

Please help us to comply with the COVID-SAFE Regulations by wiping the areas you have touched on the pews, after the service.

Thank you for your assistance.



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**Pilgrim**

Uniting Church

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come, so God might open our eyes,  
that we may discover the wonders surrounding us;  
that we may embrace the joy deep within us.  
We gather, so Christ might widen our hearts,  
that we may hear the sounds of brokenness around us;  
that we may sing the melodies of hope.

We are here, so the Spirit might teach us the ways of humility,  
that we may walk that street named Enduring Love;  
that we may wait at the corner called Faithfulness.

HYMN: God of creation (*tune: TIS 156 Morning Has Broken*)

1  
God of Creation  
Gentle life-giver  
Present at birth, and  
all through our days  
Author of sunrise  
Song in the night sky  
Here in this place, we  
offer our praise

2  
Jesus, Companion  
teacher and healer  
friend of the grieving,  
suffering, the poor  
Stand with our people  
whisper among us  
promise of mercy  
goodness for all

3  
Spirit of Comfort  
blow through Creation  
stir up new life, breathe  
peace through our world  
Healer of hearts, and  
hope for tomorrow  
weave all our sorrows  
into new dawn

4  
Here we give thanks for  
life in its fullness  
blessings received  
your gifts to us all  
Make us a people  
filled with compassion  
selflessly giving  
serving your world  
(*Source: Craig Mitchell, 2010*)

8.00am  
Morning Eucharist

Sunday, 21st February 2021

Lent 1B

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PSALM OF THE DAY (Psalm 25:1-10)

Introduction

Though a deeply personal psalm, calling on God to remember and to show mercy, it is a psalm that speaks to all souls who have known trouble, been beset by enemies and felt lost. This personal outpouring is a common and shared experience such that the psalm becomes part of the cult of the covenant festival. The psalm offers a view, not so much of the outside world, but of the landscape of the soul that experiences pain and difficulty, even at times a sense of abandonment, yet which longs wholeheartedly for God. Waiting for God to draw near, for God to be felt and discovered is in the cry of the faithful who wish only to be remembered by God. If God can remember the people, the worshipper who cries out day and night, then a new path opens up. And this path is one of faithful following. Here are found truth, honesty, humility, steadfast love and faithfulness - and of course salvation. Salvation comes when God remembers us and pieces back together the fragmented aspects of our lives and broken relationships. Dependent on the covenant, relying always on the promises God has made, the soul can find peace and hope can be restored.

*(Rev Marjory McPherson, Church of Scotland 2021)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God takes our broken promises

**and turns them into vows of faithfulness.**

God takes our biggest failings

**and shapes lives of service.**

God listens to our prayers of confession

**and changes them into songs of mercy.**

Let us come to the One who pours forgiveness into our lives.

**We are hesitant to walk to Jerusalem,  
that place of challenge and truth.**

We miss the reassurance that we are accompanied by love,  
in all journeys, in all our moments.

Forgive us and have mercy on us,

Gentle Guardian of our souls.

In humility, may we offer our lives to others.

In love, may we share your grace.

In hope, may we wait.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In every wilderness, on every road;

in every moment, in every life;

in every journey, in every heart,

we receive the daily bread we need:

God's hope, God's mercy, God's joy.

Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

In the story of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus,  
we hear of your renewal and reconciliation,  
and we know ourselves to be included in love,  
held in covenant, encouraged in the way, renewed and forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Meet us at this table, loving God. Make this meal both a sign and symbol  
of your constant presence,  
your continuing covenant of love, your desire to share renewal and  
reconciliation with all creation through us.

**Amen.**

*Communion is shared*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the God we see in all the colours of creation  
arouse in us a sense of awe and wonder.

May the God who is a sacred presence be real to us.

May the God who is a source of inspiration and courage  
keep calling us forward.

For we have been met, fed, and renewed at this table.

Thanks be to God!

WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go now, and live in the spirit of your baptism,  
even when you are led into wild and hard places.  
With repentance and trust, give yourselves to God,  
and with fasting and prayer,  
strengthen yourselves against the ways apart from love.

And may God enfold you in tender and lasting love.

May Christ be beside you in times of struggle.

And may the Spirit guide you back to the path  
whenever you stray, that you may keep the covenant.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*A COVID safe sign of peace is exchanged.*

6. The peace of God is like a friend  
who sees us through the journey's end -  
The road is long and the talk is sweet  
and the Spirit calls, "Come follow me."

*(from Songs for the Cycle ©2004 by Michael Hudson)*

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Not tomorrow, but today we are offered the chance to become a part of your healing work, of bringing peace to a broken world, of feeding the hungry, and welcoming the excluded. Today, not tomorrow, we offer our gifts as well as our lives to this ministry of blessing and hope. **Amen.**

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Friends, in this season of repentance and healing, we accept God's invitation to be ever-mindful of the needs of others, offering our prayers on behalf of God's community in the church and the world.

This is my prayer: **this is our prayer**

#### 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, the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

#### HOLY COMMUNION

#### THE INVITATION

#### THE NARRATIVE OF THE LAST SUPPER

#### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us open our hearts.

**We open our hearts to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,

for in tenderness and faithfulness

you love and guide us on the way.

In the story of creation, we hear of your love breathing life into all things.

In the story of the ancient flood,

we hear of your covenant established with every living creature.

In the story of Jesus coming forth from the waters of baptism,

we hear of your encouraging presence in every proving wilderness.

#### BIBLE READINGS:

**1 Peter 3: 18-22, Mark 1: 9-15**

HYMN: Here at Jordan's River

1. Here at Jordan's river all is washed away.  
As God's reign draws nearer, nothing is the same.  
Gone are class and status; gone, degrees and fame.  
Grace alone can save us on God's judgment day.
2. We at Jordan's river meet on level ground.  
Valleys are uplifted; mountains fall to earth.  
None dare trust their lineage;  
None need doubt their worth.  
Still the prophet asks us, "Will you turn around?"
3. God, reform, renew, us; turn us toward your will.  
Till our hearts for learning; root us in your word.  
May the fruits of action grow from all we've heard.  
As we lose our old lives, God, be with us still.

*(Source: Ruth Duck, Tune: Noel Nouvelet, TIS 382 Now the Green Blade Rises)*

#### REFLECTION

HYMN Come follow me *(tune: TIS 536 The water is wide/O Waly Waly)*

1. The grace of God is like a road  
that draws the heart from its first home -  
We long to go, but we hate to leave,  
and the Spirit calls, "Come follow me."
2. The voice of God is like the wind,  
it comes and goes and comes again -  
We read the signs in the bending trees,  
and the Spirit calls, "Come follow me."
3. The strength of God is like a stone;  
it firms the will of soul and bone -  
Still soul and bone grow worn and weak,  
and the Spirit calls, "Come follow me."
4. The hope of God is like the sun;  
it shines until the day is done -  
And the night stars rise in the East,  
and the Spirit calls, "come follow me."
5. The love of God is like a stream;  
it fills and feeds our deepest dreams -  
It finds a thirst and leaves a spring,  
and the Spirit calls, "Come follow me."