

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

**Ballarat Central  
Uniting Congregation**



**PENTECOST 5**

*Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2026 @ 10 a.m.*

**OFFERING HOSPITALITY –  
Even a cup of cold water!**

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

*Give each worshipper a cup when they arrive.*

**INTROIT:** TiS 253 – O Lord Jesus Marrkapmirr!

O Lord Jesus Marrkapmirr,

All the power belongs to you.

Hold me by this power, O Lord,

You alone are king.

Now we praise you for your Word,

Living, true, and full of light.

Yours the hands that rest on me:

Hold me for all time.

*Aboriginal people of Arnhem Land, versified by D'Arcy Wood 1936 -*

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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**

Come into God's love. God's love stretches wide,  
*ready to embrace all with love.*

Come thirsty for the presence of God,  
*ready to satisfy every thirst.*

Come to find a caring touch,  
*ready to know grace in this community.*

Come together, full of welcome.

*Ready to drink deeply in God's presence.*

Come, let us worship God together.

**PRAYER OF ADORATION**

Loving God, you graciously welcome and love each of us exactly as we are,  
and you model how we should be with each other. May you be patient with  
us and help us as we seek to understand what your true welcome and your  
hospitality mean for how we should be in our communities. We pray this in  
Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**HYMN/SONG:** TiS 693 – Come as you are!

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 and disheartened,  
rest in my love, trust me again.

I came to call sinners, not just the righteous;  
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.

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## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### WORDS OF AFFIRMATION

God hears every truth and rejoices in every open heart.

***We are loved and forgiven.***

As the waters of rivers and oceans change, the landscape and sip of water can  
quench thirst,

***so the love of God works to revive and restore us for greater love.***

***Thanks be to God. Amen.***

**DOXOLOGY:** TiS 778 – Shalom to you now!

Shalom to you now,  
shalom, my friends.

May God's full mercies  
bless you, my friends.

In all your living  
and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom,  
Christ be your shalom.

*Author: Elise Shoemaker Eslinger 1942- © 1989,*

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## SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND NOTICES

### SPECIAL TIME WITH THE CHILDREN – *Early Word*

#### **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

### SCRIPTURE READINGS:

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

**ALL:** "A light to our path."

### SCRIPTURE READINGS:

**Romans 6:12-23 (NRSVUE)**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. <sup>13</sup>No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

### Slaves of Righteousness

<sup>15</sup>What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?

<sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted <sup>18</sup>and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness.

<sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## PSALM 13

*Music: Graeme Sutton*

**Response: I will sing to the Lord, for he has been good to me.**

How long, O Lord?

Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?

How long must I wrestle with my thoughts

and every day have sorrow in my heart?

How long will my enemy triumph over me?

**Response**

Look on me and answer me, O Lord my God,  
give light to my eyes or I will sleep in death:  
My enemy shall say, "I have overcome him",  
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.  
But I trust in your unfailing love:  
my heart rejoices in your salvation.

**Response**

**Matthew 10:40-42 (NRSVUE)**

**Rewards**

<sup>40</sup> "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me  
welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name  
of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a  
righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of  
the righteous, <sup>42</sup> and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these  
little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose  
their reward."

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

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

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD:**

**OFFERING HOSPITALITY – Even a cup of cold water!**

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**OFFERING**

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

**HYMN/SONG:** TiS 629 - When I needed a neighbour!

When I needed a neighbour,  
were you there, were you there?

When I needed a neighbour,  
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour and the name  
won't matter, were you there?*

I was hungry and thirsty,  
were you there, were you there?

I was hungry and thirsty,  
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour and the name  
won't matter, were you there?*

I was cold, I was naked,  
were you there, were you there?

I was cold, I was naked,  
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour and the name  
won't matter, were you there?*

When I needed a shelter,  
were you there, were you there?

When I needed a shelter,  
were you there?

*And the creed and the colour and the name  
won't matter, were you there?*

Wherever you travel,  
I'll be there, I'll be there,

wherever you travel,  
I'll be there.

*And the creed and the colour and the name  
won't matter, were you there?*

*Author: Sydney Carter 1915- © 1965 Stainer & Bell Ltd.*

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**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

May we find in our giving this day the refreshment and renewal of sharing  
what we have been given and share in another's thirst. May we pour out  
grace upon grace so that God's love truly has no end. **Amen!**

**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!*

## **SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

### **WORD OF MISSION**

Take the cup of goodwill and welcome that you were given when you came in as you leave this time of worship, as a sign that God goes with us and is always on hand to revive and restore us.

I invite you to hold up your cup!

Imagine that God is filling your cup to overflow with love, compassion and blessing.

Go in the knowledge that God will always love you.

Go ready to shower God's love on all you encounter on your way.

### **BLESSING**

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.

**Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL SONG:** TiS 779 – May the feet of God!

May the feet of God walk with you,

and his hand hold you tight.

May the eye of God rest on you,

and his ear hear your cry.

May the smile of God be for you,

and his breath give you life.

May the Child of God grow in you,

and his love bring you home.

*Author: Aubrey W. Podlich 1946- © 1983, Open Book Publishers.*

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**Worship Leaders** – Rev Lauleti Tu'inauvai, Andy Gault; **Elder** – Bron James; **Readers** – Jen Mitchell, Claudia Forsberg, Andy Gault; **Prayer** – Karen Coad; **BCUC Choir, Music & Choir Director** – Helen Duggan; **Organist** - Ray Hodder; **IT, Video & Audio** – Ben Daniel, Andrew Boatman; **Welcome** – Lauren Martin, Margaret Bennett; **Door Stewards** – Rod Devenish, Nur Sisson; **Morning Tea** – Maureen Vallance, Jan Jenkyn, Barb Snibson, Larry Griffin.

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To connect to our Sunday Livestream Worship at 10am go to:

[www.youtube.com/c/BallaratCentralUnitingChurch](http://www.youtube.com/c/BallaratCentralUnitingChurch)

For more information, visit our website – [bcuc.org.au](http://bcuc.org.au) and

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