Eden Uniting Worship Service

12 September 2021

Theme - Speaking Words of Wisdom

CALL TO WORSHIP

Acknowledgement of Country

St Georges Uniting Church, Eden acknowledges that we are on the traditional lands of Aboriginal people. We pay respect to the Yuin people, especially to their elders past and present, and recognise the continuing gift of their culture to the life and spirit of Australia.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.' Matthew 11:28-30

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' John 4:24

Opening Song - Build My Life

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnpJ8oRQWrc

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy,

We confess that we had, and continue,

to stray from your way of love.

We are misled by pride -

for we see ourselves great when we are small.

We have failed in love, neglected injustice, and ignored your truth.

We even fail ourselves - for we see ourselves as without value when in truth we are of immense value.

We are made in your image. Loved so much that Jesus Christ came to seek and to save the lost.

Thank you for your mercy.

O God, we seek your mercy again today -

Have mercy on us, and forgive our sin.

Return us to paths of righteousness

through Jesus Christ, our Saviour. AMEN

Word of Assurance

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 New International Version - UK (NIVUK) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

Ministry of the Word

Psalm 19 - For the choir director: A psalm of David.

- 1 The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.
- 2 Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known.
- 3 They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard.[a]
- 4 Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world.

God has made a home in the heavens for the sun.

- 5 It bursts forth like a radiant bridegroom after his wedding. It rejoices like a great athlete eager to run the race.
- 6 The sun rises at one end of the heavens and follows its course to the other end. Nothing can hide from its heat.
- 7 The instructions of the Lord are perfect, reviving the soul.

The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.

8 The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are clear, giving insight for living.

9 Reverence for the Lord is pure, lasting forever.

The laws of the Lord are true; each one is fair.

10 They are more desirable than gold, even the finest gold.

They are sweeter than honey, even honey dripping from the comb.

- 11 They are a warning to your servant, a great reward for those who obey them.
- 12 How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults.
- 13 Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don't let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin.
- 14 May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

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Children's Activity - The Treasure Hunt - prepared by Lyn Dawson (See seperate PDF)

Bible reading - James 3:1-12 & Mark 8:27-38 - (See seperate PDF)

Sermon - Speaking Words of Wisdom - prepared by Paul Dawson (See seperate PDF)

Song - The Law of the Lord is Perfect - Shiloh Worship Music https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzRoSLJUwQ8

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

We pray for leaders in this world.

World leaders carry with them the responsibilities of so many lives. Whether politically elected, chosen by their community, or hereditary succession, Their words and actions have significant and long-lasting effects.

God of all,

May their calling be matched with honesty and trustworthiness. May they live with a determination to create a better environment and society for the community in their care.

May understanding, compassion and general respect guide their leadership and choices for the community.

May their leading reflect best practice agility, flexibility, and responsiveness, so that they can lead their community through any changing times.

May they be gracious, humble, and aware of their responsibilities, and stand against corruption and inequitable decisions.

May our Church leaders listen with clarity, and lead with your wisdom. So that as churches, we bring to the wider world a reflection of the whole body of Christ. In all our divergent ways and separate communities, may we all live with the Wisdom Spirit central in our being and offer practical assistance,

loving connections, places of belonging and words that bring joy and comfort at the most needed times.

We ask this God of all, with our heartfelt thanks to you, our refuge and redeemer. **Amen**

OFFERTORY - During COVID Restrictions many people are making their offertory by Direct Debit - you may like to consider this option. If so, Account Name – St Georges UC-General

May our offering bring practical support for the continuing of our ministry.

Gracious God, let these offerings be used for the ministry of care that our Church can bring to the community around. May we be a community of living words, whose witness speaks of your Wisdom, in our living and being as the people of God.

[The Lord's Supper

The Second Sunday of each month is our usual Sunday to celebrate the Lord's Supper. I have attached on a seperate PDF a very short brief few words if you would like to celebrate the communion at home. if you feel uncomfortable about ;taking Communion' alone then I've also attached a poem that you might to reflect on. If you can join our Zoom Morning Tea (details in the email) then we might take a few minutes at the Morning Tea to share Communion - so have a juice and bread/cracker ready.]

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

People of God, listen with attention,

For the Wisdom Spirit is speaking, singing in all creation.

We listen with all our being.

People of God, speak with great care,

For Loving Jesus shows you the Way to respond in love.

We speak with all our love.

People of God, act with compassionate grace,

For God offers us to the grace of new life to share.

We act with compassion and grace.

Concluding Song - Promises

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhFwh 59H2c
