

# Order of Service 1/5/2022 Easter 3

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## Opening verse on screen:

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. Psalm 30:5

## Gathering, Greeting and Call to Worship

Ian

Welcome. Please keep masks on.

Breathe...

*Light Christ candle*

Christ is risen:

**He is risen indeed!**

**Alleluia!**

Let us worship God and sing praise to the risen Christ

Stand to sing

*Bible carried in*

## Song of praise: Halle, halle, halle, TIS720

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*Halle, halle, hallelujah. x4*

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SONG: [Halle, halle, halle](#), Tune Caribbean traditional. Words: traditional liturgical text, from [Together in Song](#), Harper Collins *Religious*, PUBLIC DOMAIN

## Acknowledgement of Country

Video introduced by Ian

During our worship through this Easter season, we are hearing recorded acknowledgments of country from all around Australia from places where our members live or travel. As we gather here on the unceded lands of the Wurundjeri people, let us remember all the peoples of this land now called Australia.

Video: Simone Alesich Latje Latje Mildura

## Welcome and Introduction

Ian

Welcome in person and online.

Dave will bring us a reflection on the gospel today in this his final service in his role as Children, Youth and Young Adult Pastor. Join us after the service in the hall for a celebration of Dave's ministry with us over the past few years.

We continue to celebrate Easter until Pentecost, and today we dip into John's gospel where the risen Jesus shares a meal with his disciples on the lakeshore.

## Prayers of Adoration and Confession with TIS156 Morning has broken

Ian

SONG: [Morning has broken](#), by Eleanor Farjeon 1881-1965, from [Enlarged Songs of Praise 1931](#) by permission Oxford University Press, from [Together in Song](#), Harper Collins Religious. Reproduced with permission under ONE LICENCE # 604502

Breathe deep and imagine yourself in the easter garden with Jesus...

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1. *Morning has broken like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,  
praise for them, springing fresh from the word.*

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We join our voices with the birds of the garden praising you Holy One:

- we sing out wonder for all you have made
  - we sing out adoration for the blessed gift of your only child who lived, died and lives again to bathe all things in the light of your new day
  - we sing out thanks for your coming reign of love, growing to flower among us now by the grace of the Holy Spirit .
- 

2. *Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung from completeness where his feet pass.*

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Risen Jesus, we long to walk beside you in the garden of creation fulfilled.

We confess all that causes us to stumble on that path of delight:

- the unrestrained violence,
- the selfish greed,
- the corrupt sense of human freedom that neglects the freedom of the grass, the birds, the forests, the fish and the seas.

Forgive us. Empower us to live in the freedom of love, following your footsteps into God's new dawn

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3. *Mine is the sunlight; mine is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day.*

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### Word of Grace

The Psalmist sings:

Weeping may linger for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.

Hear Christ's word of healing grace to us all,  
springing from the breaking morning of God's new day:

Your sin is forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

### **With the Children part 1**

**Dave and Ian**

Invite the children down the front. We will have a boat made of cushions already set up (to save time), and a net. Sit in the cushion boat as we listen to Christine read this story of Jesus appearing once again to his friends after he had been resurrected.

### **Gospel Reading – John 21:1-14**

**Catherine**

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon

Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

For these words of witness and for Christ the Word:

***Thanks be to God***

## **With the Children**

**Dave**

There we are – wow, what a reading – found only in John's Gospel, this one... And I thought for my final children's time, I'd share with you one of my all time favourite stories – also involving someone on the seaside, looking out at the water.

His name is St Brendan, and this is the story of his voyage, in a boat, sailing off the edge of the known world! Are you ready for the story?

When St Brendan was born ... enter a special school

Sister Ita's school..... and skies as forever friends.

Often Erc and Brendan searched.... Promised Land of the Saints.

"The Land of Youth.... No monk has ever been."

Before Bishop Erc died... a voyage to Tir-na-n-Og.

Brendan worked hard... "What should I do?"

Finally certain that God wanted... christened the curragh The Erc, declaring

The stars by night...they set sail that autumn.

One day a fierce storm... baskets of bread waiting on shore.

At their next landfall... The Paradise of the Birds

They found another island... named it Jasconius and sang

Mighty beast... a holy guide from holy God.

The monks set off again... The Pillar of Crystal.

Suddenly ice chunks... put themselves into God's hands.

Majestically... before heading south.

In the south... Fiery Mountain of Hell.

At last... called the painted saints.

Celebrating...and praised God.

In time...the new life God promises.  
Arriving home... had been a foolish one  
Gradually... and care for all of them.  
Brendan the Navigator... my Tir-na-n-Og  
But I lived my quest... In nature, love and sacrifice.  
There we are, the story of St Brendan the Navigator...  
*(brief comments / wondering by kids here)*

**Then Ian perhaps to conclude with:**

*And towards the end of this service, after communion, we'll invite you down again for a little ceremony to help Dave set sail from this place.*

**Song: I woke up this morning, NCH85**

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*I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus  
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus  
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus  
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu-jah!*

*Walking and talking with my mind stayed on Jesus...  
Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus...*

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SONG: I woke up this morning, from New Century Hymnal, Pilgrim Press (June 1996), USA, PUBLIC DOMAIN

Activity in the kids corner – St Brendan setting sail.

**Psalm 30**

**Ray**

I will extol you, HOLY ONE, for you have drawn me up,  
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.  
HOLY ONE my God, I cried to you for help,  
and you have healed me.  
HOLY ONE, you brought up my soul from Sheol,  
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.  
Sing praises to our GOD, O you faithful ones,  
and give thanks to the holy name.  
For God's anger is but for a moment;  
her favour is for a lifetime.  
Weeping may linger for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.  
As for me, I said in my prosperity,  
"I shall never be moved."  
By your favour, HOLY ONE,  
you had established me as a strong mountain;  
you hid your face;  
I was dismayed.  
To you, HOLY ONE, I cried,  
and to our GOD I made supplication:  
"What profit is there in my death,  
if I go down to the Pit?  
Will the dust praise you?  
Will it tell of your faithfulness?"

Hear, HOLY ONE, and be gracious to me!  
HOLY ONE, be my helper!"  
You have turned my mourning into dancing;  
you have taken off my sackcloth  
and clothed me with joy,  
so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.  
HOLY ONE my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

For these words of witness and for Christ the Word:

***Thanks be to God***

## Reflection - "Between two meals"

Dave

Loving God,

May the words of my mouth, and the meditations of our hearts and minds, be acceptable in your sight, God our rock and redeemer, Amen.

Hopefully you've heard me say more than once that every Sunday is Easter Sunday. And today is no exception. Today, in John's Gospel we find Jesus on a beach, looking out to sea. It's daybreak, post resurrection, and the disciples do not recognise him. This passage, from John, is pressed down and running over, not just with fish, but with imagery and metaphor.

It is almost certainly a later edition – an epilogue to the Gospel of John, a book end to the prologue from John, set in the same location as Luke located the feeding of the 5000.

It's a few days after the empty tomb, and we find the disciples fishing. Gone back to what they know. The familiar. I suspect that's what they needed, after all that had happened. Some time out on the water to process things.

And it seems they're still not much good at fishing. Throughout the Gospels, they only ever catch fish with Jesus' help. Fish being a metaphor for people.

At first light, Jesus comes to them, calls them again from the shore, invites them to a meal. A breakfast to herald the break of a new day – I wonder if the last time they ate with him was at the last supper. It's in the breaking of bread and sharing of fish – an early eucharistic meal – that Christ is revealed, and the energy from the Holy Spirit is received.

This glorious epilogue echoes John's prologue – the light of Christ shines in the darkness of night, and the darkness has not overcome it.

During children's time, we heard of another fisherman and mariner, a follower of Christ who spent a lot of time looking out to sea, and on the sea. Not the Sea of Galilee, but the north Atlantic. St Brendan was born on the west coast of Ireland 1500 years ago. I first heard of St Brendan just 15 years ago, and his story continues to rattle my cage. At that time, I had been working in the Uniting Church head office – the Synod – for... too long.

A guest speaker was in town from London – some emerging church guru – so I went downstairs to listen to him, with my mind already made up, negative thoughts. Chin to neck, kicking metaphorical stones.

And this guru led a liturgy inspired by St Brendan... I'll read some of it now, you may wish to close your eyes:

*Picture yourself in the place of Brendan, staring across the ocean toward the horizon, the edge of your known world, the unknown. Maybe there are distant lands across the sea, maybe there is nothing, only God knows!*

*See yourself standing at the wooden jetty, in front of you a feeble looking boat, made of unseasoned wood and leather, smeared all over in animal grease to seal it from the waves.*

*The boat continuously slams in to the jetty, bruising the leather as the swell of the great western ocean throws it around. Who knows, maybe the waves themselves are returning from those far off shores, shores which at this time are simply a glimpse of the possible. A dream of what might be out there beyond the horizon.*

*Deep inside you hear a call: "Set Sail".*

*A secret voice heard only in your heart: Set Sail into the unknown.*

*A stirring on the edge of the wind. Set sail in to the unknown, step off the edge of your world."*

*An echo of stones dragged along the beach by the tide: Set sail in to the unknown, step off the edge of your world, come with me in to mine."*

That was all I needed to hear – whispers from St Brendan 1500 years ago. I went back upstairs and wrote my resignation letter, on the spot, and within two weeks, a place had quite miraculously opened up for me as a school chaplain.

The greatest moments in my life, the times I've felt closest to God, have undoubtedly been when I've set sail, taken a risk. Flying to Philadelphia for a year as a 20 year old. Driving to Broome in my early 20's with no plan apart from to get there. Taking marriage vows.

St Brendan has come calling again. It's not super risky – not exactly what he did – bundling 12 disciples in to a curach and heading off, up around the Hebrides and the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia. No, I'm not being as risky as St Brendan...

But I do worry at times, about how risk-averse we've become as a society, as a church. It's not uncommon for Fran and I to chat to our kids over dinner and say to them: Get in trouble. If you're not happy with something at school, ark up, make your feelings heard, get in trouble. Even just getting them out of their rooms to go to the beach is a struggle these days. Risk, adventure, life in all it's fullness – pretty sure Jesus said something about this?

Back in 1983, three Uniting Church ministers-in-training got arrested and put in jail for protecting the Franklin River from being damned. The news of them being thrown in the slammer filtered back to the Principal of the Theological College. His reaction: tears of joy: we haven't had any ministry candidates in jail for years, he said. Two of those three inmates have since been ministers here at BUC. It's caused me to ponder what I'd risk going to jail for.

Our national vision statement used to be: A Uniting Church in Australia which risks living the way of Jesus... I can't find any mention of that vision statement on church websites anymore.

Taking risks for Jesus is not straightforward. St Brendan lived with that tension – the monastic, scholarly life, and being with God on the ocean, in motion. But when we read the Gospels, almost always an encounter with Jesus happens in motion, on the Way.

So, could this glorious epilogue in John's Gospel provide a glimpse of the church's call – to live between these two meals – the last supper in the upper room, and the eucharistic breakfast on the beach? For the church to be at work during the dark hours, looking out for the light of Christ. Then the real challenge, as the disciples discovered, is to recognise that light when it comes. To notice Jesus beckoning us over, to sit on the beach and have a meal of fish and bread around the fire. Food for the journey.

## **Offering with Song: Inspired by love and anger, TIS674**

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- 1. Inspired by love and anger, disturbed by need and pain,  
Informed by God's own bias, we ask him once again:  
"How long must some folk suffer? How long can few folk mind?  
How long dare vain self interest turn prayer and pity blind?"*
- 2. From those forever victims of heartless human greed,  
Their cruel plight composes a litany of need:*

*“Where are the fruits of justice? Where are the signs of peace?  
When is the day when prisoners and dreams find their release?”*

5. *God asks, “Who will go for me? Who will extend my reach?  
And who, when few will listen, will prophecy and preach?  
And who, when few bid welcome, will offer all they know?  
And who, when few dare follow, will walk the road I show?”*

6. *Amused in someone’s kitchen, asleep in someone’s boat,  
Attuned to what the ancients exposed, proclaimed and wrote,  
A saviour without safety, a tradesman without tools  
Has come to tip the balance with fishermen and fools.*

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SONG: [Inspired by love and anger](#), from [Heaven Shall not Wait](#) © Wild Goose Publications, Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland. Reproduced with permission under ONE LICENCE # 604502

## Prayers of the People

Jim

Loving God who is the wind and the waves

We pray for the World. We pray for the ordinary people of Ukraine: may they feel supported. May villagers and other civilians who have lost their homes, find shelter. May we all find a peace-filled and compassionate vision for the future.

In your mercy, hear our prayers.

Response: **We plant our feet on the ground. We reach out and imagine the weight of a full net. We feel the weight of the net. We feel the weight of the bounty Jesus offers.**

We pray for the Church. We pray for Uniting Church congregations and other congregations rebuilding after floods. We pray for congregations focusing on housing. We pray for congregations focussing on social inclusion. We pray for Uniting Church members trying to build a better world. We pray for the Ukrainian community of Victoria: may they continue to draw strength from their faith tradition.

In your mercy, hear our prayers.

Response: **We plant our feet on the ground. We reach out and imagine the weight of a full net. We feel the weight of the net. We feel the weight of the bounty Jesus offers.**

We pray for those in need: may we all find strength, somehow. May our families support us. May friends doing new things, inspire us. In particular we pray for Dave Hall, as he concludes his respectful and imaginative ministry to young people in this place. May he find strength and inspiration in his new role. May carers find rest. We pray with those watching at home: may they feel included. May we all feel able to love, again.

In your mercy, hear our prayers.

Response: **We plant our feet on the ground. We reach out and imagine a full net. We feel the weight of the net. We feel the weight of the bounty Jesus offers.**

In the name of Christ, guiding us, filling our nets.

Praise,  
Amen

## Holy Communion

Servers: Ian, Dave, Helen, Jess, Semisi, Saide

Introduction:

- Standing in a circle around the space
- All welcome. Join circle even if not receiving.
- Hands crossed on chest if not receiving
- Remain in your seats if you wish
- All servers will hand sanitize

- Gluten free bread

COMMUNION SONG: Eat this bread, drink this cup, TIS714

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*Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to him and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in him and you will not thirst.*

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SONG: Eat this bread, Taize Community, Ateliers et Presses de Taize Ltd,  
from Together in Song, Harper Collins Religious WORD OF LIFE

#### PRAYER OF 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.***

Holy and life-giving God,  
you are Creator of all things,  
and Lover of each one.  
In Christ you share with us  
the joy and pain of our humanity.  
We give thanks that through him,  
life rises from despair  
and all things are made new.

Dying Christ destroyed our death

***Alleluia***

Rising he restored our life

***Alleluia***

Therefore,  
with the whole creation  
we sing in thanks and praise:

Holy, holy, holy, TIS764

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*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.)*

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Blessed is our brother Jesus,  
known again in the breaking of bread;  
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 also he took the cup.  
Again he gave thanks,  
shared it with his disciples and said:  
***This is the cup of a new covenant in my blood.  
whenever you drink it, remember me.***

Come now, disturbing Spirit of our God,  
breathe on these bodily things  
and make us one body in Christ.  
Open our graves, unbind our eyes,  
and name us here;  
touch and heal all that has been buried in us,  
that we need not cling to our fear,  
but may go forth with power  
to release resurrection in the world.

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.***

THE 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.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

## DISTRIBUTION

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you

***And also with you***

*Share the peace, return to your seats*

## Notices

Ian: - Pray for Assembly, 6-9 May

## Dave Hall Conclusion of Placement liturgy

**Bruce Missen**

*Ian invites children and youth and student house residents forward with Bruce Missen, Joel Hallinan, Kenna Morrison (for James Balsillie, an apology), Peter Blair (an apology)*

**Bruce:** Since the church lives by the power of the Word, it is assured that God has never failed to provide a witness to that Word.

On 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019, the Presbytery of Port Phillip West commissioned Dave Hall as a Pastor among you and you witnessed his promises to minister in the name of Christ as the Children, Youth and Young Adult Pastor.

Dave concludes his role today. The time has come to mark the end of his particular responsibilities in this congregation, and to send him with God's blessing to a new phase of life.

**Dave:** Brothers and sisters in Christ, you called me to minister with you, and charged me to proclaim the gospel and minister in Christ's name among the children, youth and young adults of this congregation and their families. I now lay down the tasks you committed to me. I, therefore, hand these symbols representing my work to you, and ask you to continue to care for these people, and in due time, to share them with my successor.

*The chair of the CYYA Committee and chair of the Student House Committee receive the symbols - Bible, cross, tripod, Werewolves, Tim Tams.*

**Bruce:** And now, on behalf of the Presbytery of Port Phillip West, we thank you for your ministry of God's grace in this congregation. We release you from this ministry, and commend you to the pastoral care of where you worship next.

As you enter into a new sphere of life and work, we pray for God's blessing on you in that new situation.

*Ministry Team members stand with Dave*

Dave, you have worked closely with Ian and Peter as a team in your respective ministries, supporting one another in love so inspiring God's people in their common ministry for Christ. We now formally dissolve this ministry team and commend you all to God as you

form new ministry relationships. I invite you to exchange a sign of peace with one another to mark this change.

*Dave and Ian exchange a sign of peace.*

Be strong and of good courage, do not be afraid: for it is the Lord who goes with you. Your God will not fail you or forsake you. Deut. 31:6

Let us pray.

O God, be with those who leave, and with those who stay; and grant that all of us, by drawing nearer to you, may always be close to each other in the communion of saints; through Jesus Christ our lover and brother. Amen.

*As Dave kneels for the blessing, Ian invites the children, youth, student house residents, and the whole congregation to join in the actions during the blessing song.*

BLESSING SONG: For you deep stillness, NCYC99

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*For you, deep stillness of the silent inland;  
for you, deep blue of the desert skies;  
for you, flame red of the rocks and stones;  
for you, sweet water from hidden springs.*

*From the edges seek the heartlands,  
and when you're burnt by the journey  
may the cool winds of the hovering Spirit  
soothe and replenish you.  
In the name of Christ.*

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## Blessing and Sending

Ian

*Ian gives final blessing to whole congregation...*

Christ is Risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

O God,  
you have turned  
our mourning into dancing,  
and clothed us with joy.

Brothers and Sisters, go in peace,  
dance life with abandonment,  
in the love of our God who is,  
the origin and end of our movement,  
the rhythm of our living,  
and the flow of our loving,  
the Source, the Son and the Spirit.  
Amen.

BLESSING SONG: We will go with God / Sizohamba naye, IONA One is the Body 135 –

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*Sizohamba naye,  
wo wo wo,  
sizohamba naye.  
Ngomhla wenjabula,  
sizohamba naye.*

*We will walk with God, my brothers,  
we will walk with God.  
We will walk with God, my sisters,  
we will walk with God.  
we will go rejoicing, till the kingdom has come.*

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SONG: We will walk with God, Swaziland Traditional, translation by John L Bell, © 2002 WGRG, Iona Community, Glasgow, Scotland, from One is the Body. Reproduced with permission under ONE LICENCE #604502

## Thank yous

Thank you for joining us, and thank you to...

Liturgist:

Rev Ian Ferguson  
(Minister of the Word)

Acknowledgement

Of Country:

Simone Alesich

Bible Readers:

Ray Cameron  
Catherine Drimmel

Children's Time:

Saint Brendan and the  
Voyage Before Columbus

Author: Mike McGrew

Illustrator: Marnie Saenz

Litz

offered by Dave Hall  
(Children, Youth and  
Young Adults Pastor)

Reflection:

Dave Hall (Children, Youth  
and Young Adults Pastor)

Prayers of the People:

Jim Kilpatrick

Musicians:

Alistair Hunter  
(co-ordinator)  
Daniel Broadstock  
Steph Gesling

Joanne van Ravenswaaij

Kate Scull

Maggie Somerville

Presbytery Representative:

Bruce Missen

Images:

Beach image

<https://comeandhavebreakfast.files.wordpress.com/2014/09/bonfire-beach.jpg>

Ian Ferguson

Postlude Song: Send us  
out O God, © 1991 Monica  
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LICENCE # 604502,  
Musicians: Daniel  
Broadstock, Natalie Sims,  
Shawn Whelan

Production:

Ray Cameron  
Saide Cameron  
Ian Ferguson  
Dave Hall  
Ben Hon  
Alistair Hunter  
Lauren Reader

## Closing verse on screen:

You have turned my mourning into dancing. Psalm 30:11