



THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

Ballarat Central Uniting Church

Sunday 5th October 2025

10 a.m. Pentecost 17



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

The Goodness of Everything!
Holy Communion!

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

INTROIT: SiS 34 – Turn your eyes upon Jesus!

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in His wonderful face,
and the things of earth
will grow strangely dim
in the light of His glory and grace.

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GREETING

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise. Praise is where our worship begins and ends.

ALL: *Praise is what moves under our feet and stirs our hearts.*

One: Praise is what soars across the skies and causes us to question all that we thought we knew.

ALL: *Praise is what we were made for.*

One: Praise for Earth. Praise for this life. Praise for each other. Praise for Everything!

ALL: *Let us praise the name of God and lift our heads in wonder and delight.*

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

... For our foolish or careless use of the gifts of your creation:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

For our indifference to the needs of others, our brothers and sisters for whom you died:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

For our neglect of the means of grace, for superficial worship, for selfish prayer:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ONE: God is merciful and forgiving. Through the revelation of Jesus Christ, we are assured that God sees us from far and greets us with tender mercy when we return to God. Therefore, let us be at peace with ourselves, with creations and with God.

ALL: *Thanks be to God. Amen.*

HYMN: TiS 433 – Christ is our cornerstone!

Christ is our cornerstone, on whom alone we build;
with his true saints alone the courts of heaven are filled:
on his great love our hopes we place
of present grace and joys above.

With psalms and hymns of praise this holy place shall ring;
our voices we will raise the Three in One to sing,
and thus proclaim in joyful song
both loud and long that glorious name.

Here, gracious God, draw near and move among us now;
receive each fervent prayer, accept each faithful vow,
and more and more on all who pray
each holy day your blessings pour.

Here may we gain from heaven the grace which we implore;
and may that grace, once given, be with us evermore,
until that day when all the blest
to endless rest are called away.

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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

2 Timothy 1:1-14 (NRSV)

Salutation

1 ¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

2 To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Thanksgiving and Encouragement

3 I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. 4 Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. 5 I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in

you. 6 For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, 7 for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

8 Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, 9 who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10 but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. 11 For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, 12 and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. 13 Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 14 Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

PSALM 137

Text and music: Mike Anderson



Response:

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not! (x2)

By the rivers of Babylon we sat down and wept.

As we turned our thoughts to Zion, sadness entered our hearts.

Response

There our captors had asked us to sing them songs of joy.

But how could we sing the Lord's songs in a strange land?

Response

If I prize not Jerusalem higher than all joys

my right hand will surely wither and my tongue speak no more.

Response

Luke 17:5-10 (NRSVUE)

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷ "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

Leader: Lord, may your Word live in us!

All: ***And bear much fruit to your glory!***

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD: *Rekindle the Gift of God!*

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

OFFERING

(Your offerings for the mission and ministry of God through Ballarat Central Congregation will be gratefully received during the hymn. Please remain seated until the last verse.)

HYMN/SONG: TiS 107 – Sing praise and thanksgiving!

Sing praise and thanksgiving, let all creatures living
now worship their maker with gladness and song;
all glory and honour we come to him bringing:
O praise to the Almighty, sing praise to our God!

Our lives of his making he brings to their waking;
in darkness he held us in his gracious care,
now into the light we are called from our sleeping:
O praise to the Almighty, sing praise to our God!

Lord, frame our desiring to do your requiring,
that unto your glory be all that we do;

and where we have faltered, give strength and give healing:

O praise to the Almighty, sing praise to our God!

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

(Followed by 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!***

HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN: TiS 514 – Be known to us in breaking bread!

Be known to us in breaking bread,
but do not then depart,
Saviour, abide with us, and spread
your table in our heart.

There sup with us in love divine;
your body and your blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine,
be our immortal food.

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Invitation

The Institution of the Lord's Supper

Compassionate and Creator God, we remember the story shared with us how Jesus, who welcomes all people, the very night he was betrayed to the authorities, gathered with some of his closest friends.

As they were eating, Jesus took bread. He blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them.

"Eat this, this is my body" he said. "And know that whenever you do this, remember me."

After supper, Jesus took a cup of wine. He blessed it and shared it amongst his friends.

"Drink this, this is my blood" he said. "And know that your sins are forgiven."

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Creator God be with you and all creation.

ALL: And also with you.

One: Open your hearts.

ALL: We open them to our Creator.

One: Let us give thanks to the Maker of heaven and earth.

ALL: It is right to join creation in thanking God.

One: Spirit of life, love, grace – God,
out of nothing you created us,
heaven and earth, night and day,
land and sea and all creation,
and called Creation good.
... Spirit of life, love, grace – God,
thank you for your good creation,
thank you for your faithfulness,
thank you for the table you set,
thank you for your love and grace,
thank you for your words of welcome,
thank you for your warm embrace,
thank you for the winds that blow us
to this sacred time and place and we sing together:

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 the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest.**

We offer now these ordinary bread and ordinary wine, made from elements of the earth your creation, formed by human hands, and brought now that we might use them to remember the presence of the Cosmic Christ in our daily lives.

TiS 756

**(i) Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit that these gifts of bread and wine may become extraordinary and be for us the body and blood of Christ. Gather us, who share this feast, into the kingdom of your glory that with all your people in every time and place we praise and worship you for ever.

Bless them.

Bless us.

Bless all the others with whom we share this delicate world.

**(ii) Blessing and honour
and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever.
Amen**

The breaking of Bread

The Body of Christ!

The Blood of Christ!

Receive this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

TIS 756 - JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

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

The body of Christ, broken for you! Take and eat! **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you! Take and drink! **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Spirit of life, love, grace – God, you have ushered us in, fed us, blessed us, renewed us and send us out in your power. Rekindle in us your gifts of compassion, peace, joy and hope. Guide us now as we go forth that our lives may bear witness to your gracious, miraculous, and everlasting love. **Amen.**

SENDING FORTH OF GOD'S PEOPLE

BLESSING

One: Go forth in the promise of God's steadfast love.

ALL: We go forth in the promise of God's new mercies.

One: Go forth as bearers of faith, ancient and new.

ALL: We go forth with the kindled faith of our forebears.

One: May your paths shine with light and love.

ALL: Amen.

DISMISSAL HYMN: ATN '87 - NCYC 1987 - Walkin' Down the Road!

When the day has begun, and the darkness is done,
and my eyes see the sky so blue;

I put on my clothes, I'm ready to go
walkin' down the road with you.

*So I'm walkin' down the road, walkin' down the road,
walkin' down the road with you;*

*yes I'm walkin' down the road, walkin' down the road,
walkin' down the road with you.*

O stay by my side, Jesus, you be my guide,

don't you know how I trust in you.

Show me where I should call, pick me up when I fall,

as I'm walkin' down the road with you.

*So I'm walkin' down the road, walkin' down the road,
walkin' down the road with you;*

*yes I'm walkin' down the road, walkin' down the road,
walkin' down the road with you.*

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Worship Leaders – Rev Lauleti Tu'inauvai; **Elders** – Jean Miton, Maureen Vallance, Adri Stickland, Nancy O'Loughlin; **Readers** – Chris Kynoch, 'Atelaite Tupou; **Prayer** – Adri Stickland; **Choir Director** - Helen Duggan and **BCUC Choir**; **Organist, keyboardist** – Evan Duggan; **IT, Video & Audio** – Ben Daniel, Andrew Boatman; **Welcome** – Greta Christie, Jen Mitchell; **Door Stewards** – Merriel & Geoff Le Marshall; **Morning Tea** – Helen Peart, Barbara Snibson, Jan Jenkyn, Bev Hutchinson.

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For more information, visit our website – bcuc.org.au and Church Facebook Page – **Ballarat Central Uniting Church Facebook.**