

Eden Uniting Worship Service

31 October 2021

Theme:

Living in an unseen
kingdom of truth

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.

Song as we gather - Steve Grace - Long live your dreams

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

Call to Worship

Everything comes from God. The cosmos and all it contains.
Everything comes from God. The earth and all its life.
Everything comes from God. Every hour, of every day.
Everything comes from God. This moment, and every moment.
Everything comes from God. Let us rejoice!

Prayer of Invocation

God, in a world of competing loyalties we remember ours to you.
In a world of power used to destroy, we remember your power to create.
Remind us again on this day that you are power like no other power,
that you are Lord like no other Lord.
Remind us today of your presence with us always. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

God of presence,
the Book of Revelation tells us that every eye will see you. We know
that you are present in the world now in us and all that you have made.
We confess to you that so often we are blind to your presence.
We know it in our heads but often we do not experience you in our souls
and spirits.
We can go through days and weeks and years without seeing you in our
lives, forgetting that you are present. Sometimes our blindness is wilful.
We choose not to be open to your love and grace, preferring the
darkness of our own minds. *(Confession continues on page 2)*

Prayer of Confession *(Continued from page 1)*

And yet you wait patiently for us to discover and rediscover you
within us, amongst us, everywhere, in even the smallest moments of our
lives. Forgive us for forgetting. Forgive us for closing our eyes.
Forgive us. We pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance from Psalm 103:8-12

God does not forget.

God does not forget God's promise of infinite forgiveness.

Today, in this very moment, we all stand forgiven, we all stand with
open eyes to see the forgiveness and grace and love of God.

Bible Reading - Psalm 92 - A Psalm. A Song for the Sabbath Day.

- ¹ It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
- ² to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
- ³ to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.
- ⁴ For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

Ministry of the Word

Kid's Talk - Petra

Song - If I was a butterfly

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bZbS8bLQcIQ>

More Bible Readings - Revelation 1:4b-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to
come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from
Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler
of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins
by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and
Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

(Continued on page 3)

Revelation 1:4b-8

(Continued from page 2)

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

‘I am the Alpha and the Omega’, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

John 18:33-38

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ Jesus answered, ‘Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?’ Pilate replied, ‘I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?’ Jesus answered, ‘My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.’ Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’

Pilate asked him, ‘What is truth?’

Sermon - Michael

Song 3 - God shines his light

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrqi6cxfH7Y>

Prayer of Adoration

The Offertory - *A Retiring Offertory opportunity is located at the door otherwise please consider making your offertory by Direct Debit to Account Name – St Georges UC-General*

BSB Number – 641 800 mAccount Number – 200354335

Offertory Sentence - We are a community of truth and of faith. May this offering be used to build faith and expose truth. In the name of Christ.

Offertory Prayer - God of truth and faith, you make us people of faith and you call us to live in truth. May all that we have and all that we are be dedicated to faithful and truthful living. May this money that came to us as a gift from you be used as a gift in your service. Amen.

Notices

Song to introduce prayer - Steve Grace - Clear my Mind

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

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION - God of all clarity, Pilate called Jesus a king and Jesus said that he was one, but Jesus and Pilate were a long way apart on what they took that word to mean.

We too are often a long way apart when we speak to each other. Sometimes there is a chasm between us and sometimes we do not recognise it. We can speak and not communicate. We can hear and not understand.

We pray today for care and patience in how we speak together.

We pray for wisdom and patience, that we might truly hear one another.

We pray for thoughtfulness in how we speak that we might bridge the chasm and build the kingdom the community you call us to. This is our prayer. 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 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 forever. Amen

Commissioning and Benediction

Concluding Song/Song as we go - Rock of Ages -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESPmCs6AHhg>