

## THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday 23rd June 2019

UCA Anniversary

*We acknowledge the Dja Dja Wurrung People of the Kulin Nation, past and present, and their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.*

**Our Church is a safe place for all people to worship  
regardless of race, creed, cultural background or sexual identity.**

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**Speak, Lord, in the stillness, while we wait on thee,  
Hushed our hearts to listen in expectancy.**

**Speak, O Blessed Master, in this quiet hour;  
Let us see thy face Lord, feel thy touch of power.**

### Call to Worship

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the Lord, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."  
You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

We wait on you, O God, with the assurance that you hear us  
even when our sighs are too deep for words.

We come into your presence, O God,  
knowing that we can unburden our hearts before you.

**We praise you, O God,  
for transforming lives so that good displaces evil;  
and truth overcomes all that is deceitful and corrupt.**

Holy God, it is only because of your abundant love that we can stand before you.

**Lead us Lord, in your righteousness  
so that we follow your way all the days of our lives.**

HYMN: 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.**

***Praise our Maker, praise our Saviour . . . . .***

**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.**

***Praise our Maker, praise our Saviour . . . . .***

**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.**

***Praise our Maker, praise our Saviour . . . . .***

*Richard Thomas Bewes 1934–*

**Prayer:**

Lord God, the writer of the psalm was freed from despair by his memory of what you had done, your blessings of the past.

We also remember the blessings with which we have been blessed.

We remember the teachings of Jesus, his death and the resurrection.

Through him, we have been called to love and serve you O God, and our neighbour.

You have given us the freedom to enjoy lives made fruitful through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Having graciously been given the power to live by the Spirit,  
let us also be guided by the Spirit in all we do and say.

In Jesus' name we pray.     **Amen**

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Let us hear what God the LORD will speak.

**God will speak peace to the people, the faithful,  
to those who turn to God in their hearts.**

### 1 Kings 19:1-4, (5), 8-15a

<sup>1</sup> Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword.

<sup>2</sup> Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow."

<sup>3</sup> Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

<sup>4</sup> But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die:

"It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors."

<sup>5</sup> Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep.

Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat."

<sup>8</sup> He got up and ate and drank;

then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

<sup>9</sup> At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

<sup>10</sup> He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

<sup>11</sup> He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind;

and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake;

<sup>12</sup> and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire;

and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.

<sup>13</sup> When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

<sup>14</sup> He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

<sup>15a</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus.

**HYMN:** ATE 206

**As the deer pants for the water,  
so my soul longs after you.**

**You alone are my heart's desire  
and I long to worship you.**

*You alone are my strength, my shield,  
to you alone may my spirit yield.*

*You alone are my heart's desire  
and I long to worship you.*

**I want you more than gold and silver,  
only you can satisfy.**

**You alone are the real joy-giver  
and the apple of my eye.**

*You alone are my strength . . . . .*

**You're my friend and you are my brother  
even though you are a King.**

**I love you more than any other,  
so much more than anything.**

*You alone are my strength . . . . .*

*Martin Nystrom 1956-*

**Galatians 3:23-29**

<sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed.

<sup>24</sup> Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.

<sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

<sup>27</sup> As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

<sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

### **Luke 8:26-39**

<sup>26</sup> Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee.

<sup>27</sup> As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs.

<sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"--

<sup>29</sup> for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.)

<sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him.

<sup>31</sup> They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup> Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission.

<sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country.

<sup>35</sup> Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

<sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed.

<sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned.

<sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> "Return to your home and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

In the testimony of God's people  
**We hear the Word of the Lord**

**HYMN:** TIS 53

**Come, sing praises to the Lord above,  
rock of our salvation, God of love;  
with delight into God's presence move,  
for the Lord our God is king!**

***God is king above the mountains high  
the ocean deep, the land and sky;  
mighty continents and islands lie  
within the hollow of God's hand.***

**Come to worship him and bow the knee,  
praise our shepherd with humility;  
humble creatures in his hand are we  
sing the praise of God the king!**

***God is king above the mountains high . . . . .***

**Hear the story of God's people now,  
you with stubborn hearts who will not bow;  
learn what happened long ago and how  
*God can show you who is king.***

***God is king above the mountains high . . . . .***

**Forty years God kept the prize away,  
made them wander till they would obey,  
exiled all of them until the day  
they would honour God as king.**

***God is king above the mountains high . . . . .***

*Michael Arnold Perry 1942-96*

**The Word –**

**HYMN: 1. Called together,  
We've taken the dare  
To commit to a destiny shared,  
Diff'rent, diverse we may be,  
But we see God's plan for history:  
A world reconciled and renewed!**

## **CHORUS**

**This is God's call, this is God's way,  
That we might show the light of God's day,  
Divided world, uniting grace,  
We live the signs of Christ in this place.**

- 2. Called together,  
This journey we're on  
Is the way of the Crucified One.  
Justice and love are our song,  
With those on the edge, we belong,  
Declaring God's love is for all.**

## **CHORUS**

- 3. Pilgrim people,  
The road is our call,  
Spirit led, travelling light, risking all,  
Paths of the past keep us true,  
While fresh words and deeds spring anew  
In worship and witness and care:**

## **CHORUS**

*CODA (sung after the final chorus)*

**And in God's hands our future rests,  
Our hope is there, in God's faithfulness,  
We live this gift, this blessed road,  
This unity: the household of God!**

*David Busch*

## **Notices and Concerns of the Church:**

### **Offering:**

**Offering Prayer:** Lord Jesus Christ, you free us to love one another without the constraints of the law. You empower us with your Spirit to live abundant and fruitful lives. In response to your gracious gifts, we offer these gifts and our lives for your blessing as we seek to be your faithful disciples. **Amen**

**Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer:**

**HYMN:** TIS 658

I, the Lord of sea and sky,  
I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night,  
I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord; is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night;  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them.  
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord . . . . .*

I, the Lord of wind and flame,  
I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide  
till their hearts are satisfied.  
I will give my life to them.  
Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord . . . . .*

*Dan Schutte S.J.*

**Benediction:**

**HYMN:** (TIS 778) "Shalom"