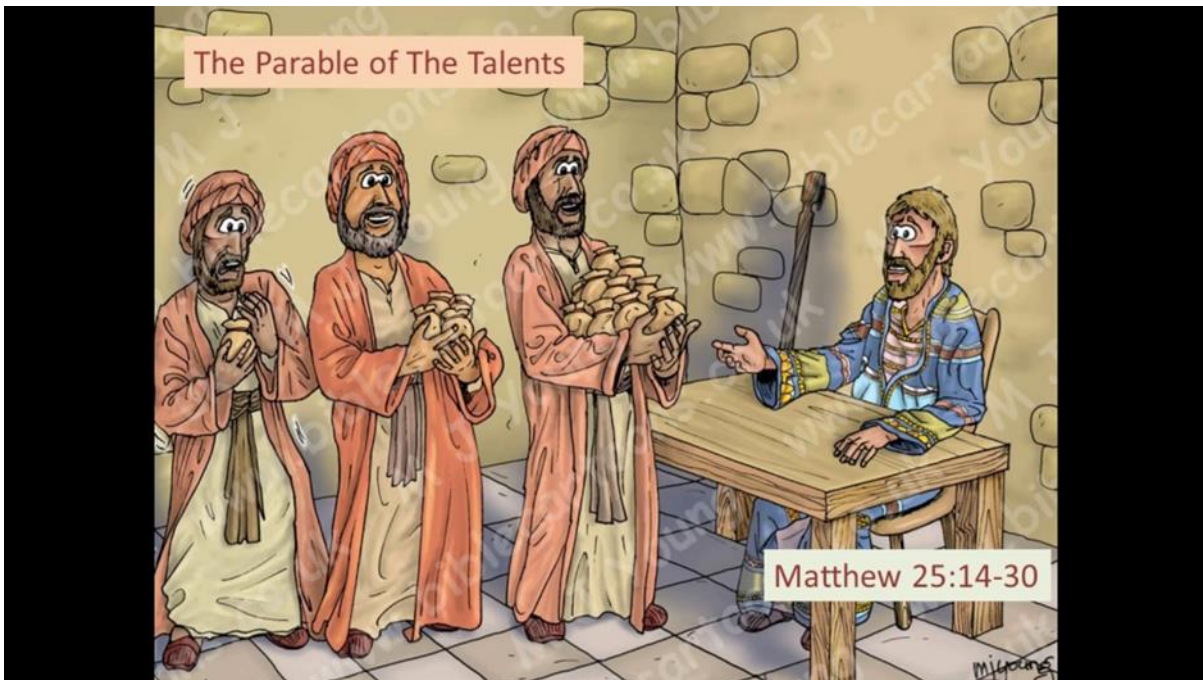


Wesley Uniting Church
November 19th, 2023 10.45am
Pentecost 25



The Gathering of God's People

Prelude

Courante from Suite No. 1 for Cello by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Introit

God be in my head – a setting of Hymn 549
by H Walford Davies (1869 – 1941)

Welcome and Lighting of the Community Candle

Call to Worship

We gather in hope **anticipating a word of inspiration
and the touch of the comforting Spirit.**

We come to receive a **more inclusive vision for
our world and to be renewed and made new by it.**

We give ourselves to this time
and open our lives to God's Spirit and one another.

Hymn 454 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

Prayers of Adoration

Prayers of Confession

Loving God, you set in our hearts a vision of the way the world can be. You empower us with gifts and call us to be people of spirited action.

Yet we confess that we have grown tired of not seeing results, of fighting the same battles for justice, of witnessing the endless streams of poverty and violence in our world.

Revive us by your spirit. Give us energy and a desire for your kingdom.

Keep us alert to your work in our world that we may enter into it with courage and steadfast hearts.

Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. So, trust God's promise.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and given a new start by God's generous grace.

Thanks be to God!

Doxology 150 v 4

O friends, in gladness let us sing,
supernal anthems echoing:
alleluia, alleluia!

To God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Spirit,
three in One, alleluia.

The Peace

The Service of the Word

Prayer for Understanding

Old Testament: Judges 4: 1 - 7 page 191

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11 page 960

Hymn 570 Soldiers of Christ arise and put your armour on

Gospel: Matthew 25: 14 - 30 page 807

This is the Gospel of the Lord - **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Anthem

Lord, I trust thee, I adore thee,

Ah! thou friend of all restore me.

On thy loving grace relying,

For the bread of life I'm sighing.

Quench my thirst and let my hunger cease,

Fill my heart with joy and endless peace.

When the breath of life has left me,

May my soul be blended with thee.

Music: G F Handel (1685-1759); words: Barthold Brockes (1680 - 1747)

Preaching

Hymn 572 (ii) O thou who camest from above

Offering

Organ solo - *Reverie* by Alexandre Guilmant (1837 - 1911)

Prayers of Intercession

Liturgist: Bless them with the grace they need,

Response: ***and deliver us all from evil.***

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Announcements

Hymn How shall I sing that Majesty which angels do admire?

Commission and Blessing

Be a kingdom builder this week.

Find a way to offer your time and talent

to a project worthy of God's hope for the world God loves!

And so may the blessing of God, Creator, Christ and Spirit,
fill you and overflow through you
to touch others with God's renewing love.

Amen.

Postlude

Menuet I and II from Suite No.1 for Cello by J.S. Bach (1685-1750)



Liturgist: Graeme Brown

Preacher: Rev'd Dr Geoff Dornan

Music Coordinator: Jade McFaul

Organist: Bronwyn Brown

Wesley Music Scholar: Pippa Newman (viola)

Bible Reader: Chris Chenoweth

Flowers arranged by: Nancy Gibson