



Order of Service
6th November 2022

Introit: Gather us in. vs 1 TiS 474

Welcome Jen Shields

The Lord be with you Rev Denise Naish

And also with you

Acknowledgement of Country

I respectfully acknowledge and honour the Aboriginal people, on whose land we gather today. The land of the Yorta Yorta, and recognise the continuation of culture, connection to lands, water and country.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging. As First and Second Peoples walking together, we commit ourselves to be people of the covenant, listening, truth telling and seeking justice for all.

Call to Worship from Psalm 145

I will praise you, my God and King,
and always honour your name.

²I will praise you each day
and always honour your name.

³You are wonderful, LORD,
and you deserve all praise,
**because you are much greater
than anyone can understand.**

Gathering Prayer

God of the living, you are forever and always close to us
and greater than we can understand.

A time of silent reflection.

We delight in your glory and offer our adoration and praise.

A time of silent reflection.

We thank you for the ways you are with us as a community.

A time of silent reflection.

We celebrate the ways you are with all creation

A time of silent reflection.

Our praise, adoration and thanksgiving are to you alone O God. Amen



Song: Here in this place new light is streaming TiS 474 vs 2-4

We are the young our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face...

Prayer of Confession

God, we get caught up in the busyness of life and we forget to notice:

**your presence, the wonders of your Creation,
your blessings in our lives.**

God, we become focused on memories of the past, and we get distracted...

**From your presence, the wonders of your Creation,
your blessings in our lives.**

God we find ourselves worried about the future, and we get distracted...

**From your presence, from the wonders of your Creation,
your blessings in our lives.**

Forgive us, God.

Help us to notice your presence. Help us to realize your goodness.

Help us to remember how you guide us. Help us to trust you with our futures.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear and receive this affirmation from God's words spoken by the prophet Haggai: "Take courage, all you people of the land...for I am with you. According to the promise that I made when you came out of Egypt, my spirit abides with you. Do not fear."

Thanks be to God.

Early Word: Praise God: A story based on Psalm 145: 1-5, 17-21

In the morning, I open up my eyes,
I stretch my arms and legs, and I say.

Every day in every way, I love you, God.

I button my buttons, zip up my zippers,
Put on my socks and shoes.

I wash my face and brush my teeth,

And then I say,

"Every day in every way, I love you, God."

Just before I eat my food,

At breakfast, lunch and dinner,

I bow my head and say

"Every day in every way, I love you, God."

I like to play with my toys.

I like to play with other girls and boys.

We run and jump and laugh and play,

And when we stop to rest, we say

"Every day in every way, I love you, God."



The sun has set, and I climb into my bed.
When my bedtime prayers are said, I say
“Every day in every way, I love you, God.”

Wow! that was a lot of ways to praise God.
Can you think of other ways or have you seen creation praising God this week?

Song TiS 738 My Jesus, My Saviour

Scripture Readings:

Haggai 1: 1:15b-2:9 (Contemporary English Version) Joan McRae

The Gospel of Luke 20: 27-38 CEV Jeni Fitzgerald

Sermon

Just three weeks ago Shepparton and other river communities were frantic shoring up houses, businesses with emergency response teams on high alert.

What does it feel like to you this week? It doesn't take long to slip back into routine when our senses are no longer bombarded with images and warnings and constant media reports.

However some will be dealing with inundation of their homes in the aftermath with high demand on time, energy, resources and emotions.

I wonder what Haggai might say into our context.

*Questions to ponder: What have you observed in your community that point to God's presence with you?
How can a focus on the past impede our efforts to thrive in the present?*

What stories are being told in your community that are strong roots of faith and signs of God's presence for you?

Haggai 2 ⁴ **But cheer up! Because I, the LORD All-Powerful, will be here to help you with the work, ⁵ just as I promised your ancestors when I brought them out of Egypt. Don't worry. My Spirit is right here with you.**

Offering and Dedication I will give thanks to you. TiS 726

Notices: Jen Shields

Prayers of the People: Jen Shields

Our needy neighbours around the world are far too numerous for us to be able to assist them all. But having given what practical aid to the few we can, we can then go wider and include all in our prayers. *(from Bruce Prewer's worship resources)*

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Song Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us... TiS 526

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE Friends, this is the table of the Lord and he calls us to this sacred feast... come, because he loves you and gave himself for you.

GREAT PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING



...acclaiming your power in goodness and your might in compassion, as we sing:
The Sanctus. TiS 761. **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**
The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving continues..

The Lord's Prayer

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Christ is the bread of life, food for healing and wholeness.
Christ is the cup of hope, wellspring of resurrection life.

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

God of heaven and earth, you make us one in Christ. Inspire us with new vision and the wisdom of ancient dreams. Give us strength to walk together until we come to our eternal home. In Christ's name. Amen.

Closing Song: We are your people TiS 468

Sending Out and Benediction

From 2 Thessalonians 2:13 - 3:5

So then, brothers and sisters,
may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and
through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort
your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word. Amen

Blessing Go now in peace, never be afraid <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfJkBE0Gw70>

