

Eden Uniting Worship Service

19 September 2021

Theme -
Peacemakers
Planting in Peace

Call to Worship

Happy are those who rejoice with our God!
Today, we hear again wisdom from the Scriptures.
We are like trees forever being fed from the fresh stream.

**As we each grow in faith, we come closer to God.
Let us worship together!**

Opening Song - Come, now is the time to worship

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4kZRuj4yog>

Prayer of Invocation

Faithful Friend,
You welcome us again, as we call to you.
We wish to bear fruit of gentleness, kindness, and compassion,
and grow in courage to share our faith with the world. Amen

Psalm 1

¹ Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of
mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.
⁴ Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away.
⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.
⁶ For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

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.

Prayer of Confession

Peacemaking Friend, we come to you in humble prayer. We
struggle to live in your Way. Inside, we doubt, judge others, lack
forgiveness and kindness.
We admit our tendency towards poor choices, based on self-
focused outcomes.
We long to let go our ways of self-satisfaction,
and tune into your peace-filled presence deep within our souls.

Word of Assurance

Come near to God, for God is near.
Let go of self-centred ways of being, and God's Wisdom will unfold
within your heart and soul.
Your thinking will open you to all that is in God's Creation and you
will rejoice in living in the Way of Jesus.
Peace will be in you, surround you and uplift your being and living,
and you will share it with all whom you meet, wherever you are.

Song of Praise - We believe

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hzMfi5bAMUY>

Ministry of the Word

Psalm 1 - An Activity for Children and the 'young at heart' -

The Psalm on page one told us that we are influenced/shaped by our
context. A tree close to a stream will grow strong and fruitful.
A person close to God will grow kind and hopeful.

Activities - chose one or all to enjoy.

1. Remember a story from your family life which has helped your
to be joyful - retell the story with your family or a friend and
laugh again.
2. Just for fun - Find a favourite bush or tree or pet and see if you
can dress up in a 'look-alike-way' - take a photo of you and the
tree/bush/pet and send to family or friends or even the
Church Newsletter so we can all marvel and laugh again.
3. Ask another member of your family about a Story of Jesus that
they draw kindness and hope from.

More Bible readings - James 3: 13-18. 4: 1-3, 7-8a

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness

4 What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ² You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you.

Mark 9: 33-37 - ³³ They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the road?” ³⁴ But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

³⁵ Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, “Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all.”

³⁶ He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ “Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.”

Sermon - Michael Palmer - *See separate file/link on Eden Uniting website*

Song - I love you Lord

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SYV0ce3ybEA>

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

BSB Number – 641 800 Account Number – 200354335

Let us offer our gifts with open hands, so that it is used to assist God's peace and mission.

Gracious Giver of peace, may this offering be a part of the gifting we bring, encouraging and refreshing the living and being as a church, so that we grow in our understanding and plant seeds of Wisdom in the community in which we live.

Prayer Of Intercession

Peace-making Friend,

We pray for those close to us, who are struggling with ill health or bereavement. We pray that they might be aware of your comforting presence in their lives.

We pray too for the people in our town, as we struggle with the restraints of lockdown and the fear of COVID impacting our health.

We pray for those parts of the world where people are violently oppressed. We pray especially for Afghanistan and Myanmar.

We pray for all people who have been bullied and abused.

May we be a community that recognises violence that seeks to damage heart and soul, and control thinking and being.

We pray that our governments realise the extent of generational abuse, and the damage it has brought to society, let alone the countless lives of humble folk who are victims of violence.

God of all, help us to live as Peacemakers. Amen.

Commissioning and Benediction

Jesus Friend is always present, so open your eyes and follow the Way.

Live with the open heart and soul found in God's love for there you will be surrounded in joy and rest in the inner strength that blossoms in a life as a peace-making witness of our God.

Concluding Song - Guide me O thou great Jehovah

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0qX_n5IK3sU
