



St Ives Uniting Church

2 February 2025

Holy Communion

Epiphany 4

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 111 Praise to the Lord

Prayers of adoration and confession

(from Psalm 71)

**¹ In you, Lord, I have taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.**

**² In your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me;
turn your ear to me and save me.**

**³ Be my rock of refuge,
to which I can always go;
give the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.**

**⁴ Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.**

Amen

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace to us: "Your sins are forgiven"

Thanks be to God

The peace

The peace of the Lord be with you

And also with you

Bible readings

Jeremiah 1:4-10

John Ruskin

⁴ The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ “Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

⁷ But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

⁹ Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Hazel Ruskin

If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. ² If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

⁸ Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. ¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. ¹² For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

¹³ And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Love is patient...

Hymn: 217(i) Love divine

Offering

Prayers of the people

Beth Dulin

Hymn: 538 Feed us now, bread of life

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

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

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

...And so we praise you with your people throughout the world
and across the years, joining with choirs of angels and the whole
of creation in the eternal hymn, singing:

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

...With this bread and this cup we do as our Saviour commands:
we celebrate the redemption he has won for us.

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

...Awaiting his coming in glory, we pray as our Saviour taught us:
**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.**

...The gifts of God for the people of God.

**May we who share these gifts be found in Christ, and Christ
in us.**

...God has us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given
us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all people,
and so we pray together:

**We thank you, Lord, that when we were still far off, you met
us in your Son. He lived and died and rose again, declared
your love and gave us the gift of eternal life.**

**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who
drink his cup bring life to others; we who the Spirit lights
give light to the world.**

**Keep us in the hope we have in your Son, Jesus Christ our
Lord, in whose name we pray.**

Amen.

Hymn: 147 To God be the glory

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham