



**uniting  
church**  
in Australia,  
Synod of NSW & ACT

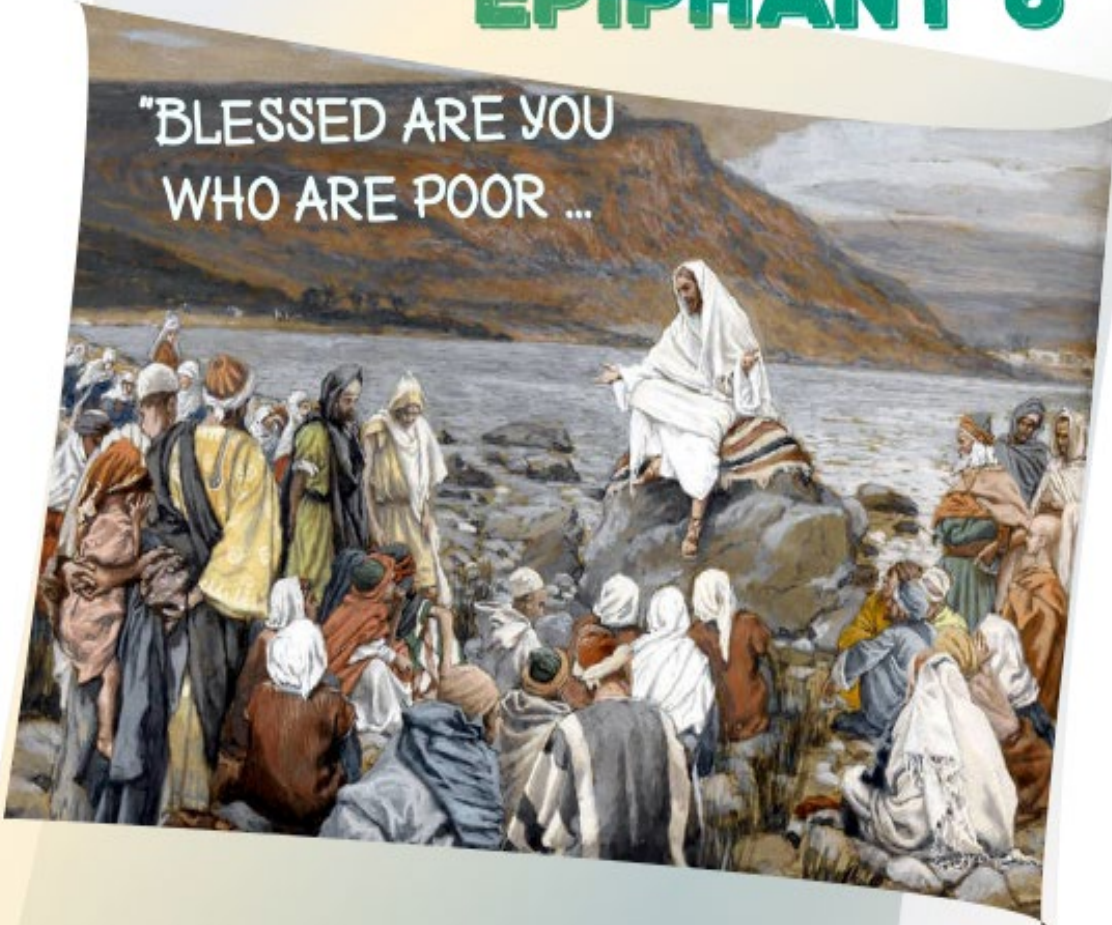
Leigh Memorial  
Uniting Church



Parramatta  
Mission

## EPIPHANY 6

"BLESSED ARE YOU  
WHO ARE POOR ...



"NOBODY KNOWS THE TROUBLE I'VE SEEN  
NOBODY KNOWS BUT JESUS"

13 February 2022

Leigh Memorial 9.30am

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/5199089657>

Meeting ID: 519 908 9657

**WELCOME**

A warm welcome as we gather together on this in this place and on zoom.

### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light the Christ candle as a symbol of the healing love  
and the call to freedom  
to discover

God amongst the poor  
the poverty within our lives,  
and to learn to love our enemy  
and birth justice within expectant life.

*The candle is lit*

**THEME** "Nobody knows the trouble I've seen, nobody knows but Jesus"

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We acknowledge the Burrumattagal people of the Darug Nation, the first inhabitants of this place, as the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their ancient culture, their elders past and present and their emerging leaders. We acknowledge the presence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who now reside within this area. We honour them for their custodianship of the land, on which we gather today.

### OPENING SENTENCES

You Are  
our heart's Desire,  
who chooses grace over grudges,  
***who provides rather than withholding,  
who creates community with us  
rather than standing isolated from us.***

You Are  
our Brother and Servant,  
who delights in those who resist you,  
***who cradles the fists of hatred  
in your scarred hands,  
who does good to those doing evil.***

You Are  
the Breath of wonder,

who blows death's dust  
off our shoulders,  
***who fills our empty souls with resurrection life,  
who whispers words of peace  
into hearts full of anger.***  
God in Community, Holy in One,  
***You Are  
for whom we wait patiently,  
Amen!***

*Tom Shuman*

## SONG

*Where the Wild God is*

<https://ume.nswact.uca.org.au/resources/uniting-creative-worship-resources/>

1 Speak; you church is listening  
Forge in us again your faith and unity.  
Speak; as one we are leaning in  
Draw us back again  
To who we're called to be.

*Oh let you justice and love  
Be our way,  
Sent by your Spirit in love,  
Light the way, light the way.  
Where the Wild God is,  
That's where we'll be.*

2 Grace; form us in your grace,  
a people on the way in freedom and peace.  
Lead beyond familiar ways,  
Your fresh words for today  
Beyond comfort, beyond fear.

*Oh let you justice and love  
Be our way,  
Sent by your Spirit in love,  
Light the way, light the way.  
Where the Wild God is,  
That's where we'll be*

3 Speak; you church is listening  
Forge in us again your faith and unity.

*Glen Spencer*  
*Uniting Mission and Education*  
*Recorded on site at Sydney Cheil Uniting Church.*  
*Copyright Info. Song Title: Where The Wild God Is*  
*Author: Glen Spencer Copyright: Glen Spencer*

**SCRIPTURE READINGS Luke 6:17-26**

Then, raising his eyes and looking at his followers, he said:  
“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the realm of God.  
Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied.  
Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.  
Blessed are you when people hate you,  
and when they expel you from among them, and insult you,  
and reject your name as criminal—because of the Child of Humanity.  
“Then be glad and dance for joy,  
for be sure that your reward in heaven will be great;  
for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.  
But  
‘cursed are you who are rich,’ for you have had your comforts in full.  
Cursed are you who are full now, for you will hunger.  
Cursed are you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.  
Cursed are you when everyone speaks well of you;  
for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.  
“But to you who are listening I say - love your enemies,  
show kindness to those who hate you,  
bless those who curse you,  
pray for those who insult you.”

**RESPONSE**

*O God our nurturer,  
may your word live in us.  
**And colour our living. Amen!***

**REFLECTION**

**HYMN**     *"Nobody Knows The Trouble I've Seen"*

Nobody knows the trouble that I've seen  
Nobody knows but Jesus

Nobody knows the trouble that I've seen  
Glory hallelujah

Nobody knows the trouble that I've seen  
Nobody knows my, my sorrow  
Nobody knows the trouble that I've seen  
Glory hall- glory hallelujah

Sometimes I'm up and sometimes I'm down  
Oh, yes our Jesus  
You know sometimes almost to the ground  
Oh, oh yes our Jesus

Still, nobody knows the trouble that I've seen  
Nobody, nobody knows my, my sorrow  
Nobody knows the trouble that I've seen  
Glory hallelujah

If you get there before I do  
Oh, oh yes our Jesus  
Don't forget to tell all my friends I'm comin' too  
Whoa, oh yes our Jesus

Still, nobody knows the trouble that I've seen  
Nobody knows but Jesus  
Nobody knows the trouble that I've seen  
Glory hall, hallelujah

### OFFERING PRAYER

God of compassion and relationship,  
you work with us to bring forth life in the midst of death,  
healing in the midst hate and anger,  
and hope in the darkest places of poverty and despair.  
You desire our wholeness, and invite our company  
to bring healing and life with others.  
May the gifts we offer to you this morning  
bring life and healing to us all.

***Amen.***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NCLS CHURCH SURVEY

**MEDITATION**     *Blessed Be*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBCpDjBY7U&t=126s>

*David MacGregor*

### PRAYER FOR OTHERS

O Jesus Christ,  
lover of all,  
blessing the poor and the poverty within our lives  
calling us to address all poverty.

***Open our lives to see others  
as you see them, we pray.***

Show us beauty  
which has been clouded  
by assumptions and worth  
which is covered over  
by old and misguided teachings.

***Give us humility  
so that we own our real failings  
and have an openness  
to learn and receive from strangers.***

As we bring before you now  
our prayers for love and peace,  
may we be open to those  
from whom we have been alienated!

Bring us together, Jesus Christ.  
May we be honest and humble  
as we try to add love to the world,  
we pray.

*Prayers are offered for the world*

Grant that your church  
may be an example  
to the community  
in its preparedness  
to meet others who differ  
and its creative engagements  
with those who are in conflict.  
Bring us together as your people,  
both across the churches  
and within our own life.

***Make us a sign of your peace,  
O Christ, grateful for all  
that we are given by you ...  
and hopeful for a world  
which has a new future.  
Go with us now, we pray.  
Amen.***

**SONG**

*Make me a channel of your peace* (TiS, 607)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihhvm6eLWZI>

Make me a channel of your peace  
Where there is hatred, let me bring love  
Where there is injury, Your pardon Lord  
And where there's doubt, true faith in You

*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek  
So much to be consoled as to console  
To be understood as to understand  
Or 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, only light

And where there's sadness ever joy  
*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek*  
*So much to be consoled as to console*  
*To be understood as to understand*  
*Or 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  
It is in giving to all men that we receive  
And in dying that we are born to eternal life  
*Oh, Master grant that I may never seek*  
*So much to be consoled as to console*  
*To be understood as to understand*  
*Or to be loved as to love with all my soul*

*Sebastian Temple with permission OneLicense #A 727308*

## **BLESSING**

Let us go from here, committed to loving  
our neighbours as ourselves.

And may the light of Christ's life  
    lead us on,  
the faithfulness of God's love  
    inspire us  
and the warmth of the Holy Spirit  
    be offered to all people.

***Amen.***