



**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, July 15th, 2018**



*If we don't live it,
we don't believe it*

***Dangerous Faith
Daring to live out the radical truth of Christ***

GATHERING

Announcements

Welcome

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Prayer of Preparation

The earth is yours, O Lord of life,
the world, and all that lives within it.

Who shall ascend into your presence?
And who shall stand in your holy place?
 Those who seek to live in your ways, O God,
who do not speak or act in false or deceitful ways.

For, such is the blessing of those who seek the face of God.
Who dare to enter into God's presence, the source of life. Amen

Based on Psalm 24

Hymn: "God himself is present" (TiS 121)

Welcomed into God's Family

A letter to the people of St Ives Uniting Church

Ephesians 1:1-14 (Good News Translation)

Confession: Our response of gratitude

Loving God,
 In our worship today the Apostle Paul reminds us
 you have adopted us as your children,
*gathering us together into the life of your church
 through Jesus your son.*

In our life together, and with others,
 we pray our love may be genuine,
 celebrating with those who celebrate,
 and weeping with those who weep,
***living in harmony together
 as the Apostle prays for us to do.***

Forgive us those times
 when we have been less than joyful in hope,
 half-hearted in our witness,
 sometimes forgetting to pray;
***times when we have been less than helpful to those in need,
 and slow to forgive when we have felt wronged by others.***

Encouraged by your servant, and as members of your church family,
 may we be open to your grace and love
***so that we might be your people in the world
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen***

Hymn: “We are your people” (TiS 468)

The Peace

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

Children leave for SMG

LET’S HEAR THE WORD

Readings

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Gill Lloyd

(Last week we learnt how David was anointed as king of Israel. In this week’s reading David brings the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem. The Ark had long been symbolic of the sacred presence in the midst of God’s people since the time of the Exodus. A once nomadic society is now becoming settled in its own country under a powerful king.)

Once more David called together the best soldiers in Israel, a total of thirty thousand men, and led them to Baalah in Judah, in order to bring from there the Ark of the Covenant, bearing the name of the LORD Almighty, whose throne is above the winged creatures. They took it from Abinadab's home on the hill and placed it on a new cart. Uzzah and Ahio, sons of Abinadab, were guiding the cart, with Ahio walking in front. David and all the Israelites were dancing and singing with all their might to honor the LORD. They were playing harps, lyres, drums, rattles, and cymbals.

(King David continued on to take the Ark to Jerusalem with great celebration.) After the men carrying the Ark of the Covenant had gone six steps, David had them stop while he offered the LORD a sacrifice of a bull and a fattened calf. David, wearing only a linen cloth around his waist, danced with all his might to honor the LORD. And so he and all the Israelites took the Ark up to Jerusalem with shouts of joy and the sound of trumpets.

As the Ark was being brought into the city, Michal, Saul's daughter, looked out of the window and saw King David dancing and jumping around in the sacred dance, and she was disgusted with him. They brought the Ark and put it in its place in the Tent that David had set up for it. Then he offered sacrifices and fellowship offerings to the LORD. When he had finished offering the sacrifices, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD Almighty and distributed food to them all. He gave each man and woman in Israel a loaf of bread, a piece of roasted meat, and some raisins. Then everyone went home.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel: Mark 6:14-29 *The Death of John the Baptist.* Barry Lloyd

Now King Herod heard all about Jesus' ministry, because Jesus' reputation had spread everywhere. Some people were saying, "John the Baptist has come back to life! That is why he has this power to perform miracles." Others, however, said, "He is Elijah."

Others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago."

When Herod heard it, he said, "He is John the Baptist! I had his head cut off, but he has come back to life!" Herod himself had ordered John's arrest, and he had him tied up and put in prison. Herod did this because of Herodias, whom he had married, even though she was the wife of his brother Philip. John the Baptist kept telling Herod, "It isn't right for you to marry your brother's wife!"

So Herodias held a grudge against John and wanted to kill him, but she could not because of Herod. Herod was afraid of John because he knew that John was a good and holy man, and so he kept him safe. He liked to listen to him, even though he became greatly disturbed every time he heard him.

Finally Herodias got her chance. It was on Herod's birthday, when he gave a feast for all the top government officials, the military chiefs, and the leading citizens of Galilee. The daughter of Herodias came in and danced, and pleased Herod and his guests. So the king said to the girl, "What would you like to have? I will give you anything you want." With many vows he said to her, "I swear that I will give you anything you ask for, even as much as half my kingdom!"

So the girl went out and asked her mother, "What shall I ask for?" "The head of John the Baptist," she answered. The girl hurried back at once to the king and demanded, "I want you to give me here and now the head of John the Baptist on a plate!"

This made the king very sad, but he could not refuse her because of the vows he had made in front of all his guests. So he sent off a guard at once with orders to bring John's head. The guard left, went to the prison, and cut John's head off; then he brought it on a plate and gave it to the girl, who gave it to her mother. When John's disciples heard about this, they came and got his body, and buried it.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Christ

Some Thoughts

‘Jesus was not political but the Gospel has radical political implications for our world.’

Hymn: “All who love and serve your city” (TiS 634)

Tune: Marching (TiS 165)

Let’s Give Offering

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below,
praise him above, ye heavenly host,
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Jeremy Kim

Closing Hymn: “May the mind of Christ my Saviour” (TiS 609)

Blessing and Sending Out

We give thanks for signs of renewal
that declare the Spirit’s presence in our midst.
May we dare to live out the ways of Christ
*and bear witness to the power of grace and love
to heal and transform our lives and our world.*

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

**Going Out: Father bless us as we go (TiS 781, Kookaburra,
Robin Mann)**

Musical Postlude

Organist:

Jim Abraham