



ALKING POINT

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

SUNDAY 15th November 2020

Volume 26 Issue 42

Dear Friends,

As I write this there have been Zero new COVID-19 cases and Zero deaths for ten days in a row; that's something to celebrate. Now that we are moving into a re-united state, regional and metropolitan, it's good to hear that families are able to visit with each other and we can all plan for a COVID-19 free Christmas. The details, hopefully, will emerge soon.

As we see so many changes, I would like to reemphasise that COVID normal in the church is still very serious. Even though we are seeing people in cafes with no masks, and sitting close to one another, I believe we need to be more concerned for our members and our visitors, than those places that can afford contract cleaning on a large scale. Churches have been identified as super spreader events, <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-superspreading-events-drive-most-covid-19-spread/> (*Scientists have identified factors that catalyse such events, including large crowd sizes, close contact between people and confined spaces with poor ventilation.*)

What that means is that we need to be extra vigilant in our opening up for groups and in our setting up and cleaning processes. There are details of these in each church, Rosedale, Glengarry and Traralgon. Soon you will notice that chairs and pews with cloth coverings are not being used. Each room has a sign near the door with the numbers of people allowed at any given time. Every group needs to clean up after their own meeting; wearing gloves and disinfecting everything that was touched. All people are still to remain 1.5metres from each other. I encourage everyone to stay vigilant as we learn together to be COVID safe and to be a worshipping witnessing and serving community.

In Christ,
Kerry

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Traralgon District Uniting Church

Incorporating: Traralgon, Glengarry & Rosedale.



Traralgon, Glengarry, and Rosedale Uniting churches Worship at Home
ORDER OF SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 15th November 2020

Call to worship:

In you, Holy One, we gather to worship
In you, we find Holy Ground...

Song: TiS 474 [Gather us in](#) (Agnes Choo)

1. Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away.
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in - the lost and forsaken,
gather us in - the blind and the lame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young - our lives are a mystery,
We are the old - who yearn for your face
We have been sung throughout all of history,
Called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in - the rich and the haughty,
Gather us in - the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
Give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place, the new light is shining;
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in - and hold us forever,
gather us in - and make us your own.
Gather us in - all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Scripture Reading: 1Thessalonians 4:13-18

Prayers:

1. In you, gracious God,
The widowed find a carer,
The orphaned find a parent,
The fearful find a friend.

2. In you, loving Spirit,
the wounded find a healer
the penitent find a pardoner,
The burdened find a counsellor.

3. In you, Christ Jesus,
the miserly find a beggar,
the downhearted find a laughter-maker,
the legalists find a rule-breaker.

4. In you, Faithful One,
We meet our Maker,
And our Modifier.

And if some need to say, 'Help me'

And if some need to say, 'Free me'

And if some need to say, 'Hold me'

And if some need to say, 'Forgive me'

Then let these be said now, In confidence, By us (Reflective Silence)

Loving God,
In whose heart is both welcome and warning,
Say to us, Do to us, Reveal within us,
The things that will make us whole. Amen.

Doxology: TiS 768 [Praise God](#) (HiFi HymnBook)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God above, you heavenly host,

Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Scripture Reading: Matt 25:1-13; Bev Palmer

Sermon: Kerry

Offering Song: TiS 164 [The great love of God](#)

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| 1. The great love of God
Is revealed in the Son
Who came to this earth
To redeem every one | 2. That love, like a stream
flowing clear to the sea
makes clean every heart
that from sin would be free. |
| 3. It binds the whole world
Every barrier it breaks,
The hills it lays low,
And the mountains it shakes | 4. It's yours, it is ours,
O how lavishly giv'n!
the pearl of great price,
and the treasure of heav'n |

Commissioning: Ian Leversha (Secretary)

...

Members of this congregation, will you support the Transition Team with your prayers and active participation in the work they will lead during this time of transition?

Congregation: **We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Leader: Let us all pray as one:

Hear our petitions, O gracious Lord, and confirm with your heavenly blessing, your servants commissioned to minister in your Church, that with sincere devotion of mind and body, they may offer acceptable service to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People: Geoff Aitken & Jan Smart (Conclude with the Lord's Prayer)

At home, take a few minutes to pray, in your own way, for community, for the church, and for the world.

Offering song: TiS 693 [Come as you are](#) (Paul Gurr)

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|---|---|
| 1. Come as you are, that's how I want you
Come as you are, feel quite at home
Close to my heart, loved and forgiven
Come as you are, why stand alone? | 2. No need to fear, love sets no limits
No need to fear, love never ends
Don't run away, ashamed and disheartened
Rest in my love, trust me again |
| 3. I came to call sinners, not just the righteous
I came to bring peace, not to condemn
Each time you fail, to live by my promise
Why do you think, I'd love you the less? | 4. Come as you are, that's how I love you
Come as you are, trust me again
Nothing can change, the love that I bear you
All will be well, just come as you are. |

Your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

—1 Corinthians 2:5



Communion: Simon Trebilcock & Sue Scarlett (servers)

...

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:

The Lord be with you.

And also with you,

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...

In remembrance and thanks for liberation and grace,

we give ourselves to you, O God as we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again

Breaking bread: The blessed bread (rice crackers) can be shared to your home, please advise Kerry.

The bread of Life, broken for all

The cup of Love, shared for all

The Gifts of God for the people of God

Gifts for all, Life and Love.

Song: TiS 714 [Eat this bread](#) (Taizé -JMC AD)

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to Him and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in Him and you will not thirst.

Blessing:

Our Lord was, and is, and is to come. Go now to love and serve in the great love of Christ.

Song: TiS 626 [Lord of Creation](#) (agape Sandoval)

1. Lord of creation, to you be all praise!

Most mighty your working, most wondrous your ways!

Your glory and might are beyond us to tell,

And yet in the heart of the humble you dwell.

2. Lord of all power, I give you my will,

In joyful obedience your tasks to fulfill.

Your bondage is freedom; your service is song;

And, held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.

3. Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind:

Rich truth that surpasses our knowledge to find,

What eye has not seen and what ear has not heard

Is taught by your Spirit and shines from your word.

4. Lord of all bounty, I give you my hearts;

I praise and adore you for all you impart,

Your love to inspire me, your counsel to guide,

Your presence to shield me, whatever betide.

5. Lord of all being, I give you my all

If ever I leave you I stumble and fall

But, led in your service your word to obey

I'll walk in your freedom to the end of the way

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