



The Uniting Church in Australia

SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

Order of Service for
Trinity Sunday, 30th May 2021

INTROIT : TIS. 716 *'Father, we adore you...'*

CALL to WORSHIP :

We stand before God, who comes to us as Creator; parent; holy and mighty one.

We sense God's mystery and creativity in our world.

And we proclaim, "Holy, holy, holy God."

We stand before God, who comes to us in Jesus – our friend and Saviour.

We learn of God's free gifts – forgiveness, healing and grace.

And we proclaim, "Holy, holy, holy God."

We stand before God, who comes to us as Holy Spirit; sanctifier; comforter.

We receive the promise of strong hearts and hands, to do God's work in the world.

And we proclaim, "Holy, holy, holy God."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of COUNTRY : We respectfully acknowledge that we gather on Bangerang country of the Yorta Yorta Nations.

We honour the custodians of the lands and waterways; and pay our respects to their *elders*, past, present and emerging.

HYMN : TIS. 179 *'Praise with joy the world's Creator.'*

PRAYERS of PRAISE and CONFESSION : God of awesome wonder; God of constant presence; God of all time; God of here and now:

You are perfect in understanding; complete in wisdom; majestic in your beauty; and overwhelming in your love. We are grateful that we're free to worship you, with others who love you.

Because of your grace, we may experience salvation, wholeness, new life in you. By your grace you make us your children. As you draw us to yourself, remind us that you are nearer than our hands and feet, closer than our breathing.

Thank you for your love, the love of a parent nurturing beloved children. Thank you for your grace, the grace of one who laid down his life for the world. Thank you for your presence, the presence that will never let us go.

O God, as we're enfolded in your presence we become more aware of our short-comings.

You have created us for fellowship w you, yet at times we are like strangers.

You have given Christ to be our Saviour, yet at times we hardly acknowledge our need of forgiveness.

You have given your Spirit to guide and strengthen us, yet so often we rely on our own wisdom.

Please forgive us, and guide us in yr truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE : God did not send the Son into the world to condemn it; rather, to bring the world to salvation. To all who turn to God, God's promise is sure; so hear anew Christ's word of grace to each of us –“Your sins *are* forgiven.”

Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING : *John 3. 1-17*

MESSAGE

OFFERING DEDICATION : As we offer these gifts, generous God, we acknowledge that all we give, you have first given to us. Help us to use all that we have, and all that we are, for your glory. Amen.

NOTICES

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE :

Creator God, you brought into being the world and all it contains. We pray for the world and its peoples –

For places where the earth is scarred by destruction and greed;

For all those whose decisions affect the wellbeing of the vulnerable.

Teach us how to set aside conflict and hatred; to work together across nations to bring justice and peace. Especially we remember the people of Palestine-Israel; of Myanmar; of western China.

Holy God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Wisdom and Word of God, thank you that your saving love brings us into the family of God. We pray for your body, the world-wide church –

For the company of believers in Australia and other lands;

For each of us, as you call us into mission and service.

Bind us together in your love, that we may be one in heart and spirit and show your love to those around us.

Holy God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Spirit of God, thank you for all who inspire us with courage, and who bring comfort to us in distress. We pray for all people in need –

For the friendless, the bereaved, the despairing;

For those without sufficient food, or a safe home.

Please bless the preparation for Shepparton's Winter Night Shelter, and all those who will take part.

Help us to set aside selfishness, and share with compassion all we receive from you.

Holy God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, thank you for our families and friends; for all the relationships that speak of you. We pray for those who share our daily lives –

For workers in emergency services, whose daily commitment helps keep our communities safe;

For teachers in kindergartens, schools, universities and colleges, as they equip people of all ages to find their places in the world.

Please unite us in a community of loving care.

Holy God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Now in a time of *silence* we pray for those who are on our minds.....

Loving God, we trust you to hear all our prayers, spoken and unspoken. We bring them in the name of Jesus, our brother and friend. **Amen.** Janet Nelson, altd.

HYMN : TIS 626 'Lord of creation, to you be all praise.'

BENEDICTION: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

BLESSING SONG : TIS. 781 'Father, bless us as we go.'