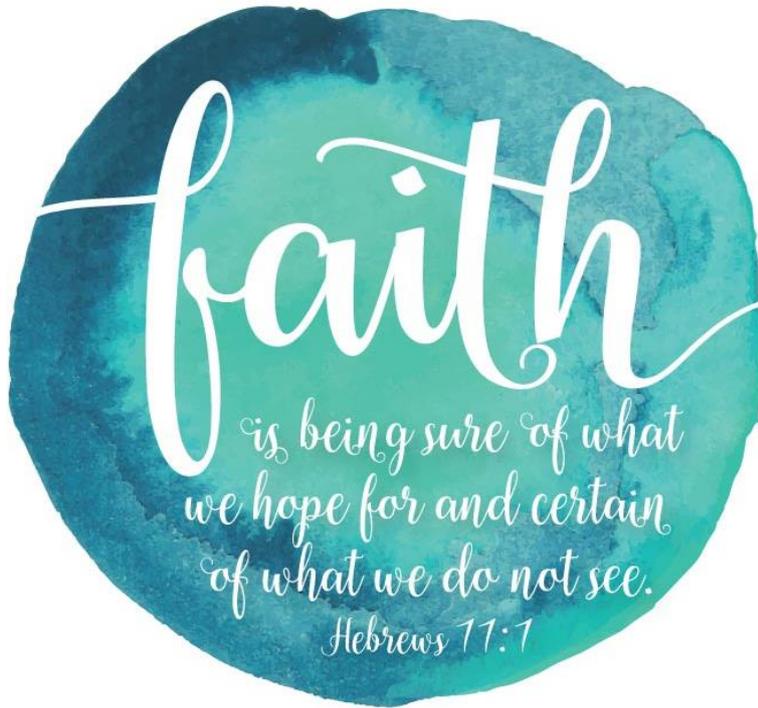


Highfield Rd Uniting Church  
Canterbury  
*The Season of Growth and Learning*  
August 7, 2022



*Pilgrims of  
faith*

***Anniversary of Highfield Rd Congregation and Church***

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<b>Elder:</b>	Alan Ray
<b>Reader:</b>	Stephen Pallot
<b>Prayers:</b>	Rev. Rod Horsfield
<b>Music:</b>	Graeme Cross
<b>Minister:</b>	Rev. Ross Pearce

Leading the worship and ministry of all the Congregation

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Introit                      We gather in the name of Christ  
                                  "*Here in this place, new light is streaming*"                      474 vs 1

1. Here in this place new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away,  
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,  
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

**Call to Worship**

The faith we profess and follow, was not invented yesterday

***We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses***

The God we call Father, has called people over many generations

***We are inspired by faith from many cultures and ages***

We come to worship our Risen Lord in this generation

***And we find our way in this world through the strength of community  
and the blessing of the Spirit***

Welcome and Notices

## Acknowledgement of Country and Greeting

### Hymn of Praise

### *“The church’s one foundation”*

457

1. The church’s one foundation  
is Jesus Christ her Lord:  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word;  
from heaven he came and sought her  
to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

2. Elect from every nation  
yet one o’er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses  
with every grace endued.

3. Though with a scornful wonder  
the world sees her oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder,  
by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping,  
their cry goes up, ‘How long?’  
and soon the night of weeping  
shall be the morn of song.

4. Through toil and tribulation  
and tumult of her war  
she waits the consummation  
of peace for evermore,  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blessed,  
and the great church victorious  
shall be the church at rest.

5. Yet she on earth has union  
with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give to us the grace  
like them, the meek and lowly,  
in heaven to seek your face.

### Prayer of Praise and Adoration

We come with hearts filled with gratitude for the love  
that has held us in care as your little flock

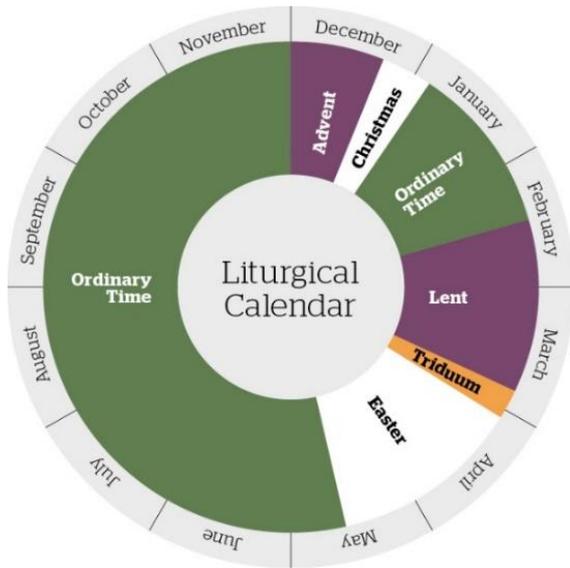
*When we fear for the future, we think of that love  
and our spirits are renewed to walk your way.*

We thank you for the light of hope  
which you place in our trembling hands.

*And with grateful hearts we enter this day  
joining to celebrate being your community and church.*

Gracious God, we enjoy the benefits of the faithful work of generations passed, and we praise you for their faith in taking up the vision of community and worship and mission in this place ...  
... As we gather, remembering the past, we praise you for your call to the present and all your blessings and guidance here and now. Grant us visions and dreams and continue to lead us as your little flock.  
Amen/ *Amen*

## Seasonal Reflection - Feasts and Festivals



We have the year neatly divided according to the life of Jesus and the flow of the gospels. However, people's lives - the highs and the lows or the challenges and the successes - don't flow according to the church calendar. You can't expect that the grieving and the ill are joyful for Advent and Christmas. You can't demand that families are present for Easter when it's school holidays. "Maybe we should talk about the floods in NSW, but unfortunately it's Ascension Sunday." It's hard to get excited about worship when our language of seasons and celebrations is so archaic.

We have the challenge of blending our pastoral heart with our worshipping heart.

More healing services, more laments, more talk of living out our everyday lives. More theology in the sense of, "Where is God in all of this?"

### We hear the Word of God

We seek to know the beauty of the Word of God

*May the Spirit bring God's message to life*

First Reading

Hebrews 11:1 - 3, 8 - 16

Psalm 50

*"The mighty One, God the Lord"*

30

**Response:**

Be exalted, O God,  
above the heavens!  
Let your glory  
over all the earth be found.

1. The Mighty One, God the Lord,  
speaks and summons the earth  
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2. Out of Zion,  
the perfection of beauty,  
God shines forth.

**Response:**

3. Our God comes,  
and does not keep silence,  
before whom is a devouring fire,  
round about whom is a mighty storm.

Gospel

Luke 12:32 - 40

Lord, may your word live in us  
*And bear fruit to your glory.*

Anthem

4. God calls to the heaven  
above and to the earth,  
that the people may be judged:

**Response:**

5. 'Gather to me, my faithful ones,  
who made a covenant  
with me by sacrifice!'

6. The heavens declare  
God's righteousness,  
for he himself is judge!

**Response:**

## "Sing Hosanna"

### Proclamation and silent reflection



By faith our ancestors received approval.

### We respond to the Word

#### Hymn for Theme

#### *"Rejoice in God's saints"*

470

1. Rejoice in God's saints,  
today and all days:  
a world without saints  
forgets how to praise.  
Their faith in acquiring  
the habit of prayer,  
their depth of adoring,  
Lord, help us to share.

2. Some march with events  
to turn them God's way;  
some need to withdraw,  
the better to pray;  
some carry the gospel  
through fire and through flood:  
our world is their parish;  
their purpose is God.

3. Rejoice in those saints,  
unpraised and unknown,  
who bear someone's cross,  
or shoulder their own;  
they shame our complaining,  
our comforts, our cares:  
what patience in caring,  
what courage, is theirs!

4. Rejoice in God's saints,  
today and all days:  
a world without saints  
forgets how to praise.  
In loving, in living,  
they prove it is true:  
their way of self-giving,  
Lord, leads us to you.

#### Joys and Concerns

#### Prayers of the People - Rod Horsfield

#### Offering

#### We gather at the Table

#### Prayers of Confession

#### *"Kyrie eleison"*

*"Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.*

*Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy.*

*Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy."*

#### Response:

If you would wash us, loving God  
*We would be clean indeed.*

## Declaration of forgiveness

In Jesus, God embraced our humanity and welcomed us into the world of grace, mercy, and love.

So we are bold to proclaim, our sins are forgiven.

*Thanks be to God.*

## “Glory to God”

*Glory to God in the highest*

*and peace to God’s people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father*

*We worship you, we give you thanks,*

*we praise you for your glory.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,*

*Lord God, Lamb of God,*

*you take away the sins of the world:*

*have mercy on us;*

*you are seated at the right hand of the Father:*

*receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,*

*You alone are the Lord,*

*You alone are the Most High,*

*Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,*

*In the glory of God the Father. Amen*

## The Peace

### Hymn for Communion

### “Since the world was young”

544

1. Since the world was young  
there’s a song been sung  
of a promise coming true:  
hungry folk will eat  
and long-lost friends will meet  
and the Lord will make all things new.  
*God has a table  
where he calls his friends  
to a feast that never ends;  
God has a table  
and one day we’ll meet him there.*

2. Jesus saw a crowd  
who were hungry and vowed  
that they didn’t have much food.  
So he fed that bunch  
with a little boy’s lunch  
as a sign that God is good.  
*God has a table  
where he calls his friends  
to a feast that never ends;  
God has a table  
and one day we’ll meet him there.*

3. Jesus told a tale  
of how rich people fail  
to accept God’s summons to dine.  
Then before their eyes  
those without earthly ties  
share heaven’s finest food and wine.  
*God has a table  
where he calls his friends  
to a feast that never ends;  
God has a table  
and one day we’ll meet him there.*

4. Till we hear that word  
from the mouth of the Lord  
saying, “Join me at my table”,  
for the world we’ll care  
and its good things we will share  
as long as we are able.  
*God has a table  
where he calls his friends  
to a feast that never ends;  
God has a table  
and one day we’ll meet him there.*

## Invitation

## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you  
*and also with you*  
Lift up your hearts  
*We lift them up to the Lord*  
We join to give thanks to the Lord our God  
*It is right to give our thanks and praise*

We join in our praise of you ...

... joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal hymn:

**"Sanctus"**

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*Hosanna in the highest*

**"Benedictus"**

*Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord,  
Hosanna in the highest.*

After centuries of revelation and calling, in the fullness of your love, you became one with us in Jesus Christ ...

... and offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, proclaiming the living truth.

**"Christ has died"**

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

## Invocation

**"Blessing"**

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

And so, we join with our Lord in proclaiming the kingdom in the words that He 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 sin  
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.*

## Declaration of the Elements

**"Lamb of God"**

*Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us,  
Jesus, Redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.*

## Distribution

## Prayer after Communion

We are sent to the World

1. Your hand, O God, has guided  
your flock from age to age;  
the wondrous tale is written,  
full clear, on every page;  
your people owned your goodness,  
and we their deeds record;  
and both of this bear witness:  
one church, one faith, one Lord.

2. Your heralds brought glad tidings  
to greatest, as to least;  
they bade them rise, and hasten  
to share the great King's feast;  
and this was all their teaching,  
in every deed and word,  
to all alike proclaiming  
one church, one faith, one Lord.

3. Through many a day of darkness,  
through many a scene of strife,  
the faithful few fought bravely  
to guard the nation's life.  
Their gospel of redemption,  
sin pardoned, earth restored,  
was all in this enfolded:  
one church, one faith, one Lord.

4. Your mercy will not fail us,  
nor leave your work undone;  
with your right hand to help us,  
the victory shall be won;  
and then by all creation,  
your name shall be adored,  
and this shall be our anthem:  
one church, one faith, one Lord.

### Commissioning

Faith is more than belief; it is belief in action

*May we enact our faith in loving behaviour.*

Faith responds to the call of God to do, to be, and to go

*May we be prompt and brave in following our calling*

Faith stretches our hope and our love beyond ourselves

*May we live as the people of God, responding to the call of God  
and the needs around us in prompt, loving action.*

### Blessing and Dismissal

May God, the source of all light, brighten your life to light candles of hope in the world;  
may Christ, who lives and leads, guide you to share your love with those in need;  
and may the Spirit, who lifts and strengthens, bring a spring to your step as you walk in faith.

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

### Benediction

"Forth in your name, O Lord I go"

571, vs 1, 5

1. Forth in your name, O Lord, I go,  
my daily labour to pursue,  
you, Lord, alone resolved to know,  
in all I think, or speak, or do.

5. for you delightfully employ  
all that your bounteous grace has given,  
and run my course with even joy,  
and closely walk with you to heaven.