

Pitt Street Uniting Church

*A Congregation of the Uniting Church in Australia
Founded 1833*



SUNDAY GATHERING

ON GADIGAL LAND

always was, always will be

CONTEMPORARY FAITH – JUSTICE – ENGAGING – COMMUNITY

7 July 2024

**7th Sunday after Pentecost
(in NAIDOC Week)**



**KEEP THE FIRE
BURNING!
BLAK, LOUD
AND PROUD**

7-14 JULY 2024

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Welcome to Pitt Street Uniting Church

This is a place of welcome for all people regardless of race, sex, creed, age, cultural background, sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status.

Wherever you are on your faith journey,
wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to,
whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome here.

All we ask for is mutual respect.

Please join in the congregational responses printed in ***bold italics***.
We will sing the hymns without announcement. Stand if you are able, but feel free to remain seated if that is more comfortable for you.

A quiet activity area is available at on the northern side of the church
young children.

MUSICAL PRELUDE

A gong sounds – centring prayer / meditation

We gather as the people of God

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Called by Earth and Sky

Words: Pat Mayberry

Music over page

*Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of Life, sanctified
Called by earth and sky.*

Precious these waters endless seas, deep ocean's dream
Waters of healing, rivers of rain
The wash of love again.

Called by earth and sky ..

Precious this gift the air we breathe, wind born and free
Breath of the Spirit blown through this place
Our gathering and our grace.

Called by earth and sky ..

Precious these mountains ancient sands, vast fragile land
Seeds of our wakening rooted and strong
Creation's faithful song.

Called by earth and sky ..

Precious the fire that lights the way, bright dawning day
 Fire of passion sorrows undone
 Our faith and justice one.

Called by earth and sky ..

7 *Called by earth and sky, prom-ise of hope held*

13 *high. This is our sa - cred liv - ing trust, trea - sure of* 5th time to CODA ⊕

19 *life sanc - ti - fied, _____ called _____ by earth and*

sky. _____

24

1. Prec - ious these wa - ters, end - less
 2. Pre - cious this gift, the air we
 3. Pre - cious these moun - tains, an - cient
 4. Pre - cious the fire that lights the

29 *seas, deep o - ceans' dreams. Wa - ters of*
breathe, wind born and free. Breath of the
sands, vast fra - gile land. Seeds of our
way, bright dawn - ing day. Fire _____ of

33 *heal - ing, riv - ers of rain, _____ the*
Spi - rit blow through this place, _____ our
wak - 'ning, root - ed and strong, _____ cre -
pas - sion, sor - rows un - done, _____ our

wash of love a - gain. _____
gath - 'ring and our grace. _____
a - tion's faith - ful song. _____
faith and jus - tice one. _____

ACKNOWLEDGING COUNTRY – TOWARD JUST RELATIONSHIPS

As we gather, we acknowledge the original custodians of this place, the Gadigal people of the Eora, and all First Nations peoples in our communities, their elders past and present. We grieve the unjust loss of their lands and waterways, taken without consent or compensation.

From their beginnings, the Spirit of God has dwelled with the First Peoples of this ancient land.

***We honour the Gadigal people of the Eora
and commit ourselves to walk for just reconciliation.***

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Christ candle is lit.

GREETINGS ***Budyeri gamarruwa***

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship together:

Our land is alive with the glory of God
desert sands hum and gum trees dance.

Brown grasses sing
and mountains breathe their stillness.

All created things add their rhythms of delight
and even stones rap out their praise.

Let our voices mingle with those of the earth;
may our hearts join the beat of her joy,
for the Holy One is with us;
the Source of all being surrounds and upholds us.
Christ Jesus walks beside and before us.
The Spirit moves within and between us.
Blessed be God, our wonder and delight.

PRAYER OF AWARENESS, CONFESSION AND RENEWAL

We keep a time of silence as we reflect upon the history of this land

Loving Creator God, as we gather in this NAIDOC Week,
we rejoice in the beauty of this ancient land and her waters.
We marvel at the awesome way they have been formed.
We give thanks for her First Nations Peoples,
their stories of creation sung by countless Ancestors.
We name the dispossession, violence and bloodshed,
which First Peoples endured at the hands of Later Peoples.

We ask your forgiveness,

we pray for your healing of this land and her Peoples.

We pray that love will make a way of harmony, the way of Jesus.

We keep a time of silence as we reflect upon our own lives.

Loving God,
hear us too as we acknowledge
all that we have failed to love, and all that has failed to love us.

Transform the hurts and sufferings of our lives and world.

A time of silence and reflection

TAIZÉ CHANT

sung twice

Come and fill our hearts with your peace,

You alone O God are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

WORDS OF RECONCILIATION

Hear words of assurance and reconciliation:

The Spirit of love is Christ's gift to the world in every land and age:
a gift for each of us, and our companion together on the way.

Amen.

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May the peace of God be with you now and always!

And also with you!

We are invited to greet one another, sharing a sign of peace

GLORIA (Taizé)

sung twice

Gloria, gloria (canon)

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex-cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: J. Berthier

© Ateliers et Presses de Taizé, F-71250 Taizé-Communauté

We listen to God's Word

THE WORD IN TEXTS

A Reading from the Epistles: from 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

For the encouragement of God in Holy Scripture

We give thanks.

SONG

Halle, halle, halle-lujah

TiS 720 (*sung twice*)

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah!

A Reading from the Gospel: from Mark chapter 6 verses 1-13

For the Word that invites and inspires us

We give thanks.

REFLECTION

The Rev Christian Hohl

We respond in Love

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND SOLIDARITY

Warren Talbot

On communion Sundays a member of the congregation prepares a prayer. The person reflects on our community and our world during the week and offers a prayer that they have written.

Spirit of Unity

Give us new life and new hope.

*Please offer your prayers in a time of silence
(if online, feel free to use the Zoom chat function)*

In your grace and mercy, O God, we pray.

Amen.

Please stand as you are able to sing.

HYMN

Words: John Brown

Tune: Living Lord, TiS 526

Creator God, you made every race
giving each your law, good and true.
We are to worship you, O God,
care for creation in your name,
love and forgive as you love us,
Holy God.

Jesus, the Christ, you have made us one,
binding each to you, making peace;
healing the wounds our hands have made;
asking for truth and grace to rule,
justice, respect and loyalty,
Loving God.

Spirit of Life, present from all time,
guiding, shedding light, giving life;
Counsellor, make us strong to fight,
free as the wind to do the right,
ready to follow on the Way,
Breath of God.

God, Three in One, bonded strong in love,
reaching out to all, giving God!
Build in this land community –
black, white and brown, one family
serving the world your love has made
God of grace.

OFFERTORY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Let us share our offerings
as expressions of our love and concern for the world God loves.

Please stand as the offering is carried forward.

*We give thanks for the gifts brought to the table, and gifts given
to support the mission of the church through automatic payment.*

God of Love and Mystery,
as we bring our gifts of hand and heart,
***inspire us to bring to life our vision of a church
where everyone has a place to grow:***
a society where everyone is valued and understood;
a world where the gifts of the Spirit bud and bear fruit.
In Jesus' Name. ***Amen.***

Holy Communion

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

*At Pitt Street Uniting Church all are invited to the table.
Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome
to share communion. This sacred meal is for all people.*

In the joy of the Holy Spirit, we gather around this table
where all are welcomed and the good earth is affirmed.
From earth's generosity, we bring these gifts of bread and wine.
Witnesses to Hope, we share in God's new Creation.

THE GREAT EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Eucharist means “thanksgiving”. In this meal we give thanks for all that God has done for us, and we offer ourselves back to God.

This is a shared thanksgiving and all are invited to stand throughout with the presiding minister as an expression of this. However, Christian traditions differ and you may prefer to sit, or kneel, for parts or all of the eucharistic prayer.

The God of all grace be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the God of Love.

Let us give thanks to the Holy One.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of holy dreaming, Great Creator Spirit,
from the dawn of creation
you have given your children
the good things of Mother Earth.
You spoke and the gum tree grew.
In the vast desert and dense forest,
and in cities at the water’s edge,
creation sings your praise.

***Your presence endures
as the rock at the heart of our Land.***

When Jesus hung on the tree
you heard the cries of all your people
and became one with the wounded ones:
the convicts, the hunted, and the dispossessed.

***The sunrise of your Son coloured the earth anew,
and bathed it in glorious hope.***

In Jesus we have been reconciled to you,
to each other and to your whole creation.

***Lead us on, Great Spirit,
as we gather from the four corners of the earth;
enable us to walk together in trust
from the hurt and shame of the past
into the full day which has dawned in Jesus Christ.***

With all your people of every time and place
we shout out songs of praise:

SANCTUS

TIS 761

***Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and love,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.***

On the night before he died,
Jesus gathered with his friends
to share a meal and wash their feet,
teaching one more lesson of love.
They took bread, blessed, broke it, and said:
'This is my body, which is for you.
Do this to remember me.'

In the same way, Jesus took the cup, after supper, saying:
'This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this whenever you drink it, to remember me.'

As we share these holy gifts, we remember Christ Jesus.
For the love you taught us, the sacrifice you made for us,
and the hope you give us, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying you restored our death.

Rising you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in the fullness of glory.

And now, faithful God, send us your Spirit
to sanctify and feed us with the body and the blood
of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Make us one body in Christ.
Send us as your messengers in the world
and fill us with energy, courage and love.

In the loving presence of the Holy One,
through Christ Jesus and in the Spirit's power,
we bring our worship and our songs of praise:
***Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever.***

SUNG AMEN

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We gently break this bread of fragile life.

Our breaking down becomes our breaking through.

As we eat this living bread
and drink the new wine of resurrection,
let us celebrate the Spirit of God among us,
creating, re-creating and sanctifying.

With divine tenderness you remake us.

By transforming pain you heal us –

Your passionate energy empowers us.

JESUS PRAYER

In the spirit of Jesus, in these words, or in those of our own language or tradition, we pray:

Breath of our very being,

who dwells in all things,

Holy is your truth.

May your wisdom come,

Your embracing circle unite all of creation.

Give us today a nurturing spirit.

Heal through us as we are healed.

***Lead us into fullness of life,
and liberate all that is good.***

***For the love, the power, and the presence
are yours, now and always. Amen.***

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come for all is made ready.

We share communion in a circle around the church.

*If you do not wish to take communion, you are still most welcome
to join the circle and allow the bread and wine to pass by you, or to
remain in your seat.*

*As we share the gifts with each other we say the words
"The bread of life" and "The cup of blessing."*

SONG (recorded)
(during communion)

One People, One Land

Monica Brown

We go out to the world God loves

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

May you always see the beauty of the earth.

May you always taste the sweetest fruit.

May you always hear the laughter of the People.

May you always feel the warmth of the flame.

May you always smell the perfume of the flowers.

May your dreams always be happy ones.

May your friends always be with you when you have need.

May your stomach always be full.

May you never feel hurt.

And may you always share the peace of God
now and always. ***Amen.***

HYMN

TIS 672

God of earth and all creation
let your love possess our land;
wealth and freedom, far horizons,
mountain, forest, shining sand:
may we share, in faith and friendship,
gifts unmeasured from your hand.

People of the ancient Dreamtime,
they who found this country first,
ask with those, the later comers,
Will our dream be blessed or cursed?
Grant us joy, new birth, new living,
hope for which our children thirst.

Breathe, life-giving healing Spirit,
on our hurts your mercy shower;
lead us by your inward dwelling,
guiding, guarding, every hour.
Bless and keep this land Australia:
in your will her peace and power.

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

Aleks Mitsios

Fugue in E minor, BWV 548 by J. S. Bach

*All onsite are invited to stay after worship to enjoy refreshments.
Those online are invited to stay on to share time together.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

NB. Christa) is used on occasions within Pitt Street Uniting Church liturgies to affirm the all gender and beyond gender nature of the God of Christian tradition

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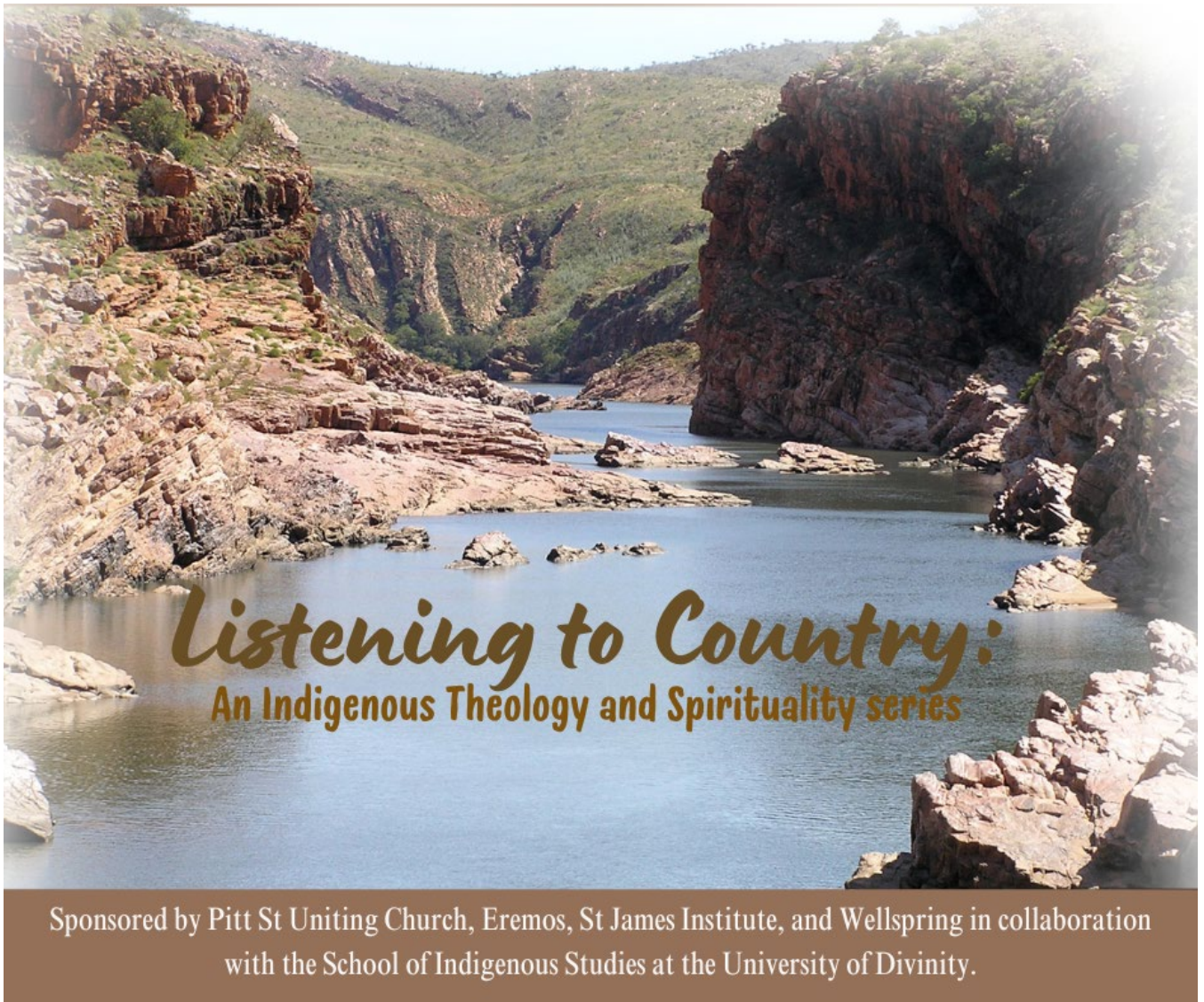
Opening Responses from the Presbyterian Church of Canada, "Making Connections: Staying Rooted in an Uprooted World" and Uniting in Worship 2.

Prayers of Confession and Renewal adapted from Stu McMillan, National Consultant Covenanting, UCA Assembly Resourcing Unit

Preface to Communion Prayer by the Rev Aunty Lenore Parker, in the Anglican Prayer Book of Australia

Jesus Prayer adapted from Prayer from Dominican Sisters Retreat, March 1993, Great Bend, Kansas

Benediction Prayer by Frances Bodkin of the Bodkin-Andrews clan of the D'hrawal Peoples, from Common Grace resources



**Professor Dr Anne Pattel-Gray presenting, Aboriginal Spirituality
and Connection to Country.
Sunday 11 August 2024, 2 – 4 pm**

Professor Anne Pattel-Gray was appointed Professor of Indigenous Studies and inaugural Head of the School of Indigenous Studies at the University of Divinity and commenced the role in August 2022. She is a descendant of the Bidjara / Kari Kari people of Queensland and a celebrated Aboriginal leader.

Book at: <https://www.eremos.org.au/events>