



# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

26<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## *Acknowledgement of Country*

We acknowledge the triune God, the Creator of heaven and earth and God's ownership of all things (Psalm 24:1). We recognise that God gave stewardship of these lands upon which we meet to the First Nations Peoples of this country (Acts 17:26). We acknowledge the cultures of our First Nations Peoples and are thankful for the community that we share together now. We pay our respects to the traditional custodians of this land and their elders, both past and present, and those who are rising up to become leaders.

*Cantor:* Thank you for joining our Service today, as we celebrate the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in the season of Pentecost Growth. We welcome those watching via livestream. I invite you to stand to sing our opening hymn.

## *Opening Hymn: O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus*

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!  
Rolling as a mighty ocean  
in its fullness over me!

Underneath me, all around me,  
is the current of your love -  
leading onward, leading homeward,  
to that glorious rest above!

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus -  
spread his praise from shore to shore!  
How he loves us, ever loves us,  
changes never, nevermore!

How he watches o'er his loved ones,  
died to call them all his own;  
how for them he's interceding,  
watching o'er them from the throne!

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus,  
love of every love the best!  
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,  
'tis a haven sweet of rest!

Oh, the deep, deep love of Jesus -  
'tis heaven of heavens to me;  
and it lifts me up to glory,  
for it lifts me up to thee!

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## *Minister's Welcome*

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age.

Praise the Lord of our salvation, according to the will of God our Father  
**to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

## *The Sentence*

In his letter to the believers at Galatia, Paul wrote,

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22-23)

## *Prayer of Approach*

*Deacon: Knowing the goodness of God and His generous love towards us, let us approach His throne of grace,*

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, though Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Minister:*

## *Collect of the Day*

Gracious Father, enlighten our minds so we may know you, give life to our souls so we may love you, strengthen our thoughts that we may seek you, empower our innermost parts so we may fully serve you, knowing that it is only through your Son that perfect freedom is found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## *Ministry of the Word*

**The first reading is from the book of Psalms. Number 77 verses 1-2 and 11-14.**

<sup>1</sup> I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me.

**<sup>2</sup> When I was in distress, I sought the Lord; at night I stretched out untiring hands, and I would not be comforted.**

<sup>11</sup> I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.

**<sup>12</sup> I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds."**

<sup>13</sup> Your ways, God, are holy. What god is as great as our God?

**<sup>14</sup> You are the God who performs miracles; you display your power among the peoples.**

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
**as in the beginning, so now and forever. Amen.**

**The second reading is from Paul's letter to the church at Galatia, chapter 5 verses 1 to 25. Today's reading is from the New Living Translation.**

So Christ has truly set us free. Now make sure that you stay free, and don't get tied up again in slavery to the law.

<sup>2</sup> Listen! I, Paul, tell you this: If you are counting on circumcision to make you right with God, then Christ will be of no benefit to you. <sup>3</sup> I'll say it again. If you are trying to find favour with God by being circumcised, you must obey every regulation in the whole law of Moses. <sup>4</sup> For if you are trying to make yourselves right with God by keeping the law, you have been cut off from Christ! You have fallen away from God's grace.

<sup>5</sup> But we who live by the Spirit eagerly wait to receive by faith the righteousness God has promised to us. <sup>6</sup> For when we place our faith in Christ Jesus, there is no benefit in being circumcised or being uncircumcised. What is important is faith expressing itself in love.

<sup>7</sup> You were running the race so well. Who has held you back from following the truth? <sup>8</sup> It certainly isn't God, for he is the one who called you to freedom. <sup>9</sup> This false teaching is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough! <sup>10</sup> I am trusting the Lord to keep you from believing false teachings. God will judge that person, whoever he is, who has been confusing you.

<sup>11</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, if I were still preaching that you must be circumcised—as some say I do—why am I still being persecuted? If I were no longer preaching salvation through the cross of Christ, no one would be offended. <sup>12</sup> I just wish that those troublemakers who want to mutilate you by circumcision would mutilate themselves.

<sup>13</sup> For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law can be summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbour as yourself." <sup>15</sup> But if you are always biting and devouring one another, watch out! Beware of destroying one another.

<sup>16</sup> So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. <sup>17</sup> The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. <sup>18</sup> But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses.

<sup>19</sup> When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarrelling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

<sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there. <sup>25</sup> Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. <sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### *Gospel Song: Lift up your heads*

Lift up your heads to the coming King  
bow before him and adore him, sing.  
To his majesty, let your praises be  
pure and holy, giving glory to the King of kings

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### *Hearing the Gospel of our Lord*

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, chapter 9 verses 51-62. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>51</sup> As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; <sup>53</sup> but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?" <sup>55</sup> But Jesus turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup> Then he and his disciples went to another village. <sup>57</sup> As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

<sup>58</sup> Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." <sup>59</sup> He said to another man, "Follow me." But he replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." <sup>60</sup> Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." <sup>61</sup> Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family." <sup>62</sup> Jesus replied, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

### *The Sermon: Freedom to walk in the Spirit*

## *Hymn: Praise my soul the King of Heaven:*

Praise, my soul, the king of heaven;  
to his feet your tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
praise the everlasting king!

Praise him for his grace and favour  
to his people in distress;  
praise him still the same for ever,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
glorious in his faithfulness!

Father-like he tends and spares us;  
well our feeble frame he knows;  
in his hands he gently bears us,  
rescues us from all our foes:  
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
widely as his mercy flows!

Angels, help us to adore him,  
you behold him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before him,  
dwellers all in time and space:  
praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
praise with us the God of grace!

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## *The Prayer of the Week*

O God, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to suffer death upon a cross, and by his glorious resurrection delivered us from the power of the enemy: through the power of the Spirit at work in our lives, bring us to die daily to the sin that so easily enslaves us so that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## *Prayers for the world and our community.*

We pray for civil leaders in our Southlakes and Lake Macquarie area, for Kay Fraser our Mayor, and local MPs. Give them wisdom as they navigate the various local issues which arise such as the management of park and recreational facilities, the approval of council applications, and the management of our natural resources. May our local neighbourhoods be a reflection of your heavenly kingdom, where justice, truth and generosity flow abundantly.

We pray for the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle, for Bishop Peter and Assistant Bishops Charlie and Sonia. We ask you to direct, sanctify and govern their hearts and bodies in the ways of your law and works of your commandments. Give them courage to hold onto your Word of truth with integrity and discernment, especially as they attend the upcoming Lambeth Conference. Refresh their hearts and enliven their passion so they may proclaim your Gospel with courage and boldness.

We pray for the upcoming Synod, that all members will seek first your honour and glory, so they perceive what is right and have courage to pursue it and grace to accomplish it. Where there are disagreements, may the truth of your Word prevail.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all displaced peoples, for refugees, and those who flee persecution in their native country. Guard and protect them in danger and temptation; sustain them in loneliness; and support them in sickness and anxiety. Help each one to find a Christian faith community in whom they may find comfort and hope. We pray also, for all those who are persecuted for their faith in our Saviour and for the ministries who support them, such as Bibles for the Persecuted and Bible League. Watch over those who are near and dear to them, strengthen their faith and grant them the blessing of your presence in real and tangible ways. Loving Father we bring to you all who are on our prayer list. Through the power of your Spirit and authority of Jesus Christ where there is sickness, bring healing; where there is conflict, bring reconciliation; where there is anxiety, bring peace.

Look with mercy, Lord God, on all to whom increasing years bring isolation and distress. Give them understanding that their prayers are heard and arise before your throne. Empower them to

bring blessing to their helpers and accept with willingness the help they are offered; and as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love.

Let us pray together,

**Come, Spirit of God, and make within us your dwelling place and home. May our darkness be dispelled by your light, and our troubles calmed by your peace; and may all evil be redeemed by your love, all pain transformed through the suffering of Christ, and all dying glorified by his risen life. Amen.**

*We say together the prayer Jesus taught his disciples:*

**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 us 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.**

*Deacon:*

## *Confession*

*Confident of God's goodness and his willingness to forgive us, let us bring the confession of sins before him.*

**God of mercy, we humbly admit that we need your help.**

**We have wandered from your way.**

**We have sinned in thought, word and deed,**

**and failed to do what is right. You alone can save us.**

**Have mercy on us, wipe out our sins and teach us to forgive others.**

**Bring forth in us the fruit of your Spirit**

**that we may live the new life to your glory.**

**This we ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour. Amen.**

*Deacon: Please stand to hear God's promise of forgiveness.*

## *Promise of Forgiveness*

It is for freedom that Christ has set you free. Rejoice therefore in the freedom that Christ has obtained for you. Stand firm, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by the yoke of slavery. You are called to live in freedom, through the power of the Spirit. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. This we will do through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

## *Greeting of Peace*

We are the body of Christ. **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

## *Giving and Offerings*

Heavenly Father, thank you that you can satisfy our every desire and need. Your word says that we should give honour to you with the first fruits of our wealth. Accept our tithes and offerings as a gift of worship to you. Multiply what we give for the effective growth of your kingdom. May Christ dwell in our hearts through faith so that we, being rooted and grounded in love, may have the strength to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. May we be filled with all the fullness of God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## *Thanksgiving and Communion*

The Lord be with you **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty Creator, ever living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By His death on the cross, and rising to new life, He offered the one true sacrifice for sin, and  
obtained an eternal deliverance for His people.

As we walk by the promised Spirit, poured out at Pentecost, continue to fill us with power and  
love so we may boldly proclaim your gospel to all peoples,  
and serve you as a royal priesthood.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your  
great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of bread and this wine,  
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,  
we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks, he broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

'Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples saying,

'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

*Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith.*

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, we do as our Saviour has commanded;  
proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross,  
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension and looking for his coming again,  
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,  
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit, unite us in the body of your Son,  
and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom and in whom,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## *The Breaking of the Bread and the Communion*

We who are many are one body, **for we all share in the one bread.**

*Let us draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in our hearts with thanksgiving.*

## *Communion Song: As the deer pants*

As the deer pants for the water,  
so, my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart's desire  
and I long to worship you.

Chorus:

*You alone are my strength, my shield,  
to you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire  
and I long to worship you.*

I want you more than gold or silver,  
only you can satisfy.  
You alone are the real joy-giver  
and the apple of my eye.

(Chorus)

You're my friend  
and you are my brother,  
even though you are a king.  
I love you more than any other,  
so much more than anything.

(Chorus)

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## *Second Communion Song: Let there be peace on Earth*

Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me;  
Let there be peace on earth,  
The peace that was meant to be,  
With God as our Father,  
Children all are we;  
Let me walk with my brother  
In perfect harmony

Let peace begin with me,  
Let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take,  
Let this be my solemn vow;  
To take each moment and live  
Each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me.

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**Announcements:** Please refer to the church newsletter for notices.

## *Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord*

Living God, in this holy meal you fill us with new hope. May the power of your love, which we have known in word and sacrament, continue your saving work among us, give us courage for our daily lives and bring us to the joys you promise.

**Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.**

Almighty God, you have redeemed us through the resurrection of Christ, and raised us to newness of life. You brought us out of slavery into everlasting freedom. May the eternal God give you joy and peace in faith and bring you to your eternal inheritance; and the blessing of God Almighty; the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you all ever more. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, **in the name of Christ. Amen.**

## *Closing Hymn: You shall go out with Joy*

You shall go out with joy  
and be led forth with peace,  
And the mountains and the hills  
shall break forth before you.  
There'll be shouts of joy  
And the trees of the field  
shall clap, shall clap their hands.

And the trees of the field  
shall clap their hands,  
And the trees of the field  
shall clap their hands,  
And the trees of the field  
shall clap their hands,  
And you'll go out with joy.

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