

**Eden Uniting  
Worship Service  
Sunday 22 March,  
2020**

**Theme:  
Living in the Light**

**All Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

In the beginning, when there was nothing,  
God spoke. "Let there be light". And there was.  
And the light, God said, was good.  
The light was good and all creation was good.  
And all creation is good.  
Just as light is everywhere,  
the goodness of God is everywhere. Let us worship!

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

God of life and light,  
everything that exists comes from you.  
Everything that is, is filled with your energy and presence.  
You are here, in this moment,  
your joy and love infuse all things.  
You animate each of us with your love. You  
give us all that we have and are.

**In various places and at various times we gather.  
We may be distanced from one another but we are not  
isolated from one another. We remain in contact, ever  
supportive of one another and united in our worship of  
our God whose light is seen in Jesus our Lord.**

**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.

**It is no longer I that Liveth**

( <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NLDZnKYbEI>)

It is no longer I that Liveth, But Christ that liveth in me  
It is no longer I that Liveth, But Christ that liveth in me  
He lives! He Lives!, Jesus is alive in me!  
It is no longer I that Liveth, But Christ that liveth in me

Prayer of Confession - Let us pray:

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,  
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed:  
we have not loved you with our whole heart,  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;  
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.  
Father, forgive us.  
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

1 Timothy 1:15 - Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full  
acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of  
whom I am the worst.

**Bible Reading - 1 Samuel 16:4-13** - So Samuel did as the Lord  
instructed. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town  
came trembling to meet him. "What's wrong?" they asked. "Do you  
come in peace?" "Yes," Samuel replied. "I have come to sacrifice to  
the Lord. Purify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." Then  
Samuel performed the purification rite for Jesse and his sons and  
invited them to the sacrifice, too. When they arrived, Samuel took  
one look at Eliab and thought, "Surely this is the Lord's anointed!"  
But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or  
height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way  
you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord  
looks at the heart."

Then Jesse told his son Abinadab to step forward and walk in front of  
Samuel. But Samuel said, "This is not the one the Lord has chosen."

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### **Bible Reading - 1 Samuel 16:4-13 - continued from page 2**

Next Jesse summoned Shimea, but Samuel said, “Neither is this the one the Lord has chosen.” In the same way all seven of Jesse’s sons were presented to Samuel. But Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Then Samuel asked, “Are these all the sons you have?” “There is still the youngest,” Jesse replied. “But he’s out in the fields watching the sheep and goats.”

“Send for him at once,” Samuel said. “We will not sit down to eat until he arrives.” So Jesse sent for him. He was dark and handsome, with beautiful eyes. And the Lord said, “This is the one; anoint him.” So as David stood there among his brothers, Samuel took the flask of olive oil he had brought and anointed David with the oil. And the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David from that day on. Then Samuel returned to Ramah.

### **Interactive - A few Questions for reflection**

- What would judging others by their heart look like for you?
- Is there anyone you might need to re-evaluate?

+ Song - **Let your Light Shine**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXkxRNEy8XA>

### **Bible Reading Continued - John 9:1-12**

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. “Rabbi,” his disciples asked him, “why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents’ sins?”

“It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered. “This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world.”

Then he spit on the ground, made mud with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man’s eyes. He told him, “Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam” (Siloam means “sent”). So the man went and washed and came back seeing!

**Homily - Michael** (See ‘content for Sunday at

<https://eden.uca.org.au>)

### **This Day God gives me**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8Tav-cFBUE>

This Day God gives me  
strength of high heaven,  
sun and moon shining,  
flame in my hearth,  
Flashing of lightning,  
Wind in its swiftness,  
Depths of the ocean,  
Firmness of earth.

This day God sends me  
Strength to sustain me,  
Might to uphold me,  
Wisdom as guide.  
Your eyes are watchful,  
Your ears are listening,  
Your lips are speaking,  
Friend at my side.

God's way is my way,  
God's shield is round me,  
God's host defends me,  
Saving from ill.  
Angels of heaven,  
Drive from me always  
All that would harm me,  
Stand by me still.

Rising, I thank you,  
Mighty and strong One,  
King of creation,  
Giver of rest,  
Firmly confessing  
God in three Persons,  
Oneness of Godhead,  
Trinity blest.

### **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION**

God who illuminates the world, today we pray for all are experiencing the darkness of fear, uncertainty and even of death. We pray for all who can see no way ahead because of the darkness around them. Today we pray for light to dawn.

We pray for the light of wisdom as governments and community seek to act rightly in response to COVID19 and we pray for skill and care for all who treat those who are sick. Comfort them and us all. We pray for your light of love and truth to break into the lives of all the people of the earth. **Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

You are light. We are light. Light is our gift and our inheritance. We are children of the light. Let us go to live in the light. May God’s truth guide our thinking. May Christ hold us in the way. May the Spirit light our path. Amen