

Order of Service 7/2/2021 Epiphany 5

Prelude

Opening verse on screen: We will rise up on wings like eagles, run and not be tired.

Getting Ready

A few housekeeping matters before we start:

- Please make sure you have signed in, either using your phone or on the pieces of paper at the entry.
- Please spread out keeping 1.5 meters between households – use the yellow marks on the pews as a guide.
- Please keep you masks on (including for singing) unless you are leading worship.
- There will be no morning tea provided today, but please stay on to chat

Gathering, Greeting and Call to Worship

Helen

Good morning everyone. My name is Helen, and I'm the Liturgist for today, and along with Ian, Dave, the Musicians, and an ever-increasing group of helpers and of course, all of you, let us join together to Worship and renew ourselves for the days ahead. God has called us together from many places, so let us stand, as we bring in the Bible and join our voices in our Gathering Song.

Gathering Song

Come O God of all the earth TIS181

1. *Come, O God of all the earth: come to us, O righteous One; come, and bring our love to birth: in the glory of your Son.*

Sing out earth and skies! sing of the God who loves you; raise your joyful cries; dance to the life around you.

2. *Come, O God of wind and flame: fill the earth with righteousness; teach us all to sing your name: may our lives your love confess.*

3. *Come, O God of flashing light: twinkling star and burning sun; God of day and God of night: in your light we all are one.*

4. *Come, O God of snow and rain: shower down upon the earth; come, O God of joy and pain: God of sorrow, God of mirth.*

5. *Come, O Justice, come, O Peace: come and shape our hearts anew; come and make oppression cease: bring us all to life in you.*

SONG: Come, O God, by Marty Haugen, from Together in Song, Harper Collins Religious WORD OF LIFE

Acknowledgement of Country

Helen

We acknowledge and respect
the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation,
the traditional custodians of this land
since time immemorial.

We are learning that the land
is not ours to own, but to look after;
and that if we listen,
we may hear in it the calling of the eternal Spirit.
Responding to this call, we commit ourselves
to work for justice, reconciliation,
and care of the earth.

Welcome and Introduction

Helen

We welcome you here today, whether you are here in the Church, in the Overflow space or watching online from home. Today we will hear readings from Isaiah and Mark. On this day in our lives and we are looking at a day at the very beginning of Jesus ministry – a day of healing, preaching and praying, symbolic of his work for the rest of his life. God has called us from many places, called us each by name. So breathe in, open yourselves to the presence of our God.

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

Helen

Let us pray:

Everlasting God, you set the spark which ignited creation and we are in awe at the immensity and intricacy of your work. From the smallest atom to majestic mountain, from small cells to gigantic whales, from scientist and doctor to rough sleeper, no matter our colour, race or gender, we are all yours. You sent us your beloved son to show us how to be your people and live in your creation. And although we are a but a heartbeat on the timeline of continuing creation, you call us each by name and we are loved and precious to you.

Loving Father and Mother, we confess and ask your forgiveness when we stumble and fall. When our actions do not live up to our words. When we choose not to see because it would upset us or make us uncomfortable. When we ignore injustice to our first people's, refugees, to the poor and the sick. For children abused, people enslaved, animals and our land degraded and neglected, for Ignoring the warning signs of climate change. Forgive us for lies told in your name, wars fought saying, God is on our side.

Holy One, we thank you that we can look to Jesus and try again to live the life you show us. Your kingdom come, your will be done, Amen

Word of Grace

Helen

Loving Lord, we thank you that when we turn to you, forgiveness is dearly bought but freely given. That we can learn from your life here with us. That you know our weakness and our failings and love us still. So by the Grace of God and the life of Jesus we can say our sin is forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Mark 1:29-39 – With the Children

Bridie, Dave

Gospel reading, Dave and kids improvising actions as we go

All the kids down the front, listening, Dave and Ian have a few props at the ready.

Props needed: scarf for Jesus. Sticky nametag for Simon, Andrew, James and John.

Something representing a fever. Cardboard Sun image, extra slings, crutches.

Reader (Bridie Turner – parts in bold, read fairly slowly keeping half an eye on Dave and the kids):

A reading from the Gospel of Mark 1:29-39

As soon as Jesus and his early followers left the synagogue, (Ian interrupts: ok we need someone to play Jesus...! Recruit an older kid, we place a scarf on them) they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, (Dave interrupts: ok, now we need a Simon, and an Andrew! Two more volunteer) with James and John. (Ok, two more volunteers needed – James and John. Dave and Ian make an arch way for the kids to pass under)

Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever (Dave calls out: "can we have a mother-in-law down here,?!" Someone comes, kids set up a bed of cushions for her, a little way away from Jesus...) , and they told Jesus about her at once.

Jesus came and took her by the hand (kid playing Jesus does this) and lifted her up. (kid playing Jesus tries to lift her up!) Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. (Jesus helps the mother-in-law to stand up and help)

That evening, at sundown, (a kid grabs the paper sun, and lowers it to the ground) they brought to Jesus all who were sick or possessed with demons. (kids all line up in front of Jesus near a door, coughing and limping, put some in slings, crutches.)

And the whole city was gathered around the door.

And Jesus cured many who were sick with various diseases, (kid playing Jesus touches and blesses the kids all lined up) and cast out many demons; but he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, (a kid grabs the paper sun and slowly rises it up) while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. (kid playing Jesus tries to find a quiet place, heads out to the Olive Way)

And Simon and his companions hunted for him. (Dave leads the kids out in to the Olive Way, then drag Jesus back in through the other door)

When they found Jesus, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." (Ian: Ok, let's say that all together: everyone is searching for you. Ready, 1, 2, 3: "Everyone is searching for you!")

Jesus answered, "Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, (kid playing Jesus points out through the gathering space) so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do."

And he went throughout Galilee, (kid playing Jesus walks the kids around the worship space then back to the front) proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Song

O sing to the Lord ATE216

1. *O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song (3 times)
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.*
2. *For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders...*
3. *So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets...*
4. *O shout to our God who gives us the Spirit....*
5. *For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!....*

SONG: O Sing to the Lord, Trad: Brazil, from All Together Everybody, Openbook Publishers
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Isaiah 40:21-31

Peter

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to live in;
who brings princes to naught,
and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.
Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,
scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,
when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
To whom then will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength, mighty in power,
not one is missing.
Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,

"My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

For these words of witness and for Christ the Word:

Thanks be to God

Reflection – A Day in the Life

Ian

Watch: <https://youtu.be/ymwSFXCZHko>

Song

Praise the One who breaks the Darkness

1. *Praise the one who breaks the darkness
with a liberating light.
Praise the one who frees the prisoners,
turning blindness into sight.
Praise the one who preached the Gospel,
healing every dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands
with the very bread of peace.*
2. *Praise the one who blessed the children
with a strong yet gentle word.
Praise the one who drove out demons
with a piercing two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water
to the desert's burning sand.
From this well comes living water,
quenching thirst in every land.*
3. *Praise the one true love incarnate:
Christ who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose for many
that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory,
praise the One who makes us one.*

SONG: Praise the One, by Rusty Edwards, Words © 1987 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Reproduced with permission under ONE LICENCE 604502

Prayers of the People

Meredith

We take time to settle, connect with the earth, feel God within us, beneath us, through us and around us, your healing presence in lives. We take 4 breaths, breathe deep into our stomach, heart, head, then all three. We stop in silence and we connect with you loving God. Show us how to be present and aware of you within us.

We pray for our relationships for people we love most, for our family and friends. We pray for Brunswick, our community members. Thankyou that we can be together and we pray for those who still cannot be with us through illness and other circumstances.

We pray for our wider community, refugees, people seeking asylum, temporary visa holders who are struggling with no government support, no income, struggling to keep a roof over their heads, feed their children. We think of all those just released from detention with no clear future and for those still locked away.

We pray for the world: struggling with COVID particularly South Africa and Africa. with injustices, wars, conflicts, coups in Yemen and Myanmur. May love win every conflict. Thank you for the change of government in America and the changing focus on climate. May the world and Australia join urgent action and rediscover your presence in creation, standing together against the powers of injustice and care for each other and the earth.

We pray for our connection with your beautiful world, centered and present.

We commit to time to pray and dwell in your healing and divine love. Amen.

Offering and Holy Communion

Janet

Offering combined with Holy Communion – people bring their offerings forward when they come for communion.

Communion COVID Style: come forward down the centre isles to two stations here at the front. Place your offering if you have one in the bowls (electronic transfers preferred). Remove your mask. Hand sanitiser will be available here at the front, take a piece of bread from the plate (without touching any other pieces), take a glass, eat and drink, put your empty glass in the basket, put your mask back on and return to your seat by the outside isles, giving each other space.

Invitation

This year we are returning to the table here, the feast of divine love, after many months of spiritual fasting. If you are ready, bring the hunger of your soul to Christ's table today. All are welcome, whoever you are, whatever your relationship to God, there is a place for you here. After this time of separation come and be together with one another, and with God in Christ by the grace of the Holy Spirit – one body in the one bread.

Thanksgiving

We are the body of Christ

His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts to God.

Let us give thanks to God who is Wisdom and Love.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Father of goodness, Mother of kindness,
for creation in its wonder and mystery

We thank you

for Jesus your beloved Son in his healing power and vulnerable humanity,

We thank you

for your Holy Spirit in her grace,

We thank you

And with the whole realm of nature around us,
with earth, sea and sky,

we sing to you!

With all the saints before us and beside us,
with brothers and sisters,
east and west, north and south,
we sing to you!

And with our loved ones,
separate from us now,
who yet, in this mystery are close to us,
we sing the hymn of unending praise:

Holy, holy, holy (TIS764)

*Holy (Holy), holy, (holy)
holy Lord of power and might.
Heaven (Heaven), earth (earth)
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
All glory to your name.
(All glory to your name.)
All glory to your name.
(All glory to your name.)
Blessed (Blessed), blessed (blessed)
is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed (Blessed), blessed (blessed)
is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.
(Hosanna in the highest.)
Hosanna in the highest.
(Hosanna in the highest.)*

Blessed is our brother Jesus,
who on the night of his betrayal
took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:

**This is my body given for you.
Whenever you eat it, remember me.**

In the same way, after supper,
he took the cup saying:

**This is the cup of
a new covenant in my blood.
whenever you drink it, remember me.**

Come now, Holy Spirit of our God,
love us into the unity of peace
through this bread and wine. For:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again!**

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ
all glory be to you,
Source of all Being,
Eternal Wisdom and Holy Spirit,
one God and Mother of all creation.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen**

Breaking of the Bread

Christ is the bread of resurrection:
new life for all.

Christ is the cup of life:
who revives the faint-hearted.

We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Let us receive what we are.
Let us become what we receive:
The body of Christ.

Distribution

All come forward to table down centre isles. Give offering. Remove mask. Each take bread and cup from plate and tray – no double handling. Put mask back on. Return by outside isles.

Musicians first.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

Exchange a sign of peace without touching – namaste

Notices

Helen

It is time to share the news of our community – if you have a notice for us please come forward and share it now.

Sending Song

Dreams and Visions ATE-249

*1. As a dream receive your his'try
from the martyrs and the saints.
Let their story be your story,
yours the laughter, yours the pain.*

*BRIDGE We will rise, we will rise
We will rise up on wings like eagles,
run and not be tired.
Show us your dreams and visions,
warm our hearts with tongues of fire,
tongues of fire.*

2. *Lord, we stumble in the darkness,
we cry for visions in these days.
Pour on us your living Spirit
in all ways, always.* BRIDGE/CHORUS

3. *Jesus, save your nomad people,
bring us face to face with you.
Start in us a new creation.
Christ, be with us, as we go.* BRIDGE/CHORUS

SONG: Dreams & Visions, by Andrew Tanner, from Songs from the still strange land, Joint Board of Christian Education; Reproduced with permission under ONE LICENCE # 604502

Blessing and Sending

Janet

Go in peace
to share in the communion of God's love.
Go to rise up on wings like eagles,
run and not be tired.
And go with the blessing of God
Source of life,
Child of love,
Spirit of joy.

Closing verse on screen

We will rise up on wings like eagles, run and not be tired

Thank yous

Liturgist:
Helen Burnham

Children's Time:
Dave Hall
(CYYA Pastor)
Bridie Turner

Bible readings:
Bridie Turner
Peter Hornby

Sermon:
Rev. Ian Ferguson
(Minister of the Word)

Prayers of the People:
Meredith Budge

Holy Communion:
Rev. Janet Reus-Smit

Communion Servers:
James Balsillie
Helen Burnham
Maxine Loynd
Helen Rowe

Musicians:
Alistair Hunter (co-ordinator)
Andrew Dickinson
Bridie Turner
Joanne van Ravenswaaij
Jane Allardice

Recorded music:
James Balsillie
Saide Cameron
Alistair Hunter
Courtney Rohde
Natalie Sims
Daniel Whelan
Shawn Whelan

Welcomers
Glenice Cook
Claire Foley
Peter Hornby

Production:
David Cameron
Ray Cameron
Saide Cameron
Ben Hon
Alistair Hunter
Lauren Reader
Shawn Whelan