getting it easy;
all souls
for whom Christ died.

Hear their prayers, dear Lord,

and make us instruments of your peace.

Holy Friend,
while we have been praying,
you have been busy answering our petitions

with an ineffable wisdom
and an indefatigable love.

Thank you.

Through Christ Jesus our Saviour. Amen!

Bruce Prewer alt. *Internet Lectionary Resource* 2002, Year A, Pentecost 24, 3 October

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 in the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours now and forever. Amen.***

COMPASSION & COMMUNITY

LENT EVENT VIDEO

OFFERING

Friends,
God's love has no bounds.
Let us, therefore, give freely
and beyond ourselves:
in Jesus' Way of costly love.

Let us pray:

***Show us, good Lord,
how to be frugal, till all are fed;
how to weep, till all can laugh;
how to be meek, till all stand in pride;
how to mourn, till all are comforted;
how to be restless, till all live in peace;
how to claim less, till all find justice.
Amen.***

Pitt St Church liturgy, 14/4/13

We Go to Serve

HYMN

TiS 690

Beauty for brokenness
Hope for despair
Lord, in the suffering
This is our prayer
Bread for the children
Justice, joy, peace
Sunrise to sunset
Your kingdom increase!

Shelter for fragile lives
Cures for their ills
Work for the craftsman
Trade for their skills
Land for the dispossessed
Rights for the weak
Voices to plead the cause
Of those who can't speak

*God of the poor
Friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts
Let tears fall like rain
Come, change our love
From a spark to a flame*

Refuge from cruel wars
Havens from fear
Cities for sanctuary
Freedoms to share
Peace to the killing-fields
Scorched earth to green
Christ for the bitterness
His cross for the pain

Rest for the ravaged earth
Oceans and streams
Plundered and poisoned
Our future, our dreams
Lord, end our madness
Carelessness, greed
Make us content with
The things that we need

*God of the poor
Friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts
Let tears fall like rain
Come, change our love
From a spark to a flame*

Lighten our darkness
Breathe on this flame
Until your justice
Burns brightly again
Until the nations
Learn of your ways
Seek your salvation
And bring you their praise

*God of the poor
Friend of the weak
Give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts
Let tears fall like rain
Come, change our love
From a spark to a flame*

Graham Kendrick, CCLI 65422

*As this benediction is sung,
I invite you to look around at each other
and make this blessing yours to others also.*

THE BLESSING HYMN Tune Aubrey TiS 779

*May the feet of God walk with you
and his hand hold you tight.
May the eye of God rest on you
and her ear hear your cry.
May the smile of God be for you
and his breath give you life.
May the Child of God grow in you
and her love bring you home.*

Inclusive language variation in this blessing printed with permission of author, Aub Podlich.



Minister: Rev Ian Pearson



Please recycle this liturgy for your own prayers and for the health of our environment