



St Ives Uniting Church

3rd April 2022

Lent 5

Welcome and lighting the Christ Candle

Hymn: 59 All people that on earth do dwell

Prayers of adoration and confession

Assurance of forgiveness

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

Thanks be to God

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Bible readings:

John 12:1-8

Jane Chorley

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honour. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Philippians 3:4b-14

Philip Southwell

^{4b}If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Looking back, looking forward

Hymn: 222 Rock of Ages

Offering and prayer

Prayers of the people

Hazel Ruskin

Hymn: 474 Here in this place new light is streaming

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:

**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

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham