



18th September 2022 | 15th Sunday in Pentecost

Preaching Series: 1 Timothy 3^s

Jesus became poor so we may become rich

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 15th 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: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him,
for he is your health and salvation.
Come all who hear,
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper
our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend us:
ponder anew what the Almighty can do
as with his love he befriends us.

Praise to the Lord,
who when darkness of sin is abounding,
who, when the godless do triumph,
our best hopes confounding,
sheds forth his light,
scatters the horrors of night,
saints with his mercy surrounding.

Praise to the Lord!
O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again:
gladly for ever adore him.

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Minister's Welcome

Grace and peace to you from the King Eternal, immortal and invisible

To the only God be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Sing to the Lord, praise his name; **proclaim his salvation day after day.**

Declare God's glory among the nations, **his marvellous deeds among all peoples.**

The Sentence

You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. (2 Cor 8.9)

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:

Prayer of the Day

O God, you are rich in love for your people: show us the treasure that endures and, when we are tempted by greed, call us back into your service and make us worthy to be entrusted with the wealth that never fails. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Ministry of the Word

The first reading will be from the book of Jeremiah chapter 8 verses 18-9:1.

¹⁸You who are my Comforter in sorrow, my heart is faint within me.¹⁹ Listen to the cry of my people from a land far away: "Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King no longer there?" "Why have they aroused my anger with their images, with their worthless foreign idols?" ²⁰"The harvest is past, the summer has ended, and we are not saved." ²¹Since my people are crushed, I am crushed; I mourn, and horror grips me. ²²Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wound of my people.

¹Oh, that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people

The Psalm for today is number 79 verses 5 to 9.

⁵How long, LORD? Will you be angry forever?

How long will your jealousy burn like fire?

⁶Pour out your wrath on the nations that do not acknowledge you, on the kingdoms that do not call on your name;

⁷for they have devoured Jacob and devastated his homeland.

⁸Do not hold against us the sins of past generations;

may your mercy come quickly to meet us, for we are in desperate need.

⁹Help us, God our Saviour, for the glory of your name; deliver us and forgive our sins for your name's sake.

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

The second reading is from Paul's first letter to Timothy, chapter 3 commencing at verse 14 and continuing to chapter 4 verse 6.

¹⁴Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, ¹⁵if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth. ¹⁶Beyond all question, the mystery

from which true godliness springs is great: He appeared in the flesh, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. ² Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. ³ They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. ⁴ For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, ⁵ because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer. ⁶ If you point these things out to the brothers and sisters, you will be a good minister of Christ Jesus, nourished on the truths of the faith and of the good teaching that you have followed. Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Song: Lord Your Almighty Word

Lord, your almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Saviour, who came to give
those who in darkness live
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind
let there be light.

Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide,
let there be light.

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Hearing the Gospel of our Lord

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, chapter 16 verses 1-13. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ² So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'³ "The manager said to himself, 'What shall I do now? My master is taking away my job. I'm not strong enough to dig, and I'm ashamed to beg— ⁴ I know what I'll do so that, when I lose my job here, people will welcome me into their houses.'⁵ "So he called in each one of his master's debtors. He asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ "Nine hundred gallons of olive oil,' he replied. "The manager told him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it four hundred and fifty.'⁷ "Then he asked the second, 'And how much do you owe?' "A thousand bushels of wheat,' he replied. "He told him, 'Take your bill and make it eight hundred.'⁸ "The master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly. For the people of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own kind than are the people of the light. ⁹ I tell you, use worldly wealth to gain friends for yourselves, so that when it is gone, you will be welcomed into eternal dwellings. ¹⁰ "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very

little will also be dishonest with much. ¹¹ So if you have not been trustworthy in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches? ¹² And if you have not been trustworthy with someone else's property, who will give you property of your own? ¹³ "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."

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

The Sermon: Br Bill Nicole will bring today's message

Hymn: Lift High the Cross

*Chorus: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adores His sacred name!*

1. Come, Christians, follow
where the captain trod,
the King victorious, Christ, the Son of God
(Chorus)

2. Each new-born soldier of the crucified
bears on his brow the seal of Him who died:
(Chorus)

6. Let every race and every language tell
of Him who saves our souls from death and hell!
(Chorus)

8. Set up Your throne,
that earth's despair may cease
beneath the shadow of its healing peace:
(Chorus)

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The Apostles' Creed

Let us affirm the faith of the church,

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;**

from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayer of the Week

Loving Father, whose Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for him: give us the will to be the servant of others as he was the servant of all, who gave us his life and died for us, and yet lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, and God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Prayers for the world and our community

We pray for our State Premier, Dominic Perrottet, and opposition leader, Chris Minns. Direct their work and influence their decisions to the advancement of your glory, so that peace and happiness, truth and justice, may be established among us.

We pray particularly for Bishop Peter and Assistant Bishops Charlie and Sonia, give them wisdom and discernment in their leadership of the Diocese and fill their hearts with a passion for proclaiming the Gospel throughout our region.

We pray for all Anglican Churches in the nation of Australia. Fill your Anglican church with all truth, and in all truth with all peace; where it is corrupt, purge it; where it is in error, direct it, where anything is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strength and confirm it; where it is in want, furnish it; where it is divided, heal it and unite it in your love.

Heavenly Father, your creative spirit is constantly inspiring us to search for new ways to share your good news story with those with whom we live. Guide those involved in our weekly Dinner Church and other outreach programs such as Men's Dinners, our Emergency Relief ministry. Give them strength and vitality to continue to minister in these areas. Open the hearts of those who attend these ministries, and give them grace to receive Jesus into their hearts. We pray also for all SRE/Scripture teachers may they fulfill their ministries in the power of your Spirit.

Heavenly Father, what you ask us to bear at times we find hard to understand. Sometimes we feel angry and confused, when your care and purpose seem distant, and we fear that in our faith we have been deceived. We lift up to you those on our prayer list, send your healing power upon them, and strengthen their faith reassuring them of your grace and compassion.

Please join me in saying,

Eternal God who is our Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear those who pray in the name of your Son. Grant that what we have asked in faith we may obtain according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We conclude by praying as our Saviour taught us:

**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

Let us, in reverence for God, confess our sins, mindful of God's promise to hear us.

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:**

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. Strength us to love and obey you

in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Promise of Forgiveness

The God of all healing and forgiveness draws us to himself. God alone cleanses us from all our sins. Therefore, you are now forgiven. With clean hearts and pure minds, we are now free to behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

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

Giving and Offerings

Generous Father, we owe you, our gratitude. You have made us all that we are and all we hope to become. Your bountiful provision is too great for us to authentically understand – we can only wonder. Yet, thanksgiving often fails to proceed from our lips. Mostly we function as those who believe that your provision is due to our own talents and labour. Free us of this notion and make us grateful people once again, in Christ's name. **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, everliving 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, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin,
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

And now we give you thanks that you raise him to the life triumphant,
and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death, the reign of sin is ended, a new day has dawned,
a broken world is restored and we are made whole once more.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name, forever 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.'

Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free.

You are the Saviour of the world.

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

As this broken bread was once many grains, which have been gathered together and made one bread: **so, may your church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.**

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

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,
Brothers 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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Second Communion Song: O the Mercy of God

Oh, the mercy of God, the glory of grace,
that You chose to redeem us,
to forgive and restore,
and You call us Your children,
chosen in Him to be holy and blameless
to the glory of God.

Chorus

*To the praise of His glorious grace,
to the praise of His glory and power;
to Him be all glory, honour and praise
for ever and ever and ever, amen.*

Oh, the richness of grace, the depths of His love,
in Him is redemption, the forgiveness of sin.
You called us as righteous, predestined in Him
for the praise of His glory, included in Christ.
(Chorus)

Oh, the glory of God expressed in His Son,
His image and likeness revealed to us all;
the plea of the ages completed in Christ,
that we be presented perfected in Him.
(Chorus)

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Announcements: Please refer to the church newsletter for notices.

Commitment to live out our worship of the Lord

Gracious God, we thank you that in this sacrament you assure us of your goodness and love.
Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and help us to grow in love and obedience that
we may serve you in the world and finally be brought to that table where all your saints feast
with you for ever.

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

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

Closing Hymn: I have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus,
no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me, (x3)
no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still will follow, (x3)
no turning back, no turning back.

Will you decide now to follow Jesus? (x3)
no turning back, no turning back.

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