



# St Ives Uniting Church 21 April 2024

Easter 4

"But this I know!"

**Notices and Welcome** 

**Introduction and Call to Worship** 

We Light the Christ Candle

**Prayer of Invocation** 

# **Gathering to Praise God**

**Hymn 453**: We limit not the truth of God *Ellacombe* 

**Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving** 

**Declaration of Forgiveness** 

God is love. Through Christ, your sins are forgiven. Take hold of this forgiveness, and live your life in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen** 

Listening to God's Word.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 25 A psalm of David

<sup>1</sup> In you, LORD my God, I put my trust.

- <sup>2</sup>I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.
- <sup>3</sup> No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame, but shame will come on those who are treacherous without cause.
- <sup>4</sup> Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths.
- <sup>5</sup> Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour, and my hope is in you all day long.
- <sup>6</sup> Remember, LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.
- <sup>7</sup> Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways according to your
  - love remember me, for you, LORD, are good.
- <sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in his ways.
- <sup>9</sup> He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them his way.
- <sup>10</sup> All the ways of the LORD are loving and faithful toward those who keep the

### demands of his covenant.

- <sup>11</sup> For the sake of your name, LORD forgive my iniquity, though it is great.
- <sup>12</sup> Who, then, are those who fear the LORD? He will instruct them in the ways they should choose.
- <sup>13</sup> They will spend their days in prosperity, and their descendants will inherit the land.
- <sup>14</sup> The LORD confides in those who fear him he makes his covenant known to them.
- <sup>15</sup> My eyes are ever on the LORD, for only he will release my feet from the snare.
- <sup>16</sup> Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.
- <sup>17</sup> Relieve the troubles of my heart and free me from my anguish.
- <sup>18</sup> Look on my affliction and my distress and take away all my sins.
- <sup>19</sup> See how numerous are my enemies and how fiercely they hate me!
- <sup>20</sup> Guard my life and rescue me; do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

<sup>21</sup> May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope, LORD, [c] is in you.

<sup>22</sup> Deliver Israel, O God from all their troubles!

### **Amen**

# We share the peace amongst us

**Hymn 624**: Christ be my leader by night as by day St Agnes TIS 516

### **First Lesson**

1 John Chapter 3 Verses 16 – 24

Pam Tickell

<sup>16</sup> This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? <sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

<sup>19</sup> This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: <sup>20</sup> If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup> Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God <sup>22</sup> and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup> And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. <sup>24</sup> The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

### **Second Lesson**

John Chapter 10 Verses 11 – 18

Mike Tickell

<sup>11</sup> "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup> The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup> "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Lord Jesus Christ we give you our praise.

**Hymn 123**: Be still my soul Finlandia

Sermon "But this I know?"

Lawrence Peak

Musical Interlude "I Cannot Tell"

Responding to God's Word.

# 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**

Shirley Ashton

# 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 this day 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.

Closing Hymn: 210 O for a thousand tongues to sing Lyngham

**Benediction** The Lord bless you and keep you,

The Lord make his face to shine upon you

and be gracious unto you,

The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you,

And give you peace. Amen

Blessing 778: Shalom to you now (sung twice) "Somos del Senor"

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends May God's full mercies bless you, my friends, In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom

Postlude Organist Jim Abraham

