

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you

*And also with you*

## SONG TiS 161 Tell out my soul the greatness of the Lord

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;  
tender to me the promise of his word;  
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.
2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his name!  
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;  
his mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
his holy name - the Lord, the Mighty One.
3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!  
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
to children's children and for evermore!

*Words Timothy Dudley-Smith/Music Walter Greatorex C.C.L.I. No. 237097*

## BENEDICTION

*Westmead Uniting*

*A Congregation of*

*Parramatta Mission*

*Pentecost 12A*

*Sunday 23rd August 2020*



## WELCOME

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The presence of God-with-us saves us from being overwhelmed by anything that threatens us.

***God calls us and walks with us, through the fire and through the flood.***

God delights in us and our help is surely in God who made heaven and earth.

***So let us Praise God who hears us and answers us;***

Let us worship God.

## SONG            TiS 52 Let us sing to the God of salvation

1. Let us sing to the God of salvation  
let us sing to the Lord our rock!  
Let us come to his house with thanksgiving,  
let us come before the Lord and sing.  
*Praise our Maker,  
praise our Saviour,  
praise the Lord our everlasting King.  
Every throne must bow before him,  
God is Lord of everything!*
2. In his hands are the earth's deep places  
and the strength of the hills is his;  
all the sea is the Lord's, for he made it,  
by his hands the dry land was formed.
3. Let us worship the Lord our Maker,  
let us kneel to the Lord our God;  
for we all are the sheep of his pasture,  
he will guide us by his powerful hand.
4. Let today be the time when you hear him!  
May our hearts not be hard or cold,  
lest we stray from the Lord in rebellion,  
as his people did in time of old.

*Words Richard Thomas Bewes/Music Traditional Melody C.C.L.I. No. 237097*

## PRAYER

God our Help and our Redeemer, if you had not chosen to become a part of our lives, through the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, where and who would we be?

Helpless! -helpless without you - and so we offer our heartfelt thanks and praise, for such evidence of your care for us.

For in giving and receiving we learn to love and be loved;  
***We encounter the meaning of life, the mystery of existence.***

So we pray for our brothers and sisters in all of humanity. We pray for those who are oppressed by ignorance and poverty, caught in a web of injustice and apathy, cut off from one another by language, culture, colour, class and creed.  
***Through the darkness you call people into your marvellous light.***

We pray for those with little or no hope. We pray that you will come to them in the lives of others who bring joy and hope and peace.  
***We pray for the people in the world who are afraid- may your perfect love come and cast out all fear.***

And as our scriptures remind us we bind up those things which cause harm to others and keep people living in the dark and we loosen the ties around all that is goof and life giving in this world. May your light be spread throughout the world and your Spirit released into this place and all places.  
***You are calling all of us out of darkness into your marvellous light.***

...And now, let us join with the Christians of all nations in the prayer Jesus taught his disciples as we say

***Our Father in heaven,  
Hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come,  
Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our sins,  
As we forgive those who sin against us.***

***And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For yours is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever, Amen.***

**OFFERING**

## SONG TiS 607 Make me a channel of your peace

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there is hatred let me bring your love;  
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord;  
and where's doubt, true faith in you.

*O Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.  
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope;  
where there is darkness, let me bring your light;  
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

*O Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace.  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving of ourselves that we receive,  
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Words (anonymous prayer ? French) words and music version Johann Sebastian Templehoff/  
Music C.C.L.I. No. 237097

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving Lord,  
We come before you, not alone, but in the company of one  
another.

***We share our happiness with each other-and it becomes  
greater.***

We share our troubles with each other - and they become  
smaller.

We share one another's griefs and burdens - and their weight  
becomes possible to bear.

***We pray this day that we may never be too mean to give  
nor too proud to receive.***

In and through Jesus, we have become more deeply aware of your  
goodness and mercy. As your presence enabled him to live  
courageously, so you strengthen us to live boldly through the gift  
of the Holy Spirit - your empowering presence in us.

We pray that our worship and our daily living will resonate with our  
gratitude and praise for your presence with us, and all your  
gracious gifts to us.

Merciful God, you have graced our lives with the life of Jesus, and  
we rejoice that our lives are forever linked with him through  
baptism.

***We can recognise and proclaim Jesus as your Son, and our  
Lord and Saviour.***

In him, our lives - our minds and our hearts are transformed and  
renewed so that we may discern in your will for the world all that is  
good and acceptable and perfect.

We praise and adore you for who you are, for what you have done  
and the love, grace and mercy you show.

We confess, however, that there are times when our actions and  
our words seem to be conformed more to the values of this age  
than to doing your will.

If we believe that our faith experience is superior to the way  
others have come to faith and so fail to recognise and share the  
humility that life in Christ possesses.

***Please forgive us***

If our relationships are so shaped by bitterness and jealousy, that  
we fail to recognise and share the joy that life in Christ  
reveals.

***Please forgive us***

If we exclude people from our fellowship through our prejudice and  
discrimination; and so fail to recognise and share the love that life  
in Christ imparts.

***Please forgive us***

If selfishness and greed so corrode our lifestyles that we fail to  
recognise and share the generosity that life in Christ delights in.

***Please forgive us***

Merciful God, so transform us with the life of Christ and renew us in his image that the grace, humility and compassion which marked his life will be clearly visible in and experienced through our lives; so that we who are one body in Christ may delight in sharing the gifts you graciously give us for both the building up of this community of faith and the communities where we live and work and play.

***This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen***

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! Hear then God's words of forgiveness - your sins are forgiven.

***Thanks be to God!***

## **STORY The Basket case**

### **SONG Be still and know that I am God**

Be still and know that I am God,  
be still and know that I am God,  
be still and know that I am God.

I am the Lord that healeth thee,  
I am the Lord that healeth thee,  
I am the Lord that healeth thee.  
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust,  
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust,  
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust.

*Words/Music unknown C.C.L.I. No. 237097*

## **READINGS**

### **Romans 12: 1-8**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—God's good, pleasing and perfect will.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup>For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup>if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

This is God's word,

***Let us give thanks to God***

### **Matthew 16: 13-20**

<sup>13</sup>When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

<sup>14</sup>They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

<sup>15</sup>"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

<sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

<sup>17</sup>Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." <sup>20</sup>Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is God's word,

***Let us give thanks to God***

## **SERMON**