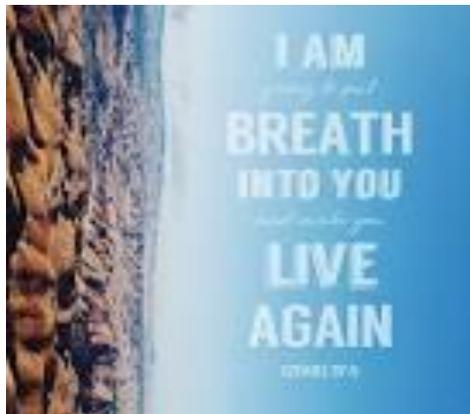


Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday 29 March 2020

Order of Service



Worshipping at Home
Uniting in Spirit with family and friends of Wesley UCA

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

One of the most challenging decisions I've had to make in my life so far was to agree to suspend last week's Sunday's worship service. It's a moment I shall always remember; the deep grief and sorrow that lay heavy in my heart and mind.

I am eternally grateful to all who've supported and encouraged me this past week. Thank you for your words of gratitude and wonderful suggestions for creative ways we can 'keep the faith' and 'keep connected'.

One such suggestion was to continue to gather on Sunday's at 10.30am in our own spaces to read scripture, pray and, if we are alone, sing the hymns out loud. This is one small way we can be "Uniting in Spirit".

Until we meet again. Numbers 6: 24-26

Janice

A note from webmaster:

The Hymns, Bible reading and Short reflection (in blue) are links to the internet. This document works well opened in Adobe Reader. I suggest you download this file, close your browser, open this document and read through it. If you click on the links they will open your browser, when you are ready to return to this document just close your browser and continue through this document.

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Call to Worship

Generous God, bringer of justice.

You are the source of our truth.

Gathering God, lover of courage.

You are the source of our strength.

Glorious God, light of the nations,

You are the source of our joy.

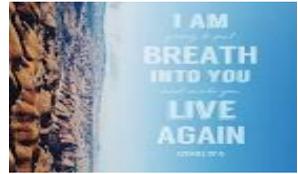
Let us worship God in spirit and truth!

47 [Our God, our help in ages past](#)

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.

under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure:
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defence is sure.

Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
remain our guard while troubles last,
and our eternal home.



Prayer for Forgiveness

Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicked way in me,
and lead me to the way everlasting.

Psalm 139: 23-24

A time for silent prayer

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer Our Father

Assurance of God's grace

The Good News is that all who trust in Christ
are forgiven and receive the gift of eternal life.

Let us take hold of this forgiveness and live our lives
in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

142 Glory be to God the Father

Glory be to God the Father,
glory be to God the Son,
glory be to God the Spirit,
God almighty, Three in One!
Glory, glory, glory, glory
while eternal ages run.

Horatius Bonar
1808-89 *alt.*

Scripture Readings



Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life!
Help us to hear what you say to us today.
through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Ezekiel 37:1-14	The vision of the valley of dry bones
Psalm for today	Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11	The Spirit of God lives in you
John 11:1-45	The raising of Lazarus – Jesus’ last sign

This is the Word of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Lord Jesus, the resurrection and the life,
thank you for overcoming death.

May we believe in you and live forever. Amen.

Short Reflection

407 [Breathe on me, breath of God](#)

Breathe on me, breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love all that you love
and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
of your eternity.

Edwin Hatch
1835-89 alt.

Prayers for Others

Heavenly Father, bring healing and comfort for people around the world suffering from Covid-19.
Speed their recovery and slow the spread of the virus.

We thank you for the efforts of all those involved in treating, testing and caring for patients, and ask your protection over them as they go about their work.

Give wisdom to governments around the world as they manage this outbreak.

We ask for your peace when we are tempted to panic or become anxious about this virus.

Help us to place our trust in you, knowing that our life is safely hidden in you and that you are the Lord of all creation.

Enable us to show your love to others, sharing the hope we have in you, praying and caring for the sick and needy as best we can, in the name of Christ.

A time of silence for own prayers for the world
your neighbours, your family, friends and yourself

God of compassion, accept these prayers
in the name of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Today, Sunday 29 March, is also the National Day of prayer for the Australian Defence Force.

You might wish to also pray these prayers:

Thank you for ADF Christian Chaplaincy and the wonderful work that Chaplains do as Christ's ambassadors in the ADF.

Thank you for the ADF Faith Under Fire Course.

Thank you for lives changed and transformed, and for ADF Christians who are growing in discipleship and standing strong in their faith.

Thank you for the valour and courage of ADF personnel on operations.

We pray for the protection of deployed service women and men, and for their families, especially those who are currently deployed overseas.

210 O for a thousand tongues to sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great redeemer's praise,
the glories of our God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

Jesus! The name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
such music in the sinner's ears
is life, and health and peace.

Charles Wesley
1707-88 *alt.*

Call to Service/Discipleship

Go in faith to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Blessing

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

