



St Ives Uniting Church

1 September 2024

Pentecost 15

Call to worship

The Christ Candle

Hymn: 59 All people that on earth do dwell

Prayers of adoration and confession

Psalm reading - Psalm 15

**¹ Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent?
Who may live on your holy mountain?**

**² The one whose walk is blameless,
who does what is righteous,
who speaks the truth from their heart;**

**³ whose tongue utters no slander,
who does no wrong to a neighbour,
and casts no slur on others;**

**⁴ who despises a vile person
but honours those who fear the Lord;
who keeps an oath even when it hurts,
and does not change their mind;**

**⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest;
who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.**

Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace: "Your sins are forgiven"
Thanks be to God

The Peace

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

Notices

Bible readings

Mark 7:1-8

Margaret Jeffery

⁷ The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus ² and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³ (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. ⁴ When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

⁵ So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?”

⁶ He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

“These people honour me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me.

⁷ They worship me in vain;
their teachings are merely human rules.’

⁸ You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.”

For the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

James 1:17-27

Philip Southwell

¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

¹⁹ My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

²⁶ Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Faith in action

Hymn: 222 Rock of Ages

Offering

Prayers of the people

Annette Burne

Hymn: 474 Here in this place

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
It is right for us to give thanks and praise.

... we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name, singing.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Bless'd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

... we proclaim our faith:

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

...We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray,

**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 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.**

Hymn: 160 Father all loving

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham