

Eden Uniting Church Worship Service

Sunday 6th March 2022

CALL TO WORSHIP

The act of coming to worship is an indication of our longing to encounter the divine, to draw up a chair and sit at God's feet. May the Spirit of God bless us

SONG 1. His Love endures forever (Give thanks to the Lord)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HP7FK2ewTG0>

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of love,
we are all in different seasons of life.
each of us carries our own story, our own cares, and concerns,
yet as we spend time in worship, we have a common purpose
to encounter the divine. Call us back to your Love AMEN
As it is written: **Psalm 91:1-2**

¹ Those who live in the shelter of the Most High
will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

² This I declare about the LORD:

He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him.

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.

(Continued on page 2)

CONFESSION - *(Continued from page 1)*

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.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

2 Corinthians 5:17-18 –

Those who are in Christ Jesus are a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, the new has come!

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ.

Song 2. Hear our praises

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2X4sf6HxYLU>

Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Kid's Talk: Michael

Bible Reading: Luke 4:1-13

Teaching: Steve

OFFERTORY: Dear LORD, with our own lived experience of difficult times, we know how powerful an act of kindness can be, so let these gifts we give today be acts of kindness to others and a way in which they encounter the divine. **Amen**

INTERSESSION (written by Cheryle) (Page 3&4)

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank You because you have overcome the world, You hold heaven and earth in your loving hands, we are grateful because you have given us the promise of eternal life.

Today we pray for those who suffer ill health, who struggle with mental illness, anxiety and depression. we pray that you will make available the resources needed to make a difference in their lives. Help us to be a listening ear to those who suffer. Fill us with your compassion and wisdom.

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons, we pray for all people living in war torn countries who fear for tomorrow, that your holy spirit will draw near to them and provide them with comfort in this most distressing time.

Lord we pray for those with power over war or peace, that they may seek wisdom, discernment and compassion in the decisions they make. Above all we pray for your precious children, at risk, and living in fear, that you would protect them. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who is the prince of peace.

In our own neighbourhood Lord we pray that you will help the many families who have lost their homes and belongings in this current flood disaster. Lord we pray that you will meet their immediate need for food, fresh water, shelter, and clothing. Lord we lift up to you the aid agencies, help them to provide effectively and efficiently to those who are suffering.

We pray for your direction in how we can give financially to this relief effort. Lord we pray for safety and protection to all those involved in rescue efforts.

Lord we pray for families and friends who have lost loved ones in this flood. At times like this Lord words seem so inadequate, help us to reach out, to be your arms of love and comfort.

Lord as we bring our prayers of intercession to you this morning, we are mindful of our immediate family and friends, those who have immediate needs, who may be unwell, just let us bring them before you in silent prayer now.

Lord God, we thank you that there is nowhere we can go that is beyond your presence. We pray that your peace will be in our hearts, your grace will be in our words, your love in be our hands and your joy be in our soul.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray these things **Amen**

COMMISSIONING AND BLESSING

We have encountered the divine in word, in song, in prayer and the company of those who have gathered here, go now and see where else you encounter the divine, remembering that you too can be the channel for and place of a divine encounter.

CLOSING SONG:

The Summons (Will you come and follow me?)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o469PRLdbHU>