



**Combined Service – led by Young Adults of Parramatta Mission
Combined service – Sunday January 17, 2021
10AM**

Zoomed from Westmead UC

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/3958336709>

Meeting ID: 395 833 6709 Or Dial in by phone +61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Theme: **Encounter**

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The playing of the lali calls us to worship.

Acknowledgement of Country <https://vimeo.com/499132683>

Call to worship – lighting of the candle

We light this candle to remind ourselves
that Jesus is the light of world,
that even in the darkest of times,
we still encounter Christ
and he lightens the path for us back to God.

²He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
he set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand...

You are my help and my deliverer;
you are my God, do not delay." *Psalm 40: 2 & 17*

[optional] Song / Sere Come, now is the time to worship - Brian Doerksen

<https://youtu.be/bzu76r9p174>

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God - Come

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God
One day ev'ry knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those
Who gladly choose you now

Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God - Come

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God
One day ev'ry knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains for those,
Who gladly choose you now

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives
Willingly our knees will bow
With all our hearts, oh, mind...

Prayer – in breakout rooms

*Please share what you give thanks for from the Christmas/New Year period.
When you have all shared, pray together:*

**We give thanks for one another,
companions on this journey of faith.**

**We give thanks for our community
and those who work hard to care for us and protect us.**

**We give thanks for God's blessings,
sometimes clear and obvious and sometimes subtle.**

**We give thanks for Creation, Salvation and Holiness,
the gifts of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

Amen

Back together...

Prayer of Confession – Sometimes it takes a mountain

Reflection on Psalm 40:1-2 - Sand, Slime, Rock

sand – Do you ever feel ‘slipping in the sand’?
How does/can God lift you out of the ‘sandy uncertainty’?

slime - Do you ever feel that you’re ‘loosing grip’
or that choices/decisions/reality are slippery and hard to grasp?
How might your faith and relationship with God
help you to ‘get a grip’?

rock – Are you looking for solidity and security?
Where might you find it?
What form might it come in?

Song / Sere You are mine (David Haas) <https://youtu.be/qBPA4mIJ5NY>

I will come to you in the silence
I will lift you from all your fear
You will hear My voice, I claim you as My choice
Be still, and know I am near...

I am hope for all who are hopeless
I am eyes for all who long to see
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light
Come and rest in Me...

Do not be afraid, I am with you
I have called you each by name
Come and follow Me, I will bring you home
I love you and you are mine

I am strength for all the despairing
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free
And all will know My name...

I am the Word that leads all to freedom
I am the peace the world cannot give
I will call your name, embracing all your pain
Stand up, now, walk, and live...

Assurance of Forgiveness

This is the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Learning Together Josh's video

Song Oceans <https://youtu.be/n3gEzviRi4Y>

You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep my faith will stand

And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sovereign hand will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now

So I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine

Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made...

Reading the Scriptures

Psalm 40

I waited patiently for the LORD to help me,
and he turned to me and heard my cry.

² He lifted me out of the pit of despair,
out of the mud and the mire.

He set my feet on solid ground
and steadied me as I walked along.

³ He has given me a new song to sing,
a hymn of praise to our God.

Many will see what he has done and be amazed.
They will put their trust in the LORD.

⁴ Oh, the joys of those who trust the LORD,
who have no confidence in the proud
or in those who worship idols.

⁵ O LORD my God, you have performed many wonders for us.
Your plans for us are too numerous to list. You have no equal.

If I tried to recite all your wonderful deeds,
I would never come to the end of them.

⁶ You take no delight in sacrifices or offerings.
Now that you have made me listen, I finally understand^[a]—
you don't require burnt offerings or sin offerings.

⁷ Then I said, "Look, I have come.
As is written about me in the Scriptures:

⁸ I take joy in doing your will, my God,
for your instructions are written on my heart."

⁹ I have told all your people about your justice.
I have not been afraid to speak out, as you, O LORD, well know.

¹⁰ I have not kept the good news of your justice hidden in my heart;
I have talked about your faithfulness and saving power.

I have told everyone in the great assembly
of your unfailing love and faithfulness.

¹¹ LORD, don't hold back your tender mercies from me.
Let your unfailing love and faithfulness always protect me.

¹² For troubles surround me—too many to count!
My sins pile up so high I can't see my way out.

They outnumber the hairs on my head. I have lost all courage.

¹³ Please, LORD, rescue me! Come quickly, LORD, and help me.

¹⁴ May those who try to destroy me be humiliated and put to shame.
May those who take delight in my trouble be turned back in disgrace.

¹⁵ Let them be horrified by their shame, for they said,
"Aha! We've got him now!"

¹⁶ But may all who search for you
be filled with joy and gladness in you.
May those who love your salvation repeatedly shout,
"The LORD is great!"
¹⁷ As for me, since I am poor and needy,
let the Lord keep me in his thoughts.
You are my helper and my savior. O my God, do not delay.

Luke 4:14-22

¹⁴ Then Jesus returned to Galilee, filled with the Holy Spirit's power.
Reports about him spread quickly through the whole region.
¹⁵ He taught regularly in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.
¹⁶ When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home,
he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath
and stood up to read the Scriptures.
¹⁷ The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him.
He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written:
¹⁸ "The Spirit of the LORD is upon me,
for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released,
that the blind will see,
that the oppressed will be set free,
¹⁹ and that the time of the LORD's favor has come."^[a]
²⁰ He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down.
All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. ²¹ Then he began
to speak to them.
"The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!"
²² Everyone spoke well of him and was amazed by the gracious words
that came from his lips. "How can this be?" they asked.
"Isn't this Joseph's son?"

Sermon Amelia and Saini

Offering

Optional Song/Sere The Spirit, Like the Wind <https://youtu.be/t4ANzk5VowE>

A cool and gentle blowing, a rustling through the trees,
A floating cloud is pushed along
the pathway of the breeze.
Unable to be measured, unable to be seen,
And, yet, the wind is known as it lifts the Autumn leaves,
As it lifts the Autumn leaves.

A rushing wind that rages, an angry, stormy gale,
A surging wind will sweep along the things within its trail.
Unable to arrest it, unable to restrain,
The wind declares its presence as it drives the heavy rain,
As it drives the heavy rain.

A greater force is working, in greater strength She rides.
The Spirit, like the wind of God, renews and sanctifies.
A gale of deep conviction, a gentle, holy blow,
She stirs within the heart Human,
She moves within the soul, She moves within the soul.

Oh, Lord, I feel Your blowing, the stirring in my soul.
I long let Your Spirit move, a full surrender know.
Oh, let me not resist it, but testify through me,
Of Your transforming power, of Your reality.

Note – If you found this song inspiration, it is on the 'Even There' album,
<https://foreverbesure.com/product/even-there-cd/>

Prayers of the People – led by the young adults

Blessing and Sending

You are the people, called to encourage one another,
in Christ's body,
called to share the good news of Christ in the world.

You have been blessed by God, in this creation...
You have been blessed by Jesus, by his saving...
You are blessed by the Holy Spirit...
to continue toward the life of holiness...

Go now and live the life of blessing
– be a blessing to others!

We go in the name of Christ
- AMEN

