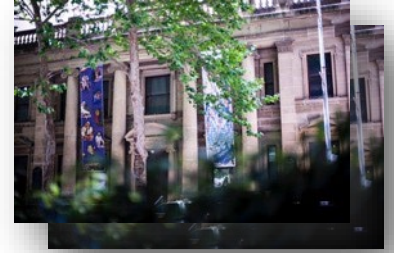




**Pitt Street**  
Uniting Church

*founded 1833*



**ON GADIGAL LAND**

*always was, always will be*

CONTEMPORARY FAITH – JUSTICE – ENGAGING – COMMUNITY

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8 September 2024

**Second Sunday in the Season of Creation**



**TO HOPE AND ACT  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

**Welcome to Pitt Street Uniting Church**

This is a space 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***.

## MUSICAL PRELUDE

# We gather as the people of faith

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## Come, O God of all the earth

TiS 181

Come, O God of all the earth;  
come to us, O Righteous One.  
Come and bring our love to birth;  
in the glory of your Love.

Chorus

*Sing out, earth and skies!  
Sing of the God who loves you.  
Raise your joyful cries,  
Dance to the life around you.*

Come, O God of wind and flame;  
fill the earth with righteousness.  
Teach us all to sing your name;  
may our lives your love confess.  
*Sing out, earth and skies!...*

Come, O God of flashing light;  
twinkling star and burning sun.  
God of day and God of night;  
in your light we all are one.  
*Sing out, earth and skies!...*

Come, O God of snow and rain;  
shower down upon the earth.  
Come, O God of joy and pain;  
God of sorrow, God of mirth.  
*Sing out, earth and skies!...*

Come, O Justice, come, O Peace;  
come and shape our hearts anew.  
Come and make oppression cease;  
bring us all to life in you.  
*Sing out, earth and skies!...*

## **CALL TO WORSHIP & GATHERING PRAYERS**

*“the creation waits with eager longing  
for the revealing of the children of God.”* (Romans 8.19)

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer,  
and Sustainer of the Earth and all creatures! **Amen.**

God is sound and life, Creator of the Universe,  
Source of all life, of whom the angels sing;  
**wondrous Light of all mysteries  
known or unknown to humankind,  
and life that lives in all.**

Blessed are you, Creator of all  
**to you be praise and glory forever**  
as your dawn renews the face of the Earth  
bringing light and life to all creation  
**bring hope to your people.**

May we rejoice in this day you have made  
**open our eyes to behold your presence**  
and strengthen our hands to work for justice for all creation,  
**that the world may rejoice together and give you praise.**

## **ACT OF RECOGNITION**

We acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora  
as the original custodians of the land recently called Pitt Street.  
**We pay our respects to their elders, past and present.**

*please be seated*

**GREETINGS** *Budyeri Gamarruwa*

## **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

*a candle is lit as a symbol of the presence of Christ among us*

## **PRAYER OF AWARENESS**

*A time of silence is shared together*

# Kyrie (sung twice)

TIS 736

Traditional Ukrainian Orthodox

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, Ky - ri - e e - lei - son,  
3 Ky - ri - e e - le - - - i - son.  
5 Chris - te e - lei - son, Chris - te e - lei - son,  
7 Chris - te e - le - - - i - son.

God of hope and healing,  
may your rivers of righteousness  
wash away our apathy, our greed, and selfishness  
**and reveal the deep relationships**  
**You created for us with all creation.**  
Nourish us with the water of life that restores,  
**turning deserts of despair into oases of hope.**  
May the waves of Your embrace  
**transform us back into guardians of Your creation.**  
May the currents of Your justice  
carry us to Your lagoon of peace  
**where all creation may enjoy Life in abundance**  
We pray in the name of the one who came  
so that the whole cosmos may have everlasting life,  
**Jesus the Christ, Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

## THE PEACE

Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

*We are invited to greet one another, sharing God's peace*

**HYMN**            The peace of the earth be with you (*sung twice*)      Guatemalan

The peace of the earth be with you,  
The peace of the heavens too;  
The peace of the rivers be with you,  
The peace of the oceans too.  
Deep peace falling over you;  
God's peace growing in you.

## We listen for God's Word

### FOR WISDOM FOUND IN TEXTS

**A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures:**

from James 2.1-10 & 14-17

For encouragement to share God's love

**We give thanks**

**CANTATA**            Buxtehude's *Befiehl dem Engel*                              **Pitt St Singers**

**Gospel Reading:** from the Gospel of Mark chapter 7 verses 24-37

For the challenge and encouragement of the Gospel

**We give thanks**

**SONG (Taizé)**                              Jubilate Deo                              *sung four times*

Jubilate Deo, Jubilate Deo, Alleluia.

**REFLECTION**                              Josephine Inkpin

but who will speak for Creation?

# We respond in Love

## HYMN

We cannot own the sunlit sky      tune: How can I keep from singing?

We cannot own the sunlit sky,  
the moon, the wild-flowers growing,  
For we are part of all that is  
within life's river flowing.  
With open hands receive  
and share the gifts of God's creation,  
That all may have abundant life  
in every earthly nation.

When bodies shiver in the night  
and weary wait for morning,  
When children have no bread but tears,  
and war horns sound their warning.  
God calls humanity to awake,  
to join in common labour,  
That all may have abundant life,  
oneness with their neighbour.

God calls humanity to join  
as partners in creating  
a future free from want or fear,  
Life's goodness celebrating,  
that new world beckons from afar,  
Invites our shared endeavour  
that all might have abundant life  
and peace endure forever.

## PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND SOLIDARITY

The response to the words  
Loving God, in your mercy  
is **hear our prayer**

## **A Prayer for the Earth** (from *Laudato Si*)

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe  
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,  
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live  
as siblings and lovers, harming no one.

Loving God, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

O God of the poor,

help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth,  
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,  
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,  
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts  
of those who look only for gain  
at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Loving God, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,  
to be filled with awe and contemplation,  
to recognise that we are profoundly united  
with every creature

as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle  
for justice, love and peace.

Loving God, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

In our ecumenical circles of prayer today we pray for:

.....

*We hold a time of silence together to offer our own prayers,  
to reflect upon what rests heavy on our hearts  
- and (if online) please feel free to share brief petitions  
via the Zoom chat facility.*

Loving God,  
we thank you that you have called us to celebrate your creation  
May your compassion and creativity renew the life of the Earth.

Loving God, in your mercy **hear our prayer**

### **OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We share gifts of money and food,  
to share in the love and generosity of God in Creation.

### **HERITAGE HYMN**

All things bright and beautiful

tune: TiS 135

*chorus*

*All things bright and beautiful,  
all creatures great and small.  
All things wise and wonderful,  
the Lord God made them all.*

The wildflowers in their beauty, the mountain ranges tall,  
the billabongs and rivers and friendly birds that call.

*chorus*

The cold wind in the winter, the bright, life-giving sun,  
the ripe fruits in the garden - God made them every one.

*chorus*

The coloured walls of gorges, the gum trees green and tall,  
the rocks and pools and palm trees, the sparkling waterfall.

*chorus*

The many coloured corals, the creatures of the sea,  
of bushland, field, or desert, on farms or roaming free.

*chorus*

*offerings are collected and brought forward*

*We pray together:*

**Spirit of Life,  
may what we give today bring healing and hope**



**for Earth and all of Earth's creatures.  
May the whole creation be restored  
to wholeness and harmony. Amen.**

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

# **We go out to the world God loves**

## **COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING**

May the God of creation  
warm your heart like the campfires of old.  
**Bring wisdom and peace  
as shown to the first peoples of this land.**  
Shake off the dust from the desert plains  
by the refreshing rains  
**followed by the glow and warmth of the sun.**  
Let the light of God show us the right path  
**and stand tall like the big river gums  
drawing life from the ever-flowing waters.**

## **HYMN**

Words: Margaret Forrester (altd)

Tune: SALTASH (87 87 87)

God, you fill the world with beauty,  
form and purpose bring to birth;  
make of us your human children,  
gently walk with Mother Earth.

Grant us to revere creation,  
hold and use your gifts with care (repeat last 2 lines)

Christ, in frailty, offered freely  
hope and love that we might live.  
Risen now, Christ comes and meets us,  
heals our wounds and strength will give.

As we care for the creation,  
may we share your love and grace. (x2)

Holy One, we know your presence  
pulsing through the church and Earth,

where the broken find true healing,  
where the outcast learns their worth.  
Pour on us your Holy Spirit  
send us out to work your will! (x2)

**SUNG AMEN**

**MUSICAL POSTLUDE**

*Everyone is most welcome to stay for refreshments  
or, if online, for conversation together.*

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Hymns used under CCLI Copyright Licence No. 208789 unless otherwise noted.

Call to Worship, Gathering Prayers and Prayers of Confession and Assurance from the global  
Season of Creation ecumenical resources.

Prayer of Jesus adapted from an unknown source

Prayer of Commissioning and Blessing by Uncle Vince Ross



**Tuesday Morning Prayer**

8.30am.

Join us on online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89716624127?pwd=i0oUze39TlqiElQp2Xh040Z5n2HYcb.1>

Meeting ID: 897 1662 4127

Passcode: 951473

**A CONVERSATION  
WITH  
CONNIE TUTTLE**



# **Exploring Gracious Heresy**

**Sunday 20 October**

**12.30 (with light lunch) for 1 pm**

**at Pitt Street Uniting Church, Sydney**

Connie Tuttle is a lesbian, feminist, radical Christian, founder of *Circle of Grace* in the USA, and author of the recent book *A Gracious Heresy: The Queer Calling of an Unlikely Prophet*. She invites us to explore the insistent but 'acutely human and terminally messy' call to prophetic living.



| Work of the People   | Season of Creation 2<br>Pentecost 16<br>8 September                                     | Season of Creation 3<br>Pentecost 17<br>15 September                          |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Liturgist            | Meredith Knight   | Des Perry   |
| Reflection           | Josephine Inkipin   | Josephine Inkipin   |
| Liturgy Curators     | Josephine Inkipin   | Josephine Inkipin   |
| Readers              | Warren Talbot<br>Helen Boerma   | Onnes Hendrata<br>Alison Wishart  |
| Organist             | Ross Johnston   | Ross Johnston   |
| Greeters             | Jane Barnes<br>Wes Knight   | Simon Harris<br>Jacq Salmons  |
| Flowers              | John Thorpe   | Robyn Floyd   |
| Sound Operator       | Larry Keenan  | John Floyd  |
| Camera Operator      | Orange Kao  | Robyn Floyd   |
| Livestream Monitor   | Cathy Ashcroft  | Geoff Maddox  |
| Home Host            | Vera Tibbertsma   | Gillian Hunt  |
| Worship Coordinators | Helen Sanderson<br>Liz Watson   | Lorri Evans<br>Dawn Robson  |
| Communion Team       |   |   |
| Morning Tea          | Vivien Langford<br>Lynne Murray<br>Trish Thorpe<br>Jill Wright<br>+one volunteer please | Marjan McKeough<br>Trinity Ford<br>Craig Linn<br>Andrew Muller<br>Kent Rayson |
| Recycling Team       | Meredith Knight<br>Warren Talbot  | Geoff Maddox<br>John Floyd  |

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
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| <b>Minister Emerita:</b>      | Rev Dorothy McRae-McMahon                                     |