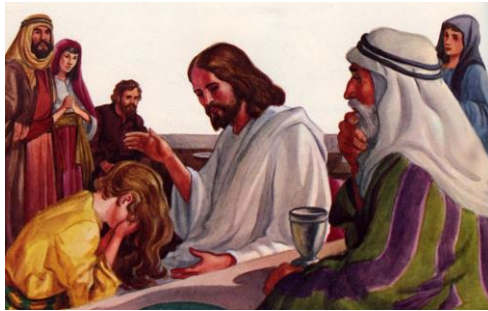


WESLEY UNITING CHURCH, FORREST, ACT
Pentecost 11
Sunday 4th August 2024: 9am



(From Pin On Bible Pictures)

“Attachment to God”

Greeting: May the peace of the Holy One, Holy Three be with you all.
And also with you.

Acknowledgement of Country:

*Let us acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples,
The first inhabitants of this place,
Part of God’s good creation.
We honour them for their custodianship of the land
On which we gather today.*

*You set humanity at the heart of your creation, O God,
Charging us with your stewardship of all you have made.
We give thanks for those who have heeded your call.*

Safe Place Statement

*The Uniting Church in Australia believes that all people are made in the image of God,
and so we accept every individual regardless of race, age, creed, sexuality and gender.*

Let’s light the Community Candle from the Christ Candle

Remembering all those live-streaming with us today, and our extended communities!

Welcome and News

Call to Worship

Lord, in Your mercy, open our hearts.
Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.
We pray for those who are spiritually empty -
who are troubled, but don't know where to turn;
who long for purpose and meaning, but don't know where to look;
who need You, but do not yet know You.
Lord, in Your mercy, open our hearts.

Welcoming Song: 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin, arr. Daniel Galbraith

Chorus:

Bless the Lord oh my soul, oh my soul

Worship his holy name

Sing like never before, oh my soul

I'll worship his holy name

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes
Chorus

2. You're rich in love and you're slow to anger
Your name is great and your heart is kind
For all your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
Chorus

3. And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forever more.
Forever more!
Chorus

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Confession ...

The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

All-Age Story: (Bruce)

Children's Song: Song of Thanks (E ke Akua) Trad. Hawaiian

O God Creator (O God Creator)
We give thanks (We give thanks)
Thanks to you, God (Thanks to you, God)
For this day (For this day)

E ke akua (Eh keh ah-koo-ah)
Mahalo no (Ma-ha-loh noh)
Mahalo ia (Ma-ha-loh ee-ah)
No keia la (Noh keh-ee-ya lah)

OT Reading: 2 Samuel 11:26 – 12:13a (P. 248 in the pew Bible)
Nathan Condemns David

Commented [JJ1]:

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meagre fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveller to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house, and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbour, and he shall lie with your wives in broad daylight. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and in broad daylight." David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan said to David, "Now the Lord has put away your sin; you shall not die."

Gospel Reading: John 12:1-8 (Page 874 in the pew Bible)
Mary Anoints Jesus

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with him.

Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii[a] and given to the poor?"

This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

Footnote: [a] John 12:5 The denarius was a day's wage for a labourer

In this is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Preaching: Rev. Bruce: "Attachment to God"

Offering Song: Open the Eyes of My Heart Paul Baloche (c) 1997

Verse (x2):

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart,
I want to see you, I want to see you

Chorus:

*To see you high and lifted up,
Shining in the light of your glory
Pour out your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy*

Verse (x2)

Chorus

Outro (x2) :

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see you

Offering Prayer ...

Prayers of the People

This week, the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle directs us to Cameroon, Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea. And of course, we are still acutely focussed on Israel, Palestine and Ukraine ...

Let's join in offering 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 forever. Amen.**

SENDING OUT

Sending Song: Now As You Leave This Assembly of Lovers

Amanda Udis-Kessler (c) 2019

1. Now as you leave this assembly of lovers
carry the gift that your heart has received
As you've been treated, go out and treat others,
sharing the grace that is endlessly free.

Chorus:

*Keep on blessing the world as you do,
Welcome the stranger and offer a feast
Work to bring justice, strive to show kindness,*

Surely the Holy will bless you with peace.

2. Centre your mind on the things that are precious,
all that is sacred and worthy of praise.
Love all the world with a passion so reckless
you will know wonder the rest of your days.

Chorus

Blessing

The blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always.
May we live and serve this week in remembrance of Christ's love.
Our service has ended.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ.

Amen.

Worship Team:

Preacher: Rev Dr Bruce Stevens, **Liturgist:** Robert James

Music Co-ordinator: Jade McFaul

Musicians: Jojo Yuen (piano), Pippa Newman (viola), Sonia Di Mezza (vocals)

Reader: Susan Akhurst

Video: Kaiser Henderson **Sound:** Sam Launt

Duty Elder: Wati Savu, **Stewards:** Tarlie & John Alcock

Morning Tea: Corinne Bruen, Jeanne James.

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