



St Ives Uniting Church

25 August 2024

Pentecost 14

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 133 O worship the King

Prayer of adoration and confession

Responsive reading: Psalm 34:15-22

¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous,
and his ears are attentive to their cry;

¹⁶ but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to blot out their name from the earth.

¹⁷ The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;
he delivers them from all their troubles.

¹⁸ The Lord is close to the brokenhearted
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

¹⁹ The righteous person may have many troubles,
but the Lord delivers him from them all;

²⁰ he protects all his bones,
not one of them will be broken.

²¹ Evil will slay the wicked;
the foes of the righteous will be condemned.

²² The Lord will rescue his servants;
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

Amen.

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace, "Your sins are forgiven"

Thanks be to God

Hymn: 599(ii) Take my life, and let it be

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Bible readings

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Jenny Huckson

Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.

² Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says:

¹⁴ "Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵ But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

¹⁶ Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord to serve other gods! ¹⁷ It was the Lord our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we travelled. ¹⁸ And the Lord drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the Lord, because he is our God."

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Ephesians 6:10-20

John Huckson

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against

the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Be strong in the Lord

Hymn: 595 O Jesus, I have promised

Offering

Offering response: 768 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

Video meditation: Yet not I, but through Christ in me

Prayers of intercession

The Lord's prayer

Hymn: 609 May the mind of Christ my Saviour

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

John Hughes