

**Eden Uniting
Worship Service**
Sunday 7 March 2021

Theme:
Clearing the Temple

Call to Worship

All of creation calls us to see;
to wonder in delight at all that God has made.

Then, in wonder and awe, we come to worship.

Let our voices rise in praise and go out through all the earth!

God is here! Let us worship!

Opening Song - Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

Amazing grace, How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Refrain: My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Saviour has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy reigns,
Unending love, amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures
Refrain x 2

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God, Who called me here below,
Will be forever mine. Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

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.

Opening Prayer

Loving God,
You are always and everywhere, it is we who become distracted
and wander away from your love.
Bring us back into the fold of your grace.
May we be truly present, here and now – that even in our breathing
we might recognise your presence. Amen.

Prayer of Confession Taken from: <https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/?p=400>

God of love,
we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.
But you have kept faith with us.
Have mercy on us; strip us of all that is not worthy;
and help us to live up to our calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

Hear these Words of Assurance:

“God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom”
Our God offers healing and wholeness
even when our wisdom says we are beyond rescue.
In the name of Christ, we are made whole.

Thanks be to God!

Bible reading: Exodus 20:1-17 - see page 6

Kid’s Talk - Petra Palmer

Song - What a beautiful name

You were the Word at the beginning,
One with God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation,
Now revealed in You our Christ

Song - What a beautiful name *(Continued from page 2)*

Chorus 1 - What a beautiful Name it is, What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is, Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is, The Name of Jesus

You didn't want heaven without us, So Jesus You brought heaven down
My sin was great Your love was greater, What could separate us now

Chorus 2 - What a wonderful Name it is, What a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is, Nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is, The Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is, The Name of Jesus
(musical interlude)

Bridge

Death could not hold You, The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring, The praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again, You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign, Yours is the kingdom
Yours is the glory, Yours is the Name above all names

Chorus 3 - What a powerful Name it is, What a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is, Nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus

Tags

What a powerful Name it is The Name of Jesus x 2

Bible Reading - John 2:13-22 - see page 7

Sermon - Clearing the Temple - Janice Nelson

The NEW Creed

(from the United Church of Canada)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come
in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who
works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Offertory Sentence and Prayer

Our offering is a sign of our commitment to God. May it also be a sign of
our commitment to justice.

Loving God, take these gifts and our lives; use them to reshape the world
into your vision of justice, hope and love. Amen.

Prayer/s of Intercession - *followed by 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

Concluding Song - When I survey the wondrous cross (see page 5)

Commissioning and Benediction

People of God, go out into the world seeking God's justice
and offering God's love wherever you might be.

And go knowing that the deep peace
of Christ works in, through and with you. Amen.

When I survey the wondrous cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Bible Readings in Full

Exodus 20:1-17

Then God gave the people all these instructions:

“I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery.

“You must not have any other god but me.

“You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands.

“You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God. The Lord will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.

“Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. You have six days each week for your ordinary work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the Lord your God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, your livestock, and any foreigners living among you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart as holy.

“Honour your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

“You must not murder.

“You must not commit adultery.

“You must not steal.

“You must not testify falsely against your neighbour.

“You must not covet your neighbour’s house. You must not covet your neighbour’s wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbour.”

John 2:13-22

It was nearly time for the Jewish Passover celebration, so Jesus went to Jerusalem. In the Temple area he saw merchants selling cattle, sheep, and doves for sacrifices; he also saw dealers at tables exchanging foreign money. Jesus made a whip from some ropes and chased them all out of the Temple. He drove out the sheep and cattle, scattered the money changers' coins over the floor, and turned over their tables. Then, going over to the people who sold doves, he told them, "Get these things out of here. Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!"

Then his disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: "Passion for God's house will consume me."

But the Jewish leaders demanded, "What are you doing? If God gave you authority to do this, show us a miraculous sign to prove it."

"All right," Jesus replied. "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

"What!" they exclaimed. "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and you can rebuild it in three days?" But when Jesus said "this temple," he meant his own body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered he had said this, and they believed both the Scriptures and what Jesus had said.