

June 14, 2020 Pentecost 2A - A Pentecost calling

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7) Psalm 116:1-2; 12-19 Romans :1-8 **Matthew 9:35- 10:8, (9-23)**

Welcome to our service, whether you are reading it on paper or participating in a more interactive way on the website or via FaceBook. We thank you for joining us and please know that your input, responses or suggestions are always welcome

We acknowledge the sovereign First Peoples of this place where land and waters meet.

where we meet, the Yuin Nation.

We pay our respects to their elders past and present and to all Aboriginal people who have cared for this place since creation.

Call to Worship Come, all you people come to the giver of life; come to the teacher of truths; come to the creator of new horizons.

God calls us, Christ empowers us, the Holy Spirit guides our way. Come, Holy Spirit, come.

(And let's pray) - Holy God, breath of life, breathe into your people the fullness of your Spirit. Teach us the ways of Christ. Lead us in our service. Centre us in your living Word.

God of love and grace, we come to offer our adoration, praise and thanksgiving.

In you we find fullness of life.

In you we encounter pure truth.

In you is found extraordinary beauty.

In you we come to know abundant life.

Receive our praise and thanks, for truly, we adore you. May your goodness be acknowledged in every place. May your people shine with your perfect love. May you be glorified forever. Amen.

Romans 5:1-8 (NIV)

From this reading we could hardly help but sing from the old Scripture in Song but a modern version from some Catholic theological students in Bangalore, India. **Therefore Being Justified by Faith**

Prayer of Confession

O God of all goodness and grace, we hear your calling to come and share in the harvest – your mission to bring about your kingdom. Forgive our deafness and stubbornness as we prefer to get about our own business.

Help us to see a need and respond in kindness. Help us to hear the cries of the poor and to bring healing and hope. Enable us to realise the gifts that you give us for the common good of all.

We confess that we treat too lightly your call and ignore your command to love our neighbour as ourselves. Have mercy on us, we pray, and help us to keep focused on the things of eternity. In the name of Christ. Amen.

But!! We can be assured That though we may fail, God's grace is sufficient. Though we may struggle, the Spirit renews the repentant heart. Our sins are forgiven. **Thanks you God.**

I love to tell the story -Steve Grace Version

I love to tell the story
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory,
Of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story,
Because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings
As nothing else can do.

I love to tell the story;
'Tis pleasant to repeat
What seems each time I tell it,
More wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story;
For some have never heard
The message of salvation
From God's own holy Word.

*I love to tell the story,
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story
of Jesus and His love.*

I love to tell the story;
For those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting
To hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story,
That I have loved so long.

DISCIPLESHIP THOUGHT

Jesus addressed the disciples inviting them to participate in his mission, acknowledging that the task is overwhelming – “the labourers are few”. We could easily apply those words in our own times. Sometimes the size of the tasks of servant leadership seems almost impossible. This pales into insignificance when compared to what he asked them to do. “Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the leper, cast out demons.” What a job description. Of course, this generation has made huge strides in medicine and disease control, but that is not what he is on about. The clue lies in his words, “As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The Kingdom of heaven has come near’.” This is the power of the Gospel to save, to heal and to renew. Dwelling in the “kingdom of heaven” makes all things possible, even those things which seem impossible, for it is our perspective that is changed, and new horizons are ever before us.

We can read about Jesus’ instructions to his disciples [in Matthew 9:35 - 10:8, \(9-23\)](#) The readings are in a separate document that you may already have open with the Romans reading.

Allan’s talk – [A Pentecost Calling](#) And we may be blessed with this same talk as a video on the Eden UC website. You could go back there and have a look. (No guarantees as it’s not there at the time of writing this document.)

In our calling, we find our mission. Let us make an offering of our lives and all that we have.

Offertory prayer

Gracious and giving God, receive all that we have brought today, that our giving may be a source of life; that our service may extend your reign; that we might draw ever closer to you, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Take Authority Matt 10:1

I give you authority to take responsibility:

out there in the ruck
where Satan excels
at passing the buck.

Take this my authority over contemporary spirits:

rank opportunism
moral vacuity
insipient cynicism.

Employ this authority over national diseases:

raw market forces
indigenous neglect
wasted resources.

Take up my authority for your own destiny:

over fate and fear
evil and tragedy
suffering and despair.

Take then authority to be God’s family:

good friends of the earth
bearers of shalom
heralds of God’s mirth.

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Sing [Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life](#) We’ve sung this recently but repetition helps to learn it. [Lyrics](#) in a separate document if you need them.

Prayers for others

God of all creation, what do you see when you regard the world? What does the harvest look like to you and what would you ask of your people?

Where people live in ignorance and fear: Send your servants Lord.

Where people suffer because of drought, famine or disease: Send your servants Lord.

Where there is violence and hostility and peace seems a forlorn hope: Send your servants Lord.

Where there is sickness, depression or despair: Send your servants Lord.

We acknowledge that the mission is huge and seems beyond us.

Yet, we believe that in the power of the Spirit, in the power of your grace and love, and in the power of the Gospel of Christ, anything is possible.

So call us, equip us and send us Lord, for we are ready to share in the miracles of your ministry wherever we are led.

In your name we pray. Amen.

Call to us now and we shall awaken
We shall arise at the sound of your name
[Here in this place new light is streaming](#)

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

Christ is calling. The Spirit is leading. God's reign and realm are all about us. So let us give ourselves anew to be God's servants wherever we are. May the love and strength of God hold us firm. May we see with the clarity of Christ all that needs to be done. And may we walk each day in the power of the Holy Spirit. Go, blessed, now and forever. Amen.

And you won't be able to contain yourselves and sing along to [I Have Decided to Follow Jesus](#) in a country version by Steve Grace