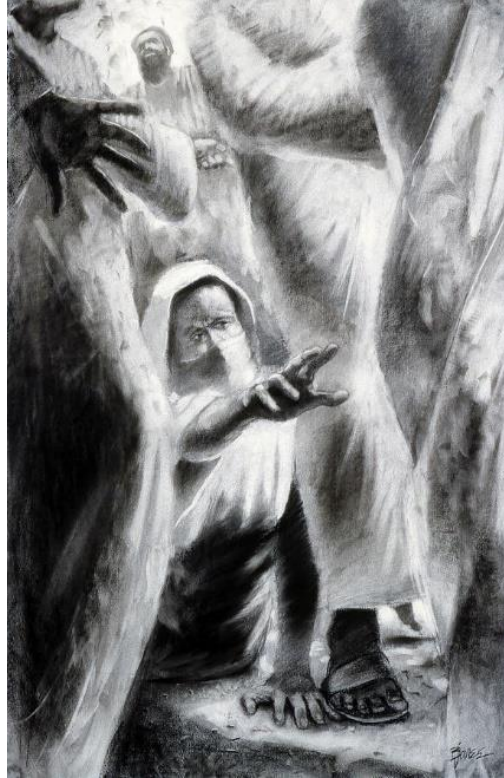


# WESLEY UNITING CHURCH, FORREST, ACT

## Pentecost 6

Sunday 30th June 2024: 9am



“Reaching Out, Touching His Hem”: Brian Jones

## The Gathering of God’s People

**Greeting:** May the peace of the Holy One, Holy Three be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### **Acknowledgement of Country:**

*Let us acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples,  
The first inhabitants of this place,*

*Part of God’s good creation.*

*We honour them for their custodianship of the land  
On which we gather today.*

*You set humanity at the heart of your creation, O God,  
Charging us with your stewardship of all you have made.  
We give thanks for those who have heeded your call.*

## **Safe Place Statement**

*The Uniting Church in Australia believes that all people are made in the image of God, and so we accept every individual regardless of race, age, creed, sexuality and gender.*

## **Let's light the Community Candle from the Christ Candle**

*Remembering all those live-streaming with us today, and our extended communities!*

## **Welcome and News**

### **Call to Worship**

Lord, in Your mercy, open our hearts.

Pour out Your Spirit, so that they may be filled.

We pray for those who are spiritually empty -

who are troubled, but don't know where to turn;

who long for purpose and meaning, but don't know where to look;

who need You, but do not yet know You.

Lord, in Your mercy, open our hearts.

### **Welcoming Song: Sing to God with Joy**

*Chorus:*

*Sing to God with joy and gladness  
hymns and psalms of gratitude.*

*With the voice of praise discover  
that to worship God is good.*

1. God unites his scattered people,  
gathers those who wandered far,  
heals the hurt and broken spirits,  
tending every wound and scar.

*Chorus*

2. Such is God's great power and  
wisdom

none can calculate or tell.

Keen is God to ground the wicked  
and with humble folk to dwell.

*Chorus*

3. God, with clouds, the sky has  
curtained,

thus ensuring rain shall fall.

Earth, responding, grows to order  
food for creatures great and small.

*Chorus*

4. God's discernment never favours  
strength or speed to lift or move.

God delights in those who fear him,  
trusting in his steadfast love.

*Chorus* Iona Community (c) 1993

## Prayers of Thanksgiving and Confession ...

### The Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

**Children's Song** Give Me Oil in My Lamp

**Children's Song: Give Me Oil in my Lamp**

1. Give me oil in my lamp, keep me  
burning.  
Give me oil in my lamp I pray.  
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me  
burning.  
Keep me burning till the break of day.

*Chorus:*

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
sing hosanna to the King of kings!  
Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,  
sing hosanna to the King!*

2. Give me peace in my heart, keep  
me resting.  
Give me peace in my heart I pray.  
Give me peace in my heart, keep me  
resting.  
Keep me resting till the break of day.  
*Chorus*

3. Give me love in my heart, keep me  
serving.  
Give me love in my heart I pray.  
Give me love in my heart, keep me  
serving.  
Keep me serving till the break of day.  
*Chorus* Trad.

**Reading: 2 Samuel 1: 1, 17-27** (P. 240 in the pew Bible) David mourns for Saul and Jonathan

*The rhythm of readings in the Hebrew Bible have been centred these past weeks in the book of Samuel. In sum, the stories have traced David's rise and Saul's demise. Today, we hear that Saul and his son Jonathon have both been killed in battle against the Philistines. In this reading David laments their deaths, but it is a difficult tight rope that he walks. On the one hand, Saul was his lethal enemy, seeking to eliminate him from political contention. Jonathon on the other hand, was a close ally, a dear friend. What impresses in the reading is the genuine poignancy of the moment of loss, but also the way in which David has to*

*negotiate the complex political situation, where the power he does not yet have could be turned on him. This is a tense personal and political moment. Much hangs upon it when it comes to both David's and Israel's future.*

1. After the death of Saul, when David had returned from defeating the Amalekites, David remained two days in Ziklag.

17. David intoned this lamentation over Saul and his son Jonathan. 18. (He ordered that The Song of the Bow be taught to the people of Judah; it is written in the Book of Jashar.) He said: 19. Your glory, O Israel, lies slain upon your high places! How the mighty have fallen! 20. Tell it not in Gath, proclaim it not in the streets of Ashkelon; or the daughters of the Philistines will rejoice, the daughters of the uncircumcised will exult. 21. You mountains of Gilboa, let there be no dew or rain upon you, nor bounteous fields! For there the shield of the mighty was defiled, the shield of Saul, anointed with oil no more. 22. From the blood of the slain, from the fat of the mighty, the bow of Jonathan did not turn back, nor the sword of Saul return empty. 23. Saul and Jonathan, beloved and lovely! In life and in death they were not divided; they were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than lions. 24. O daughters of Israel, weep over Saul, who clothed you with crimson, in luxury, who put ornaments of gold on your apparel. 25. How the mighty have fallen in the midst of the battle! Jonathan lies slain upon your high places. 26. I am distressed for you, my brother Jonathan; greatly beloved were you to me; your love to me was wonderful, passing the love of women. 27. How the mighty have fallen, and the weapons of war perished!

**Reading (Gospel):** Mark 5:21-43 (P. 816 in the pew Bible): "Restored and healed"

*This is a 'double-whammy': two stories about healing: the first, the woman with gynaecological difficulties, which are not only physically distressing, but more significantly, lead to her social rejection and scapegoating as constantly "impure"; and the story of the daughter of Jairus, who is given up as dead, and who, Jesus raises to life. While not directly about demons, as such, these stories are about the sentence of death imposed upon people, even in life, which is what the biblical language of demonology is all about. Note here also that we begin the reading with the image of the lake or sea (Thalassa), which in the Hebrew mind always suggests fear and death: the Hebrews were not great sea-farers or swimmers.*

21. When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. 22. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet 23. and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live."

24. So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. 25. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. 26. She had endured much under many physicians and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. 27. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28. for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." 29. Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. 30. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" 31. And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" 32. He looked all around to see who had done it. 33. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. 34. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

35. While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" 36. But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." 37. He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. 38. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. 39. When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." 40. And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. 41. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" 42. And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. 43. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

In this is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

## Preaching: (Rev. Geoff)

### Offering Song: Filled My Life with Grace

1. Your love, Lord, is beautiful,  
ever faithful, ever true.  
In your heart, Lord, I find heaven;  
in your arms, Lord, I'm renewed.

2. When I cry, Lord, you always hear  
me.  
When I'm lost, Lord, you bring me  
home.  
In your will, Lord, I find purpose;  
in your mercy is my hope.

*Chorus:*  
*And I will love you, Lord, forever.*  
*No-one else can take your place.*  
*You have given me a family*  
*and filled my life with grace.*

3. Lord, I thank you for your people-  
we are many and we are one,  
for our Saviour, his name is Jesus,  
and his glory is our song.

*Chorus*

Gerry Holmes

### Offering Prayer ...

#### Prayers of the People

This week, the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle directs us to Sudan, South Sudan and Uganda. And of course, we are still acutely focussed on Israel, Palestine and Ukraine ...

Let's join in offering 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 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.**

# SENDING OUT

## **Sending Song    As You Go On Your Way**

And now as you go on your way  
take care, take care.  
The love, all the love that you seek  
is there, it's there.  
Love flows through our words and deeds.  
Love knows all the things we need.  
Love grows as our hearts are freed  
from hatred, fear, and pain.  
Take care, as you go on your way,  
until we meet again.

Amanda Udis-Kessler (c) 2020

## **Blessing**

The blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit  
be upon you and remain with you always.  
May we live and serve this week in remembrance of Christ's love.  
Our service has ended.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,  
In the name of Christ.

**Amen.**

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## **WORSHIP TEAM**

**Preacher:** Rev Dr Geoff Dornan **Liturgist:** Robert James

**Music Co-ordinator:** Jade McFaul

**Musicians:** Lorraine Clode and Sonia Di Mezza (vocals)

**Reader:** Susan Akhurst

**Sound:** John Alcock, **Video:** Kaiser Henderson

**Duty Elder:** Tharu Tayshetye, **Stewards:** Kerri & Rob Henderson

**Morning Tea:** Billingham, Phillpots.

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