

Eden Uniting Worship Service

19 December 2021

Theme:
Emmanuel God is with us!

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.

Call to Worship - Prayer of Invocation

Listen in the morning.

God, has visited humanity. With Beauty of Creation and of Word.

A new day dawned when Jesus lived and lived again.

We celebrate that first arrival and the hope it enlarged us with.

We wait for the day of another arrival. When Jesus will return to unite all things in Him. We wait in faith without fear to hear the words,

‘peace on earth and good will to all.’

This is our hope. This is our prayer.

God is with us! God is present! Let us rejoice. Let us worship!

Let us sing to God!

Opening Song - We have a Saviour

Prayer of Confession

God of faithfulness, the Scriptures tell us of your faithfulness from generation to generation. Sometimes we find it hard to experience that faithfulness. We often see so clearly all the pain and suffering in our world, our communities, and in our own lives

but our sight and insights are too often dimmed to your faithful presence. We live too often in anxiety and despair rather than trust and hope. Forgive us God of love and grace for our smallness of vision, our limited sight and our disbelief. We pray for the wisdom and the clarity to live as you call us to live, in abundant generosity and great hopefulness. This is our prayer of faith. Amen.

Words of Assurance in a Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving

God of great blessing, Elizabeth called Mary, an unmarried pregnant girl, blessed. Jesus called the poor and the hungry blessed.

Your way of understanding the worth of the world is so different from ours. What we so often overlook, you honour.

What we so often ignore, you give close attention.

You treasure what we reject.

For your love and care of us, in all our brokenness and unloveliness we give you great thanks.

For looking with love on all that you have created, we give you our thanks. We live in your love and welcome.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Song - Mary's Boy Child

Ministry of God's Word

First Bible Reading - Luke 1:39-55

Advent Box & Children's Talk - Michael Palmer

Bible Readings Continue

Psalm 80:1-7

For the choir director: A psalm of Asaph, to be sung to the tune “Lilies of the Covenant.”

Please listen, O Shepherd of Israel,
you who lead Joseph's descendants like a flock.

O God, enthroned above the cherubim,
display your radiant glory to Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh.
Show us your mighty power. Come to rescue us!
Turn us again to yourself, O God.

Make your face shine down upon us. Only then will we be saved.
O Lord God of Heaven's Armies, how long will you be angry with our
prayers?
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Psalm 80:1-7

(Continued from page 2)

You have fed us with sorrow and made us drink tears by the bucketful.
You have made us the scorn of neighbouring nations.

Our enemies treat us as a joke.
Turn us again to yourself, O God of Heaven's Armies.
Make your face shine down upon us. Only then will we be saved.

Sermon - Steve Faggotter

Song to conclude sermon and to introduce prayer

O Come, O Come Emmanuel - <https://youtu.be/yFoFOZmSIIfY>

Notices

Prayer of Intercession

God of the great promises of creation,
today we pray for all who live without promise,
without hope, and without the true knowledge that they are blessed.
We have grown used to a culture that privileges wealth,
education, gender, skin colour, and a myriad of other false markers,
that allow us to pretend that some of us are in and some of us are out.
This is a lie. But it is a lie that persists.
And as it does so, millions know themselves to be not among the
blessed, to be not among the chosen.
This is a lie. This is our great lie.
We know that you show no partiality.
We know that you do not have a hierarchy.
We know that there are none that are outside of your promise, your
blessing. All are equal in your eyes.
Teach us your truths today and every day.
Teach us that we are blessed, the world is blessed. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

A service to Commission and Re-dedicate - see accompanying sheet

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

God gives us the past, the present and the future. Let us give in thankfulness trust and hope.

Offertory Prayer

God of every good gift,
we bring these our gifts that were gifts to us from you as everything in our lives has always been.
We bring them as one way of dedicating ourselves to blessing the earth with the goodness of God.
In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

Concluding Song - Jesus, what a beautiful name

Commissioning and Benediction

God made a promise to Abraham.
Our souls magnify the Lord
God made a promise to Mary.
Our souls magnify the Lord
God makes a promise to us.
Our souls magnify the Lord
We are a people of hope.
Our souls magnify the Lord
We are a people of blessing
Our souls magnify the Lord
Let us go in peace. Amen.