

**Sunday 29 March 2020  
Gathering God's People**

**Lali**

**Introit**

**Lighting the Christ Candle:**

**Light a candle in your home**

**Greeting:**

To the community of Christ  
Scattered through the city:

Grace and peace to you.  
**And also to you.**

**Call to worship:** (Revelation 3:20)

<sup>20</sup> Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me

(Psalm 40:5)

You have increased, O Lord my God,  
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;  
none can compare with you.

Were I to proclaim and tell of them,  
they would be more than can be counted.

**Sere:**

## **A Prayer of Approach:**

Here in this time of lockdowns  
And uncertainty,  
In a time of self-isolation  
And self-distancing  
We gather in our homes,  
With family, friends or alone.

We come together like this  
In this season of Lent;  
Easter lies before us.

We know that you journey  
With us through all the ups and downs of life.  
We know that we are not on our own  
For you are with us:

And so we worship you God,  
Our creator, in whose image we are made  
The God of Jesus Christ  
Whose name we bear.

We worship you  
In spirit and truth.

**Amen**

## **An Act of Confession and Trust in God**

**Read out loud the words of Jesus in your own home  
Read them in English or Fijian**

Jesus said: Love the Lord your God,  
with all your heart and with all your soul  
and with all your strength  
and with all your mind'

Jesus said: Love your neighbour  
As yourself.

(Silence)

**Talatala and together**

Forgive us, God of grace, God of mercy  
**When we prefer the power of the strong  
And do not show concern for those at risk.**

Forgive us, God of grace, God of mercy  
**When we prefer what is not right to what is right:**

Forgive us, God of grace, God of mercy  
**When we have fear of the other  
And forget how you care for us.**

Silence

**Read: Psalm 40:9-10**

**Read at home out loud in English or Fijian**

I have told the glad news of deliverance  
in the great congregation;  
see, I have not restrained my lips,  
as you know, O Lord.

<sup>10</sup>I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;  
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness  
from the great congregation.



## Learning Together: 'The faces of Jesus'

### The Peace

**In English or Fijian**

May the peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

### Sharing:

#### The Service of the Word

**Hebrew Bible** Ezekiel 37:1-14

**Gospel Reading:** John 11:1-45

(read with several voices)

*See the separate sheet: reading about Lazarus.*

**Sermon:** The seventh sign

### The Offering and Prayer:

**Prayers for Others:** (create your own prayers for others)

**In your own homes**

**Below are some suggestions:**

Let us pray:

Let us pray for the world in which we find ourselves:

For those who give light to the dark places of the world.

For those who add seasoning to the life of the world.

For those who seek to speak the truth and act justly

For peacemakers

Let us pray for the city in which we find ourselves

For those who have lost their jobs and now find themselves  
queueing up for assistance

For employers facing tough choices through no fault of their  
Own

For those in self isolation and separated from family and loved  
ones.

For health workers and emergency workers.

Let us pray for wisdom

Let us pray for the church

For those who work for the sake of others

For those who seek to inspire and comfort through a word,  
a prayer, a song.

For those seeking to rebuild their lives

For those who love kindness and mercy

For the other Fijian congregations here in this land

Let us pray for those in need or not able to be with us.

For those now living in care

For those who are moving home

For those who are not well

For those recovering from surgery

For those who mourn.

Let us pray for ourselves.

Lord, in your mercy  
**HEAR OUR PRAYER**

**Song:** 'May our lives and prayers be one'.

*May our lives and our prayers be one - by Paul Somerville*

May our | lives and our prayers be | one — —  
As our | hopes shape the roads we walk | on,  
And when our | work and our dream-ing's | done.  
May our | lives and our prayers be | one.

Within the rhythm of our days  
We take the time to muse and pray  
The fears we face, the tears we taste  
We view in light of holy grace...

*May our lives...*

We name our deepest hopes and dreams  
For those we love and all in need.  
We picture how the world could be.  
We live the change we want to see.

*May our lives...*

**The Lord's Prayer:**

**Sere:**

**Dismissal and Blessing:**

May the love of God  
Who watches over all our days  
Be with you.

May the peace of Christ  
Who is our companion  
Through life's journey  
Be with you.

May the joy of the Spirit  
Who hovers over the face of creation  
Be with you.  
Now and always,

**Sing a 3 fold Amen in your home.**