



Pitt Street
Uniting Church

founded 1833



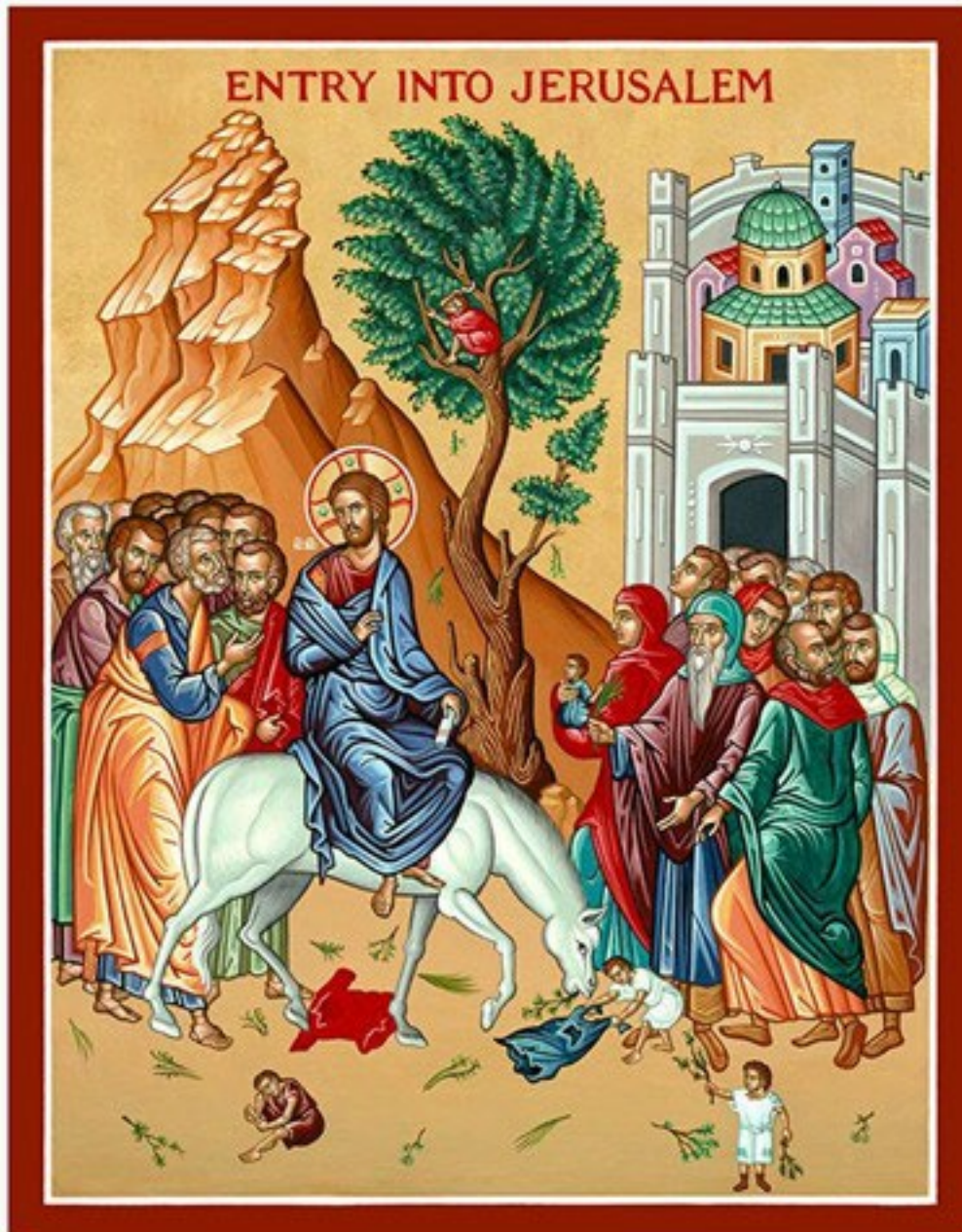
ON GADIGAL LAND

always was, always will be

CONTEMPORARY FAITH – JUSTICE – ENGAGING – COMMUNITY

13 April 2025

Palm Sunday



WELCOME TO PITT STREET UNITING CHURCH

This is a place of welcome for all people regardless of race, sex, creed, age, cultural background, sexuality, 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 the north side of the church for young children.

MUSICAL PRELUDE

A gong sounds – centring prayer / meditation.

We gather as people of faith

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Lyrics adapted by Bill Wallace

Tune: Theodolph TiS 333

Chorus:

*Give joyful praise and honour
to Christ who sets us free
to work for peace and healing
and help the blind to see.*

You came upon a donkey
a sign of glorious peace;
You came to break oppression
and signs of hope increase.

Chorus

Whenever prophets challenge
injustice, lies and wrong
or dare expose the weakness
of those whose power seems strong.

Chorus

Please remain standing as you are able.

OPENING RESPONSES

Loving Divine Presence, loving Friend and Parent,
we offer our thanks, our love and our companionship,
because You have entered our broken world in Jesus Christ.

In Jesus the Liberator

***You have joined us on our journey of pain and pleasure,
of sorrow and joy,
and have given us access to life abundant.***

We lift our voices to give thanks for Jesus.
We celebrate the life of Jesus lived among us,
not with political power or military might,
not with glamour or fame or wealth,
but in humility and love, gently and with great compassion.

***We lift our voices to give thanks to you
Loving Divine Presence, loving Friend and Parent,
we offer our thanks, our love and our companionship.***

HYMN

Lyrics adapted by Bill Wallace

Tune: Theodolph TiS 533

There shall be crucifixion
of those who dare to speak
but some will then awaken
from acquiescent sleep.

*Give joyful praise and honour
to Christ who sets us free
to work for peace and healing
and help the blind to see.*

You come to fire our spirits
with dreams that shall come true
through laughter, love and labour
with others and with you.

*Give joyful praise and honour
to Christ who sets us free
to work for peace and healing
and help the blind to see.*

WELCOME

Budyeri gamarruwa (hello)

AN ACT TOWARDS RECONCILIATION

We acknowledge the First Peoples of Australia.
The Gadigal people of the Eora Nation
are the original custodians of the land on which we meet.
We respect their history and acknowledge their suffering
under the colonisation of their ancient land.

***We honour the culture, heritage and spirit of the Gadigal people
and pray for justice of Indigenous people here and everywhere.***

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF AWARENESS

Source of eternal Love, beyond our imaginations,
You come among us in ever-surprising ways,
challenging our preconceptions and overturning our tables.
Enable us now to acknowledge

***our frustrations with ourselves and others,
our failings to share the fullness of light and life,
and our fears to become the people you call us to be.***

Strength of eternal Love, stretching our imaginations,
You come among us with hope and humility,
challenging our negativities and overturning our ideas of power.
Enable us now to admit:

***our attachments to limited concerns,
our addictions to money and false authority,
and our amnesia to the possibilities of your new creation.***

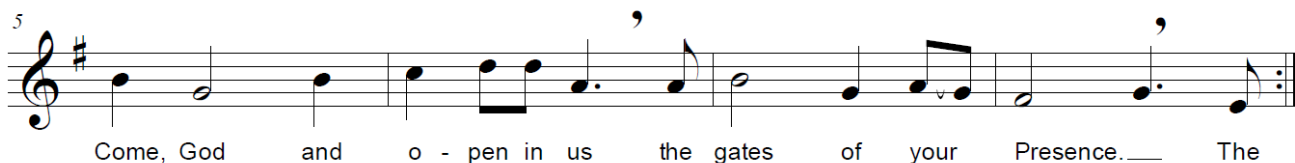
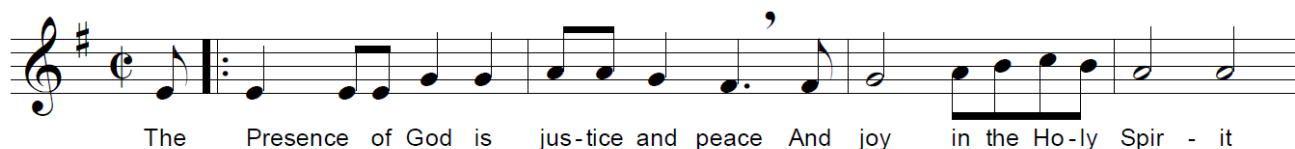
Sustainer of eternal Love, enlivening our imaginations,
You come among us with new life and fruitfulness,
challenging our rigidity and overturning our fixations.
Enable us now to embrace:

***our prophetic capacity,
our potential to be artists of your divine re-creation
and our power to share in the transformation of our world.***

Please remain seated to sing.

TAIZE CHANT

sung three times



JESUS' PRAYER

Earth-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker.

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo
through the universe!

***The way of your justice be followed
by all the peoples of the world!***

Your heavenly will be done
by all created beings!

***Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.***

With the bread we need for today, ***feed us.***

In the hurts we absorb from one another, ***forgive us.***

In times of temptation and test, ***strengthen us.***

From trials too great to endure, ***spare us.***

From the grip of all that is evil, ***free us.***

For your reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

ASSURANCE

Be free in the Holy One
to live, choose, and love
with passion and compassion
in your hearts. *Amen.*

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May God's Peace be with you now and always!
And also with you.

*From our places we are invited to greet those around us,
sharing a sign of peace.*

A story for children if children are present.

We listen for God's Word

A Reading from the Gospels Reading: Luke 19:28-40

For the stories of Jesus making God known to us.
We give thanks.

REFLECTION

Liberation is a Journey

Vladimir Korotkov

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN

Words and music: Iona Community

Travelling the road to freedom,
Who wants to travel the road with me?
Feted by noise and branches
And banners hanging from ever tree;
Cheered on by frenzied people,
Puzzled by what they hear and see:
Travelling the road to freedom,
Who wants to travel the road with me?

Travelling the road to freedom,
Who wants to travel the road with me?
Partnered by staunch supporters
Who, come the dark, will turn and flee;
Nourished by faith and patience,
Neither of which is plain to see:
Travelling the road to freedom,
Who wants to travel the road with me?

Travelling the road to freedom,
Who wants to travel the road with me?
Tipping the scales of justice,
Setting both minds and captives free;
Suffering and yet forgiving,
Even when my friends most disagree:
Travelling the road to freedom,
Who wants to travel the road with me?

Please be seated

We respond in love

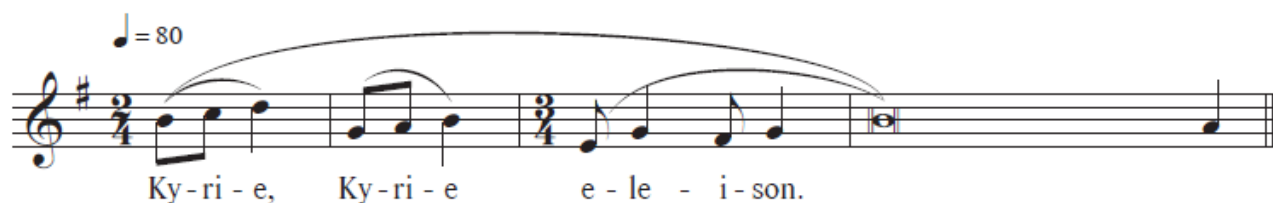
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray to you, O Christ of palm branches and donkeys.
For you understand us and in love you have promised
not to push away any who come to you.

So, we pray:

For those who feel pushed away from the church
and from faith in Christ: that they may find welcome and peace:

Let us sing:



For your church: that those who follow Jesus may care for others, offering welcome and not condemnation:

Let us sing:

Musical notation for the first phrase. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a tempo marking of ♩ = 80. The melody is written on a single staff with a slur over the entire phrase. The lyrics are: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

For those who make laws, interpret them, and administer them: that our common life may be ordered in justice and mercy:

Let us sing:

Musical notation for the second phrase. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a tempo marking of ♩ = 80. The melody is written on a single staff with a slur over the entire phrase. The lyrics are: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

For those who still make Jerusalem a battleground, and for all places of war and violence:

Let us sing:

Musical notation for the third phrase. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a tempo marking of ♩ = 80. The melody is written on a single staff with a slur over the entire phrase. The lyrics are: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

For those who have the courage and honesty to work openly for justice and peace, offering their 'green hearts' of hope and trust:

Let us sing:



Musical notation for the first Kyrie eleison. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The melody is written on a five-line staff with a slur over the first two measures and another slur over the next two measures. The lyrics are: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

For those in the darkness and agony of isolation,
that they may find support and encouragement:

Let us sing:



Musical notation for the second Kyrie eleison. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The melody is written on a five-line staff with a slur over the first two measures and another slur over the next two measures. The lyrics are: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

For those who, weighed down with hardship, failure, or sorrow,
feel that God is far from them:

Let us sing:



Musical notation for the third Kyrie eleison. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The melody is written on a five-line staff with a slur over the first two measures and another slur over the next two measures. The lyrics are: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

That we, with those who have died in faith,
may find mercy in the day of Christ:

Let us sing:



Musical notation for the fourth Kyrie eleison. It features a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The melody is written on a five-line staff with a slur over the first two measures and another slur over the next two measures. The lyrics are: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son.

*Please feel free to offer your own prayers
in silence, or (if on Zoom) via the chat facility.*

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN

Lord of the Dance

TiS 242

I danced in the morning
When the world was begun,
And I dance in the moon
And the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on earth,
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Chorus:

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the Dance said he.*

I danced on the Sabbath
And I cured the lame
The holy people
Said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
And they hung me high,
And left me there
On a Cross to die.

Chorus ...

OFFERING and PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We bring our offering
as we seek to love God, to love creation,
and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

***We look for a gentler humanity, a kinder world:
with our money and our hearts,
with our minds and with every good intention,
this is our prayer. Amen.***

*We give thanks for the gifts of food (for the Wayside Chapel and
Exodus Foundation) and money, and gifts given to support the
mission of the church through automatic payment.*

BANK DETAILS FOR ELECTRONIC OFFERING

Account name: Giving Direct

BSB: 634-634. Account: 100025916

Reference: your name

Contact the Church Office if you would like information about planned giving.

Please remain standing as you are able.

We go out to the world God loves

HYMN

Here in the Busy City

Words: Shirley Erena Murray

Tune: Thornbury TiS 456

Here in the busy city
now let the church be seen
where lesser gods are worshipped
in money and machine;
where news is but sensation,
the Good News hardly heard
now let the church take action
in living out the word!

In policies and planning
the church be there to speak
to moderate the powerful,
to argue for the weak:
where law must sit in judgement
and love is little known,
there at the crisis centre
the Christ concern be shown

SENDING OUT

Go out remembering Jesus the Christ,
who enters our world to surprise, subvert, and liberate.
God of the onward journey of liberation
Amid uncertainty,
give us courage.
Amid darkness,
give us light.
Amid fear,
give us hope.
Amid instability,
give us balance.
Amid conflict,
give us peace.
And in all things accompany us
along the way.

HYMN

Here in the Busy City

Words: Shirley Erena Murray

Tune: Thornbury TiS 456

Where litter chokes the gutter
and people go to waste,
where joblessness is bitter
and living lost its taste
to underleavened people
be proof of rising yeast,
in lives devoid of flavour
be saltiness released!

Here in the busy city
God walks on every street
in generous or greedy,
the honest or the cheat,
and daily we must offer
the good that goes unpriced
with vigour and with vision
the lifestyle of the Christ.

BLESSING

Creator of the palm leaves,
the sky, the sea and all that is.

Bless us and keep us.

Redeemer of the fickle crowds,
the fearful disciples and all we are.

Bless us and keep us.

Sanctifier of the ordinary,
the donkeys and all that can be.

Bless us and keep us.

This Palm Sunday and always. ***Amen.***

SUNG AMEN

African American

During the postlude, the Worship team processes out – liturgist
and Reflection, then readers (or perhaps the other way!)

Please be seated.

COMMUNITY GREETING

Welcoming Visitors and newcomers

MUSICAL POSTLUDE

Peter Bennett

Those attending by Zoom are warmly invited to stay for a community time online to meet with others and share news.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*Christa and/or Christx is used in our liturgy to point to the reality that the risen Christ is in and beyond all gender.

TiS is the Australian Hymnbook *Together in Song*.

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Opening Responses adapted from sacredise.com

Jesus Prayer from *Prayer at Night* by Jim Cotter, Sheffield. Cairns Publications.

Other prayers by, or adapted by, Josephine Inkpin and Penny Jones

RETURNING OUR HEARTS

holy week & easter at pitt street

10 am palm sunday
5.30 pm maundy thursday
- contemplative communion
10 am good friday
10 am easter day communion

pittstreetuniting.org.au

A Different Table

**5.30 PM
MAUNDY THURSDAY
@ PITT STREET
UNITING CHURCH**

**A FEMALE-LED CONTEMPLATIVE COMMUNION
CELEBRATING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL
- THE LAST SUPPER WITH THE 'OTHERS' PRESENT**



A person sitting under a tree
AI-generated content may be
incorrect.

Holy Saturday:

A space between

**10:00 am to 12:30pm
Pitt St Uniting Church**

A space to breathe, grieve or
just be.

Drop in for an hour or stay all
morning.

Mindful activities, labyrinth walk

The Virgin Mary and Mary Magdalene sit outside the tomb of Christ. Mezzotint by T.W. Huffam after Philip Veit. Source: Wellcome Collection. <https://wellcomecollection.org/works/n3uqbkf9>

TENDING OUR TORN HEARTS



10 AM GOOD FRIDAY

AT PITT STREET UNITING CHURCH

EASTER SUNDAY

*Easter Sunday Celebration at 10 am
New life: renewing hearts...
Everyone welcome.*

