



# St Ives Uniting Church

29<sup>th</sup> May 2022

## Easter 7

**Call to worship and welcome**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

**Hymn: 161 Tell out my soul!**

**Prayer of adoration**

**Psalm 97:1-6,9-12**

- <sup>1</sup> The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad;  
**let the distant shores rejoice.**
- <sup>2</sup> Clouds and thick darkness surround him;  
**righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**
- <sup>3</sup> Fire goes before him  
**and consumes his foes on every side.**
- <sup>4</sup> His lightning lights up the world;  
**the earth sees and trembles.**
- <sup>5</sup> The mountains melt like wax before the Lord,  
**before the Lord of all the earth.**
- <sup>6</sup> The heavens proclaim his righteousness,  
**and all peoples see his glory.**
- <sup>9</sup> For you, Lord, are the Most High over all the earth;  
**you are exalted far above all gods.**
- <sup>10</sup> Let those who love the Lord hate evil,  
**for he guards the lives of his faithful ones  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**
- <sup>11</sup> Light shines on the righteous  
and joy on the upright in heart.
- <sup>12</sup> **Rejoice in the Lord, you who are righteous,  
and praise his holy name.**  
**Amen**

## **Prayer of confession**

**We confess to you, merciful God,  
our failure to live as brothers and sisters, and as your  
children,  
that we have not loved you as you have loved us,  
that we have doubted your word and failed to obey its  
teaching.  
and that we have failed to share your love with the world.  
And so, we ask you to forgive us and change us,  
and strengthen us to live our lives so that we may reflect the  
grace that your son has shown to us.  
Amen.**

## **Assurance of forgiveness**

We did not choose God, God chose us.  
In that choice, God offers us mercy, grace and love.  
Through Christ, God chooses to grant us forgiveness.  
In Christ, we are restored as God's children.  
Our sins are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn: 222 Rock of Ages**

## **Notices**

Lawrence Peak

## **Bible Readings:**

### **John 17:20-26**

Lawrence Peak

<sup>20</sup> "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

<sup>24</sup> "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

<sup>25</sup> “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **Acts 16:16-34**

Emily Jacobsson

<sup>16</sup> Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” <sup>18</sup> She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her.

<sup>19</sup> When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. <sup>20</sup> They brought them before the magistrates and said, “These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar <sup>21</sup> by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.”

<sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. <sup>24</sup> When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose. <sup>27</sup> The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!”

<sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

<sup>31</sup> They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.” <sup>32</sup> Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. <sup>33</sup> At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. <sup>34</sup> The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God—he and his whole household.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon:** Jailhouse rocked

**Hymn:** 215 You servants of God

**Offering**

**Prayers of the people and the Lord’s Prayer**

Father, hear our prayer

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord**

**Hymn:** 28 God is our strength and refuge

**Benediction**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude**

**Organist**

**John Hughes**