



THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

Ballarat Central Uniting Congregation

Sunday 4th August 2024 @ 10 a.m. Pentecost 11

**“Jesus, the Bread of Love, Unity and Satisfaction!”
Holy Communion!**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Give each person a piece of cloth and a pen at the beginning of worship ...

INTROIT: TiS 699 – A new commandment!

A new commandment I give unto you
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

*By this will others know that you are my disciples
if you have love one for another. (x2)*

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GREETING

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

ALL: *And also with you!*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hungry for meaning, acceptance, and love,

we gather within the mystery of God.

Yearning for greater peace and equity,

we gather within the friendship of Christ.

Open to renewed generosity and compassion,

we gather within the enfolding of the Holy Spirit.

HYMN/SONG: TiS 457 – The church’s one foundation!

The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord:
she is his new creation by water and the word;
from heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation yet one o’er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder the world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, ‘How long?’
and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give to us the grace
like them, the meek and lowly, in heaven to seek your face.

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OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION - Psalm 51:1-12

Words: Psalms for Worship; Music: Stephen Latimer

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Cre-ate in me a clean heart O God and re-new a right spi-rit with - in me.---

Response:

Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit within me.

Have mercy on me O God in your great kindness:

in the fullness of your mercy blot out my offences.

Wash away all my guilt: and cleanse me from my sin.

Response

For I acknowledge my faults; and my sin is always before me.

*Against you only have I sinned and done evil in your sight:
so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judging.*

Response

*Evil have I been from my birth: sinner I am from the time of my conception.
But you desire truth in our inward being:
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.*

Response

*Take hyssop, sprinkle me with water and I shall be clean:
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let my hear the sounds of joy and gladness:
that the bones that you have broken may rejoice.*

Response

*Turn away your face from my sins: and blot out all my misdeeds.
Create in me a clean heart, O God: and renew a right spirit within me.*

Response

*Do not cast me away from your presence: do not take your holy spirit from
me.*

Give me the joy of your help again: and strengthen me with a willing spirit.

Response

ASSURANCE OF PARDON – Psalm 32:1-2

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against and in whose spirit is no deceit.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND NOTICES

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Reader: "Your Word O Lord is a lamp to our feet".

ALL: "A light to our path."

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Ephesians 4:1-16 (NIV)

Unity in the Body of Christ

¹As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

⁷But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. ⁸This is why it says:

"When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men."

⁹(What does "he ascended" mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions? ¹⁰He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.) ¹¹It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹²to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

John 6:24-35 (NIV)

²⁴Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

Jesus the Bread of Life

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

²⁶Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

²⁸Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

²⁹Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

³⁰So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹Our forefathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

³²Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴"Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread."

³⁵Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

Reader: "Lord, may your Word live in us."

ALL: "And bear much fruit to your glory!"

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD:

Jesus, the Bread of Love, Unity and Satisfaction!

¹⁵Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. (*Ephesians 4:15-16*)

³⁴"Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread." ³⁵Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty. (*John 6:34-35*)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERING

(Your offerings will be gratefully received during the hymn. Please remain seated until the last verse.)

HYMN/SONG: TiS 239 – Jesus the Lord said!

Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the bread, the bread of life for the world am I, the bread of life for the world am I, the bread of life for the world am I.'
Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the bread, the bread of life for the world am I.'

Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the light, the one true light of the world am I, the one true light of the world am I, the one true light of the world am I.'
Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the light, the one true light of the world am I.'

Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the shepherd, the one good shepherd of the sheep am I, the one good shepherd of the sheep am I,

the one good shepherd of the sheep am I.'
Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the shepherd, the one good shepherd of the sheep am I.'

Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the life, the resurrection and the life am I, the resurrection and the life am I, the resurrection and the life am I.'
Jesus the Lord said, 'I am the life, the resurrection and the life am I.'

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

(Followed by the Lord's Prayer in the language and version of your heart)

HOLY COMMUNION

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you. ***And also with you!***
Please share the sign of peace!

HYMN: TiS 538 – Feed us now, Bread of life!

Feed us now, Bread of life, in this holy meal;
let us know your love anew: we hunger for you.
Feed us now, Bread of life, come and live within;
let your peace be ours today, Lord Jesus, we pray.

Piece of bread, cup of wine: Lord, this food is good:
love and mercy come to us - your promise we trust.
Piece of bread, cup of wine: who can understand
how his mercy works in these? Yet, Lord, we believe.

God is here, O so near, nearer than our thoughts.
Stay with us where'er we go; Lord, help us to grow.
God is here, O so near, in this heaven's meal.
May we always feed on you on the bread that is true.

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INVITATION

THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... And so we praise you with the faithful of every time and place, joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal hymn:

Sanctus TIS 756

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory;***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God.

Hosanna in the highest.

... Through your Son, Jesus Christ, in your holy Church, all honour and glory are yours, Father almighty, now and for ever.

Let us therefore declare the witness of our faith:

TiS 756

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Amen!

THE BREAKING OF BREAD

Agnus Dei: TIS 756

Jesus, lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

SHARING TOGETHER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

PRESENTATION BY THE CHILDREN

BLESSING

Giver of life, inspired by your creative love;

may we help create a new world with you.

Bread of life, nourished by your healing love;

may we help create a new world with you.

Spirit of life, filled with your compassionate love;

may we help create a new world with you.

DISMISSAL SONG: SiS 46 – Surely goodness and mercy!

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days,
all the days of my life.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days,
all the days of my life –

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever,

and I shall feast at the table spread for me;

surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days, all the days of my life.

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Worship Leader – Rev Lauleti Tu'inauvai; **Elders** – Miriam Peck, Alice Haley, Rod Devenish, Jen Mitchell; **Reader** – Lesley Lyons, Lauren Martin; **Prayer** – Chris Kynoch; **BCUC Choir, Music & Choir Director** – Helen Duggan; **Organist, Keyboardist** – Evan Duggan; **IT, Video & Audio** – Ben Daniel, Andrew Boatman; **Welcome** – Jan Tozer, Anita Hinton; **Door Stewards** – Geoff Le Marshall, Nur Sisson; **Morning Tea** – Bev Hutchinson, Bron James, Judith Wheaton, Faye Withers.

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For more information, visit our website – bcuc.org.au and

Church Facebook Page – **Ballarat Central Uniting Church Facebook.**