



Order of Service

17th July 2022

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION AND THANKSGIVING

Introit: 693 (TiS) vv. 1, 2, & 3 'Come as you are'

Acknowledgement:

Call to Worship:

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain: and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob. Surely, I will never forget any of their deeds. (Amos 8: 4-7)

Let us worship God.

Hymn: 657 (TiS) 'God of freedom, God of justice'

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Confession:

We thank you, O God, that you are never fooled by our excuses and manoeuvring. We thank you that, with loving eyes, you see past our prejudices, our barriers and move behind our masks.

We praise you for every moment of deeper peace, deeper love, and deeper truth.

God of all knowing, God of all wisdom. Thanks be to you, O God.

We admit that, even as we seek to know you and accept all that you could be in our lives, we often resist making that possible.

We find ways of being too busy, even with good works, and fail to stop in our haste to be truly present to you.

Sometimes our souls go to sleep rather than being prepared to be challenged by your truth.

Forgive us, O God.

Embrace us with your grace, Jesus Christ.

Sometimes we even take flights from your forgiveness, choosing rather to hold onto the pain of our guilt as though that will bring us life.

Forgive us, O God.

Enfold us with your justice, Jesus Christ.

We admit, O God, that we sometimes judge others, resenting their peacefulness, annoyed by their inactivity as it challenges our own turmoil.

Forgive us, O God.

Keep us in your love, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness:

The Christ invites us to sit at his feet, wherever we are and whoever we are, that he may wash them gently with healing words of love and grace.

We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Doxology: 771 (TiS) 'Now to him who loved us, gave us'

Readings: Colossians 1: 15-28, Luke 10: 38-42

Sermon: 'Partners in Mission'

Hymn: 473 (TiS) 'Community of Christ'



Uniting services in Shepparton (*Presentation*): Annette & Sara

Notices:

Joys and concerns:

Offering:

Prayers of the people:

Loving God, in every generation you have spoken through your prophets, and you call us today to be a people of justice.

We pray for your world, that peace and justice may increase; for victims of violence and for those who starve while food is stockpiled; for those cheated of a just wage and those exploited for others' gain; for the leaders of nations and for all who work for the resolution of conflict.

We thank you for all who bring to others your justice and peace.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In every generation you have spoken through your prophets, and you call us today to be a people of faith.

We pray for your church, that it may be a community renewed by your grace, for the church in places of danger and persecution; for those who disturb us with your challenging message; for all who thirst to hear your word.

We thank you for all who bring your good news to others.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In every generation you have spoken through your prophets, and you call us today to be a people of hospitality and love.

We pray for the communities in which we live, that they may be places of welcome and acceptance, for our families and friends, for those with whom we work and learn; for this town and all who work and live here.

We thank you for all who bring to others your love and reconciliation.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In every generation you have spoken through your prophets, and you call us today to be a people of compassion.

We pray for those in need, that they may find comfort and relief; for those without work and those without rest, for the lonely and those who mourn; for the sick and those who will die this day.

We thank you for all who bring to others your compassion and care.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, in every generation people of faith have heard your voice and responded to your call.

We give you thanks for all your faithful servants like Mary and Martha.

May we, following their example, welcome you into our hearts and homes, sit in your presence and seek to understand your word, that we may come to share with all your saints in the joy of your eternal life.

God of grace,

hear our prayer. Amen.

(LUP - J. Nelson)

Hymn: 442 (TiS) 'All praise to our redeeming Lord'

Blessing:

Recessional – 779 (TiS) 'May the feet of God walk with you'

