

Welcome to Worship - Sunday October 25, 2020

Celebrating a Season of Creation - Week 4



Parramatta Mission Online Services Leigh 9.30am, Westmead 9.45am

During March-December 2020, Parramatta Mission is conducting 'live' worship services via Zoom. While we look forward to the day we can be joyfully present together physically, we are mindful of the many people we can best care for by worshipping online and at a 'safe' distance.

9.30am (Leigh Congregation) <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/5450786355>

9.45am (Westmead Congregation) <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/3958336709>

11.15am (Leigh Fijian Congregation) <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/5450786355>

Leaders: Rev Clive (Leigh 9.30) Sunil (Westmead 9.45), Preacher: Rev Amelia

Intro to Creation Month <https://youtu.be/Nu9A-l-XG38>

CREATING COMMUNITY

CREATIVITY by Charles Bukowski https://youtu.be/KZgE_YXuzXQ

Call to Worship (Sunil) <https://youtu.be/kQoowlUc9mq>
from Psalms 118 and 122

Hymn God of Creation (Morning has broken)

<https://vimeo.com/461406456>

God of Creation - Gentle life-giver
Present at birth, and all through our days
Author of sunrise - Song in the night sky
Here in this place, we offer our praise

Jesus, Companion - teacher and healer
friend of the grieving, suffering, the poor
Stand with your people - whisper among us
promise of mercy, goodness for all

Spirit of Comfort, blow through Creation
stir up new life, breathe peace through our world
Healer of hearts, and hope for tomorrow
weave all our sorrows into new dawn

Here we give thanks for life in its fullness
blessings received your gifts to us all
Make us a people filled with compassion
selflessly giving serving your world

(c) Craig Mitchell, 2010.

Acknowledging Place Ancient One 58" <https://youtu.be/7HNjOBiniDE>

When we call God, "Ancient One" or "Ancient of Days" (Daniel 7:22),
it conveys the sense of God beyond our sense of time.
This is not about naming a Judge, as much as naming the One
in whose hands we place our eternal trust.

The Ancient of Days breathed life into this Land and her Peoples.
From time beyond our reckoning the First people
have blessed this place through their care and concern.
We pay our respects to their Elders and Leaders,
past and present and pray for the future of their communities.
May we walk gently and respectfully on this Land.

Prayer - Calling to God to come [Let us pray] Sunil / AKB

You hovered over the chaos of the first day
and brought new ways of being.
O God of the Wilderness,
look upon us in our homes, separated, yet together...
Come quickly to save us.
Help us gather today in new ways,
so that your Spirit is inspiring us for a common good.
Fill us with faith and trust in you so we may give you glory
now and in the world to come. Amen

Reflection - The Dream of Life by Alan Watts <https://youtu.be/abWBb1SxkXc>

Confession Prayer ...

Invited to follow the Creator, invited to abandon self,
for the sake of love, of God, of God's world...
We confess we have sometimes abandoned love,
and God and the care of God's world,
to instead focus on our own reflecting
- remaking God in Our Image,
- desiring God to serve our purposes,
- abandoning the way of discipleship for the sake of Self.
In turning from God's Way, we became lost...
lost in place, in identity and in purpose.
Find us, we ask, O God of mercy.
Find us, and help us to get up and walk again
on your path of right-ness and righteousness.

Words of Assurance ...

God is merciful and loves us so much
that God promises to keep reaching out
to pull us back onto the path of Life.
In Jesus Christ, God says to us, "Your sins are forgiven!"
Thanks be to God!

Song I am Here <https://www.facebook.com/michael.hawn.37/videos/10160303816978082>

Passing the Peace [Leigh - breakout rooms!]

God's peace be with you!
And also with you!

Reading Psalm 51:1-3, 8-19

To the leader. A Psalm of David, when the prophet Nathan came to him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba.

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
and do not take your holy spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God,
O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.
O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.
For you have no delight in sacrifice;

Do good to Zion in your good pleasure; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem,
then you will delight in right sacrifices,
in burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings;
then bulls will be offered on your altar.

Story [A Bird or Two - Matisse \[3'33"\]](#) <https://youtu.be/-blrleAIJuU>

Reading [James 1:16-17 \(NRSV\)](#)

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

Sermon [Called to Co-create](#) - Rev Amelia

We were created by an infinitely creative God to reflect his love and character to the world. One way we do that is by continuing God's creative work.

Offering

Prayers of the People

The Seed <https://youtu.be/sVPYIRF9RCQ>

In this month of creation, we have held leaves, water, candles...
today we consider the seeds of creativity within creation:

We bring to mind those who have lost hope
in the crushing weight of unemployment or financial struggles.
May the seeds of life deep within break forth
to become new ideas and thoughts and dreams:

We remember those who find themselves without a home
as they courageously leave situations of violence and abuse.
May the encouragement of welcome packs and handmade rugs
nurture seeds of possibility and spiritual security.

We think of those who are emerging with new signs of life...
for those who are holding the fragility of beginnings - new households, new family
members, new jobs, new ways of being.
Spirit of Life, breathe Wisdom into midwives and nurturers.

We hold before you those who feel dried up
and unable to engage in life's flourishing.

May our congregations be communities of nourishment,
where healing and comfort are part of our shared culture.

For all the scattered seeds - we pray...

(pause)

For gardeners and those who tend to communities - we pray...

(pause)

For our part to play - we pray...

In our heart languages we pray as the Lord taught us...

Our Father...

Fijian Lord's Prayer 4'27"

<https://youtu.be/erouzTRlzt8>

Song

Here I am, Lord

<https://youtu.be/2zr9SMm1qll>

Word of Mission

Sending Song Tasmanian Sung Blessing

https://youtu.be/Kxd5XyZ6y_o

May the west wind breathe softly on your shoulder
and the gentle rain refresh all life around.

May the light across the mountain paint your world with brighter days
as the tall trees lift their heads from fertile ground.

May the pain of the past meet truth and healing
and our hoping, loving, giving, bloom and grow.
May the wonder of our island nurture caring in us all
and the sacredness of land and living grow.

May the deep waters carry us to others
and the gleaming skies direct our thoughts above
may the beauty all around us fill us body, soul and mind
and regenerate our world with peace and love.

(c) John Macrae, Hobart 2019