



St Ives Uniting Church

21 July 2024

Pentecost 9

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 183 Sing of the Lord's goodness

Prayers of adoration and confession

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear the Good News of grace:

In Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Bible reading

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Guy Smith

After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ² he said to Nathan the prophet, "Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent."

³ Nathan replied to the king, "Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you."

⁴ But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying:

⁵ “Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? ⁶ I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷ Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?””

⁸ “Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. ⁹ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. ¹⁰ And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

“The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: ¹² When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn: 160 Father all loving

Bible reading:

Ephesians 2:11-22

Robyn Egarr

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision”

(which is done in the body by human hands)—¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Covenant people

Hymn: 457 The church's one foundation

Offering and prayer

**We offer these gifts, Lord,
for the work of your Church
and the welfare of your people;
acknowledging with gratitude that we could give nothing
if you had not first given to us.
Help us to use all we have**

**In accordance with your good will
and for the glory of your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Prayers of the people and the Lord's prayer

Jane Ann Tainsh

Hymn: 233 I will sing the wondrous story

Benediction

The Aaronic blessing (sung)

**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 his countenance upon you
and bring you peace**

Postlude

Pianist

Lawrence Peak