



Order of Service
3rd April 2022
Lent 5

Introit: 693 (TiS) 'Come as you are'

Acknowledgement: I pay my respect to the traditional custodians of the land in which I live, work and worship. To the elders and members of the Bangarang people of the Yorta Yorta nation past, present, and emerging.

Call to Worship:

Do not remember the former things or consider things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a new way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise. (Isaiah 43: 18-21)

Hymn: 223 (TIS) 'How sweet the name of Jesus sounds'

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Confession:

Most wonderful God, you are beyond our sight, above our thought, infinite, eternal, and unsearchable: your wisdom shines in all your works; your glory is shown in your goodness to all people; your grace and truth are revealed in Christ.

Therefore, we adore you, our God for ever and ever.

O God, we confess the blindness that is not even aware of sinning;
the pride that dares not to admit that it is wrong;
the selfishness that can see nothing but its own will;
the righteousness that knows no fault;
the callousness that has ceased to care; the defiance that does not regret its own sins;
the evasion that always tries to make excuses;
the coldness of heart that is too hardened to repent.

God, we are sinners; be merciful to us.

(UIW 1)

Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness:

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Hear then Christ's word of grace to us:

Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Doxology: 772 (TiS) 'Worship, honour, glory, blessing'

Readings:

Psalm 126 (responsively)

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter,

and our tongues with shouts of joy;

then it was said among the nations,

"The Lord has done great things for them."



The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.
Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the water courses in the Negeb.
May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

Philippians 3: 4-14, John 12: 1-8

Sermon briefs: God is doing a new thing!

From the Old Testament (Isaiah 43: 16-21), Isaiah tells the people of Israel that they would be freed from Babylon and not only that, but God is about to do more in their return through the desert. The land that was given to them after the first exodus from Egypt some eight hundred years before, is to be given to them again.

From the Epistle to the Philippians (3: 4-14), Paul is addressing the members of the Philippian church who have been taught that salvation through Jesus Christ is not enough. It is incomplete if one does not observe the Jewish law, particularly that of circumcision.

Paul reminds them of his record in keeping the law which he now regards as rubbish suitable only to throw away. He now rejoices in the righteousness gifted to him through Christ.

In our Gospel reading, Jesus went to Bethany on his way to Jerusalem, knowing that is where he would suffer and die. He visited the home of Lazarus whom he had raised from the dead. Whilst there, Mary the sister of Lazarus, extravagantly anoint his feet with exotic and costly perfume. Judas's hypocritical criticism gave rise to Jesus' prophetic reference to his own burial, with the reminder that the presence of the poor need not preclude a spontaneous and effusive heartfelt offering to God.

Holy Communion

Hymn: 516 (TiS) 'Here, gracious Lord, we see you face to face'

Institution of the Lord's Supper:

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.

Thanks and praise, glory and honour are rightly yours, our Lord and God, for you alone are worthy.

You make us your disciples and call us to deny ourselves, to take up our cross and follow Jesus.

And so, we praise you with the faithful of every time and place, joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal hymn:

**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 in the highest.



With this bread and this cup, we do as our Saviour commands: we celebrate the redemption he has won for us.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ.

Make us one with him, one with each other, and one in ministry in the world, until at last we feast with him in the kingdom.

Through your Son, Jesus Christ, in your holy church, all honour and glory is yours, Father almighty, now and for ever.
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 for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread:

Lamb of God:

Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us your peace.

Distribution of the elements

Prayer after Communion:

We thank you, God our Father,
that through word and sacrament you have given us your Son who is the true bread of heaven and food of eternal life.

So, strengthen us in your service that our daily living may show our thanks;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn: 525 (TiS) 'You we praise, high priest and victim'

Notices:

Joys and Concerns:



Offering:

Bless our gifts, Lord God, and grant that this offering may be for us a sign of a greater giving: the offering of our time and our talents, our loyalty and our love, indeed, the offering of our whole life for the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayers of the People:

God of all people and all nations, you are our God: We ask you for daily strength, hope for tomorrow, your word to guide, and strong feet to follow.

God of the oppressed, we bring to you the broken ones, the forgotten ones, the exploited and abused ones.

Bring freedom and release, love and compassion to damaged hearts and souls. God of compassion,
hear our prayer.

God of the distressed, we bring to you the grieving ones, the hurting ones, the suffering and wounded ones. Bring wholeness and healing, comfort and relief to broken bodies and minds. God of compassion,

hear our prayer.

God of the dispossessed, we bring to you the lonely ones, the homeless ones, the thirsty and the poor. Bring hope and sustenance, physical and spiritual food to hungry bodies and souls.

God of compassion,

hear our prayer.

May your peace, love and compassion be with us now, and always.

Amen.

Hymn: 155 (TiS) 'O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder'

Blessing: 778 (TiS) 'Shalom to you now'

