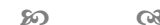


Congregation of Mark the Evangelist
Sunday 23rd January 2022
The Third Sunday after Epiphany C

Preparing for Worship Today

- Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!
- Today's service is being live-streamed for the participation of those who can't join us physically today.
- Congregational responses are printed in ***bold italics***.
- There are minor variations in the order of items, but you will find everything in place in the Order!
- Pray for those who will be leading us in our worship today!



A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Prelude: J.S Bach, *Ouverture from Partita in D major*

The Gathering of the People of God

Processional

If you are able, please stand as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space.

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Scripture Sentence

Jesus said, 'The Lord has appointed me to preach good news to the poor and release to the captives.' (Luke 4:18)

Collect of the Day

Father,

**You have sent your anointed One
as king and prophet to announce to the poor
the glad tidings of your reign.**

Grant that his words may this day
resound in the church,
build us up into one body,
and fashion us into instruments of liberation and salvation.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn 672 (T:2) Lord of earth and all creation

- ^{1.} Lord of earth and all creation,
let your love possess our land:
wealth, and freedom, far horizons,
mountain, forest, shining sand:
may we share, in faith and friendship,
gifts unmeasured from your hand.
- ^{2.} People of the ancient Dreamtime,
they who found this country first,
ask with those, the later comers,
will our dream be blessed or cursed?
Grant us, Lord, new birth, new living,
hope for which our children thirst.
- ^{3.} Lord, life-giving healing Spirit,
on our hurts your mercy shower;
lead us by your inward dwelling,
guiding, guarding, every hour.
Bless and keep our land Australia:
in your will her peace and power.

*Michael Rayner Thwaites 1915–
and Honor Mary Thwaites 1914–93
Words © M. R. Thwaites
Music © R. Boughen Robert Boughen*

Greeting and Welcome

Acknowledgement of Country

‘The credibility of the Gospel is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed, when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but which ... perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity.’

(The Belhar Confession, Uniting Reformed Church in South Africa, 1994, 10.5; see also UCA Revised Preamble §6)

And so, we reject all alienation, all hatred, all enmity in this land.

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation.

We acknowledge their elders past, present, and those to come.

We acknowledge the need for reconciliation.

Prayer of Confession

LORD HAVE MERCY

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

Lord, have mercy; (3x)

Christ, have mercy; (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Declaration of Forgiveness

(Please stand if you are able)

...hear, then, Christ's word of grace to us:

Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching

Introduction

The Testimony of Scripture

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path.

First Testament: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalm 19

- 2 The sky tells the glory of God,
tells the genius of God's work.*
- 3 Day carries the news to day,
night brings the message to night,*
- 4 without a word, without a sound,
without a voice being heard,*
- 5 Yet their message fills the world,
their news reaches its rim.*
- There God has pitched a tent
for the sun to rest and rise renewed*
- 6 like a bridegroom rising from bed
an athlete eager to run the race.*
- 7 It springs from the edge of the earth,
runs a course across the sky
to win the race at heaven's end.
Nothing on earth escapes its heat.*

- 8 God's perfect law
revives the soul.
God's stable rule
guides the simple.*
- 9 God's just demands
delight the heart.
God's clear commands
sharpen vision.*
- 10 God's faultless decrees
stand for ever.
God's right judgements
keep their truth.*
- 11 Their worth is more than gold,
the purest gold;
their taste richer than honey,
sweet from the comb.*
- 12 Keeping them makes me rich,
they bring me light;*
- 13 yet faults hide within us
forgive me mine.*
- 14 Keep my pride in check,
break its grip;
I shall be free of blame
for deadly sin.*
- 15 Keep me, thought and word,
in your good grace.
Lord, you are my saviour,
you are my rock.*

ICEL 1994

The Preaching of the Word

*The sermon text will normally be available
after worship and online*

Matt Julius: *'There is no utterance... their voice is never heard.'*

A 'sermon of stillness' – a moment for quiet reflection – usually follows the preaching

Doxology: Glory to God



The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Remain standing, if you are able, for the Affirmation of Faith:

Affirmation of Faith: We are a pilgrim people

Adapted from the Basis of Union of the Uniting Church in Australia

*We believe in one God,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
We proclaim Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen One,
confessing him as Lord
to the glory of God the Father.
In the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we acclaim Jesus as the Lord of the Church,
the Head over all things,
the beginning of a new creation.*

*We acknowledge that we live and work
between the time of Christ's death and resurrection
and the final consummation of all things
which he will bring.*

*We are a pilgrim people,
always on the way towards a promised goal;
on the way Christ feeds us with word and sacraments,
and we have the gift of the Spirit
in order that we may not lose the way.*

*We will live and work within the faith and unity
of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
bearing witness to that unity
which is both Christ's gift and his will.*

*We affirm that every member of the Church
is engaged to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
Together with all the people of God,
we will serve the world for which Christ died.
And we await with hope the day of the Lord Jesus.*

(Please sit)

The Prayers of the People

(Names for inclusion in the prayers may be recorded in the book in the narthex)

The Visible Word: Eucharist

Hymn 495 Father, we give you thanks

1. Father, we give you thanks, who planted
your holy name within our hearts.
Knowledge and faith and life immortal
Jesus your Son to us imparts.
2. Lord, you have made all for your pleasure,
and giv'n us food for all our days,
giving in Christ the bread eternal;
yours is the power, be yours the praise.
3. Over your church, Lord, watch in mercy,
save it from evil, guard it still,
perfect it in your love, unite it,
cleansed and conforming to your will.
4. As grain, once scattered on the hillsides,
was in the broken bread made one,
so may your world-wide church be gathered
into your kingdom by your Son.

From the Didache c. 110

tr. Francis Bland Tucker 1895–1984 alt.

Words © Church Pension Fund, Group Administration Church Publishing Inc, USA

(If you are able, please remain standing until after the Lord's Prayer)

The Invitation

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.

(The prayer continues...)

SANCTUS




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,




hea-ven and earth are full of your glor-y, ho - san - na in the high-est!

BENEDICTUS



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Ho -



san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

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, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

(The prayer continues...)

...Great is the mystery of faith!

CHRIST HAS DIED



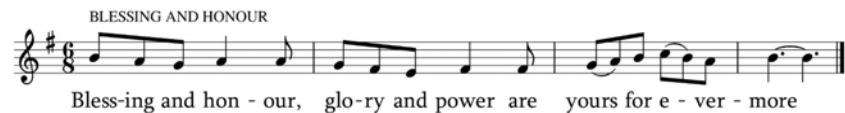
Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

(The prayer continues...)



*Blessing and honour, glory and power
are yours forever more.*

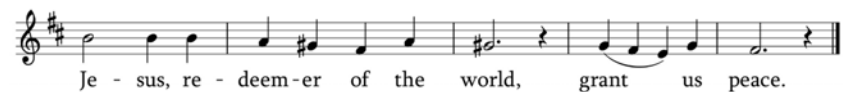
The Lord's Prayer

*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 for ever. Amen.*

(The people sit)

The Breaking of the Bread

... Let us receive what we are;
Let us become what we receive:
The body of Christ.



*Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sin, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.*

The Communion

The Uniting Church recognises this Table as the Lord's and, so, open to all who would normally commune in their home congregations.

After the invitation, and commencing from the front rows, please come forward in single file to the table, where you will be offered the bread at one point and the wine (in communion glasses only) at a second point. The wine has been prepared with as much COVID-19 precaution as practicable, and the celebrant and wine-server have sanitised their hands prior to the distribution. The common cup will only be used by the celebrant

If you can't stand or walk to the front but would like to receive the element(s), please raise your hand if the celebrant has not already noticed you.

Post Communion Prayer

Offering

Many members now make their offering by electronic transfer; the plate will be passed for those who prefer to make cash/envelope offerings. The prayer dedicating the offerings 'captures' the full range of gifts.

Notices

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 403 Come, Holy Spirit, Lord of grace

1. Come, Holy Spirit, Lord of grace,
eternal fount of love,
inflammé, we pray, our inmost hearts
with fire from heaven above.

2. As you in bonds of love unite
the Father and the Son,
so fill us all with mutual love
and knit our hearts in one.

Charles Coffin 1676–1749

tr. John Chandler 1806–76 alt.

Music Arr.: Hymns Ancient & Modern Ltd.

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Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude: J.S. Bach, *Prelude from Prelude and Fuge in C# Major,*
The Well-Tempered Clavier I

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We'd love to hear your feedback on the service.

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