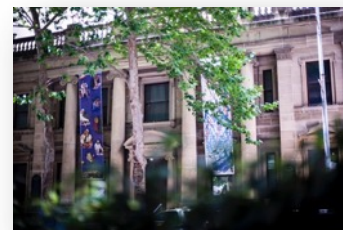


# Pitt Street Uniting Church

*A Congregation of the Uniting Church in Australia  
Founded 1833*

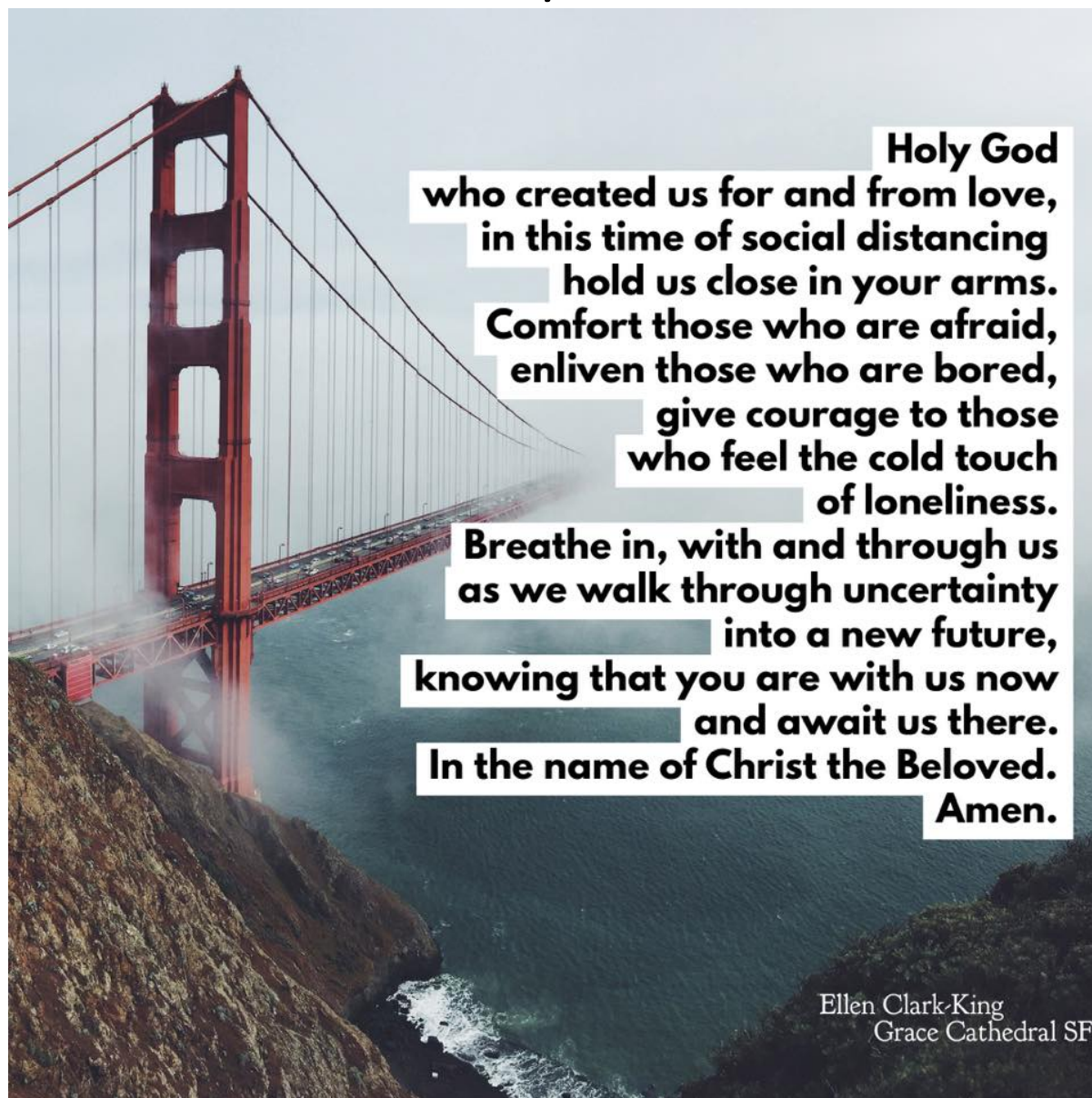


## SUNDAY GATHERING

27 June 2021

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### Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome to Pitt Street Uniting Church

This is a place of welcome for all people regardless of race, sex, creed, age, cultural background, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status.

Wherever you are on your faith journey,  
wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to,  
whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome here.  
All we ask is mutual respect.

Please join in the congregational responses printed in ***bold italics***.

## Gathering as people of Earth and Spirit

### WELCOME

#### Budyeri Gamarruwa

Welcome everyone. We especially extend a very warm welcome to visitors and newcomers in our community this morning, and to those who have come to share in the baptism of the beloved member of our community this morning.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As we gather, we acknowledge the traditional owners of this land: land that was taken without their consent, treaty, or compensation.

***The Spirit of God has long-dwelled with the First Peoples of this ancient land. We honour the Gadigal people of the Eora nation and pay our respects to their elders as we gather to worship God.***

### LIGHTING OF A CANDLE OF HOPE

Each Sunday we acknowledge the children and young people who are part of our community. We light a candle for them and for all children and young people.

*a candle is lit*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us pray

Loving God, we give thanks to you  
that we are all part of the rhythm of life:

we are born,  
***we live in relationships, we make choices,  
we die, we suffer the loss of those we love.***

As we celebrate this day of journey,  
we celebrate that we are community  
***with those here, with the whole inhabited earth,  
with those living and those who have gone before us.***

We gather in this sacred place  
***to celebrate life in all its seasons.***  
We come into a time of worship  
***where we tell the stories of our faith.***  
We connect with each other  
and with the Sacred among us  
***remembering the past,  
honouring the present,  
anticipating the future.***

## **PRAYER OF AWARENESS**

Let us pray

We open to the Spirit of Sophia,  
Sacred Wisdom,  
She who pervades all living things  
with radiance, intelligence,  
beauty, and kindness.

Gather us in, Sophia,  
prepare a feast  
for our whole human family  
and for all creation,  
**that we may know we are one,  
and that you fill every living thing  
with your grace.**

Our foolishness has led us astray,  
**as we choose to eat the bread that does not satisfy  
and drink from the cup that entraps us in our isolation.**

Breathe upon us your powerful Spirit

**and renew us, that we may be your people.**

*A time of silent reflection*

We give thanks for the community  
in which our God is found and known.

## TAIZÉ CHANT

Sung three times

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O God, are ho-ly.

5  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al-le-lu - ia

## JESUS' PRAYER

Remembering Jesus, we pray together...

***God, you are life for us,  
holy be your name.  
Your new day come, your will be done,  
On earth as in your vision.  
Give us this day our bread for the morrow;  
And forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Strengthen us in the time of test,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the power and the splendour  
and the fulfilment are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.***

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear words of assurance

In God we live and move and have our being.  
In the Sacred Source of Life,  
we are forgiven and our lives are made new.  
***Amen.***

## SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May the peace of God be with you!

*And also with you!*

## WE SING ALLELUIA

TIS 720

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

# Listening for words of Spirit

## FOR WISDOM FOUND IN TEXTS

**Hebrew Scripture:** Psalm 130

For the steadfast love of God

*We give thanks.*

**Gospel:** Mark 5.21-43

For the Word that was in the beginning,

for the Word that invites and inspires,

for the Word embodied in us,

*We give thanks.*

## HYMN

*Come as you are*

TIS 693

Come as you are, that's how I want you.

Come as you are, feel quite at home.

Close to my heart, loved and forgiven;

come as you are, why stand alone?

No need to fear, love sets no limits.

No need to fear, love never ends.

Don't run away, shamed or disheartened.

Rest in my love, trust me again.

I came to call sinners, not just the virtuous.

I came to bring peace, not to condemn.

Each time you fail to live by my promise,

why do you think I'd love you the less?

Come as you are, that's how I love you.  
Come as you are, trust me again.  
Nothing can change the love that I bear you.  
All will be well, just come as you are.

## **REFLECTION**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In unity with the wider Church,  
I invite you to affirm our faith together:

**We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

## **HYMN**

Words and Music: Jim Manley

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness,  
blow through the wilderness,*

*calling and free—*

*Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,*

*stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
And over the eons you called to each thing  
...Wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings

You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,  
And you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
And when they were blinded with their idols and lies,  
Then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
Then you whispered in silence, when the whole world was still;  
And down in the city, you called once again,  
When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.  
From the bondage of sorrow, the captives dream dreams;  
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions, your people arise.

## **PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND SOLIDARITY**

*Let us pray*

Compassionate God, we rejoice in your call  
to share in expressing your Love.

**May all be valued and loved,**

**May justice reign and peace abound,**

**May all be made whole and find peace and harmony.**

We give thanks for all who are called  
into the communion of your Spirit,  
for Christians here and throughout the world,  
remembering especially those who are persecuted

**May we be renewed in faith**

**May we be strengthened in hope**

**May we be united in love.**

We give thanks for the transformative power  
of your love and the role we have in co-creation.  
**Grant us hearts that are open to your call,  
that we may join in your dreaming, enacting a world reborn.**

*A time of silent prayer*

In our circle of prayer today:  
we remember especially:

- \* all the peoples of the world oppressed  
by war, civil unrest, poverty and environmental challenge
- \* those in our city and the wider world  
affected by COVID-19 and those who care for them
- \* those working for health, sustainability and hope  
in difficult circumstances

We also remember all that particularly lies on our hearts and minds...

*please offer your prayers in silence*

Holy Spirit, in us and with us,  
enable us to be creators of justice and joy.  
Empower us to be a community  
where people find hope and new life. **Amen.**

## **OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

The grace and kindness we are offered transforms us.  
We give in response to the gifts we have received.

*We give thanks for the gifts we offer,  
and gifts given to support the mission of God through automatic payment.*

We pray together:

***Loving God, we bring our gifts back to you, the source of life.  
Help us to find meaning in life, purpose and belonging.  
Help us to find pleasure in receiving from life  
and satisfaction in enriching life and caring for earth. Amen.***



# Living in the world God loves

## SONG

*The Summons*

John Bell & Graham Maule

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

*Please remain standing as you are able*

## BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

The Spirit, who hovered over the face of the waters  
at creation, at your birth and in baptism,  
grant you the gift of the freedom of Christ.  
In the name of God, who created you,  
who formed you and who loves you. **Amen.**

Go forth into the world in peace;

be of good courage; hold fast that which is good;  
render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted;  
support the weak; help the afflicted;  
honour all people; love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## SONG

Robin Mann

For you, deep stillness of the silent inland  
For you, deep blue of the desert skies  
For you, flame red of the rocks and stones  
For you, sweet water from hidden springs.

From the edges seek the heartlands  
and when you're burnt by the journey  
may the cool winds of the hovering  
Spirit soothe and replenish you.

In the name of Christ, In the name of Christ

*Our worship will be followed by Community Time by Zoom  
Please join us if you would like.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

\*Christa is sometimes used in our liturgies to convey that the risen Christ is not defined or determined by gender.

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Jesus' Prayer paraphrase by David B. Royer and Jonathan C. Nelson in Ruth C. Duck, ed.  
*Flames of the Spirit.*

Baptismal liturgy from authorised materials in *Uniting Worship 2*