



**Pilgrim**  
Uniting Church

# 11.00am Choral Worship

Sunday, 18th April 2021

**Easter 3**  
COCU33B

*The church is fitted with a hearing loop. Hearing aid wearers are advised to sit in the front half of the church and switch their aid to T-setting.*

**This Service is being live streamed. The Service will also be available for viewing on YouTube at 'Pilgrim Uniting Church Adelaide' for two months.**

## THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

### ORGAN PRELUDE

*The people are invited to stand for the entrance of the Bible.*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

When fears and doubts keep us in their awful company:  
The Holy One is present with us, whispering of peace.  
When we toss and turn late at night:  
The Holy One is present with us, whispering of peace.  
When we stumble through shadows and quagmires:  
The Holy One is present with us, whispering of peace.  
We come here to remember together  
the presence of holy peace with us  
in every time, place, and circumstance.  
Let us worship God!

HYMN 145      Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!

1. Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King.  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
*Alleluia.*
2. The Lord of Life is risen for ay:  
bring flowers of song to strew his way;  
let all the earth rejoice and say  
*Alleluia.*



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3.  
Praise we in songs of victory  
that Love, that Life, which cannot  
die,  
and sing with hearts uplifted high  
*Alleluia.*

4.  
Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,  
and sing to-day with one accord  
the life laid down, the life restored:  
*Alleluia.*

Words: C.A. Alington 1872-1955  
Tune: Gelobt sei Gott; Melody from Melchior  
Vulpius's *Gesangbuch* 1609,  
harmonised by Friedrich Layriz 1808-1859

#### WELCOME and GREETING

*Those who wish to do so may share a COVID safe sign of peace with those immediately around them using words such as 'God's Peace be with you/ and also with you'. Please respect those who wish to use the time for quiet contemplation.*

#### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of Easter, touch us with your grace.  
You show us your hands,  
so we may reach out to mend the broken;  
you show us your feet, so we may walk with those the world passes by;  
you show us your face,  
so we may recognize our sisters and brothers in all whom we meet.

**Risen Christ: touch us with your compassion.**

You open our eyes, so we may see God's love;  
you open our minds, so we may welcome God's Word;  
you open our lips, so we may be God's witnesses.

**Spirit of Hope; touch us with your peace.**

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

If our actions mirrored our words;  
if our hands were mentored by our hearts;  
if we walked the talk – what love we could share!  
The psalmist speaks of trusting in you,  
while lack of trust overtakes us.  
Jesus grants us peace, yet, for us, fear prevails.  
Holy One, transform us into Easter people,  
through the power of love and forgiveness.

*A time of silence as we reflect on these words for ourselves*

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Love and forgiveness are given freely, lavishly,  
so that we might be renewed to our higher selves.

**We receive God's love and forgiveness,  
and are renewed to speak more clearly,  
trust more fully, love more completely.  
We are indeed an Easter people!**

#### At the conclusion of the service, a Baptismal candle is presented.

*The Minister takes the white baptismal candle, lights it from the Christ candle and presents it to Clara's parents:*  
Clara, you belong to Christ, the light of the world. Walk always as a child of the light.

#### WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING

We too are invited to walk always as children of the light. And as we go, may God who is love strengthen us in our love for others. May Christ who is peace grant us peace that passes all understanding. And may the Holy Spirit who is inspiration equip us to be hope and joy for all whom we meet. **Amen.**

*You are invited to be seated for the playing of the postlude,  
or to leave at this point without disturbing those who wish to listen.*

POSTLUDE Christ lag in Todesbanden J.S. Bach 1685-1750  
(Christ lay in the bonds of death)

*Please stand as the Bible is taken from the church.*

Presiding Ministers

Rev Sandy Boyce

Scripture Reader

Rev Dr Greg Elsdon

Organist & Choir Director

Ian Giles

Peter Kelsall

The Choir of Pilgrim Church

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***Please join us for tea or coffee and fellowship in the Lounge  
after the service.***

**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.**



ANTHEM            This joyful Eastertide  
                         Dutch trad. harmonised by Charles Wood 1866-1926

*Please stand for and face the gospel*

A reading from the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you, Lord**

GOSPEL READING        Luke 24: 36b-48

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence. <sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

HYMN 564            Restore in us, O God

1.  
Restore in us, O God,  
the splendour of your love;  
renew your image in our hearts,  
and all our sins remove.

2.  
O Spirit, wake in us  
the wonder of your power;  
from fruitless fear unfurl our lives  
like springtime bud and flower.

3.  
Bring us, O Christ, to share  
the fullness of your joy;  
baptise us in the risen life  
that death cannot destroy.

4.  
Three-personed God, fulfil  
the promise of your grace,  
that we, when all our searching ends,  
may see you face to face.

Tune: Southwell; Adapted from Psalm 45 by  
William Daman 1540-1591  
Words: Carl P. Daw Jr. B. 1944

SERMON

## THE RESPONSE TO GOD IN WORD AND ACTION

HYMN 389            Behold the amazing gift of love

1.  
Behold the amazing gift of love  
the Father has bestowed  
on us, the sinful sons of men,  
to call us sons of God!

2.  
Concealed as yet this honour lies,  
by this dark world unknown,  
a world that knew not when he  
came,  
ev'n God's eternal Son.

3.  
High is the rank we now possess;  
but higher we shall rise,  
though what we shall hereafter be is  
hid from mortal eyes.

4.  
Our lives, we know, when he  
appears,  
shall bear his image bright;  
for all his glory, full disclosed,  
shall open to our sight.

5.  
A hope so great and so divine  
may trials well endure;  
and purify us all from sin,  
as Christ himself is pure.

Words: *Scottish Paraphrases* 1781  
based on 1 John 3: 1-3  
Tune: 385 Abridge; Isaac Smith 1734-1805

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Receive these gifts, O God, and transform us through the giving, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand not only what you do on our behalf, but what you call us to do so that your realm will come to fruition in peace and justice for all. **Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Christ remained present with his disciples, teaching them to love all people as neighbours. As his disciples in this age, we offer our prayers on behalf of the world in which we are privileged to live and our neighbours with whom we share it.  
*Silent prayers are offered*

In this time of tension and turmoil, pandemic and poverty, racial injustice, and climate change, we wait with kingdom vision. We long for resurrection hope. God who walks with us, journey with us this day. Beginning with Moses and all the prophets, we remember that you are the creator. You are the liberator. You are the vision of justice and compassion. You are the way.

Interpret to us your mystery: Your transcendent holiness; Your immanent nearness; Your steadfast faithfulness; Your infinite love; Your amazing grace.