



St Ives Uniting Church

20 August 2023

Pentecost 12

Call to worship and welcome

The Christ Candle

Hymn: 143 Immortal, invisible

Prayer of adoration

Responsive reading: Psalm 67

¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine on us

² **so that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation among all nations.**

³ May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.

⁴ May the nations be glad and sing for joy,
**for you rule the peoples with equity
and guide the nations of the earth.**

⁵ May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.

⁶ The land yields its harvest;
God, our God, blesses us.

⁷ May God bless us still,
so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.

Prayer of confession

Merciful God,

we have sinned in what we have thought and said,
in the wrong we have done,

**and in the good we have not done.
We have sinned in ignorance;
we have sinned in weakness;
we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.
We repent and turn to you.
Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake,
and renew our lives to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Assurance of forgiveness

**Our sins are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: 526 Lord Jesus Christ

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Bible readings

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Beth Facer

This is what the Lord says:

“Maintain justice

and do what is right,

for my salvation is close at hand

and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

⁶ And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord

to minister to him,

to love the name of the Lord,

and to be his servants,

all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it

and who hold fast to my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain

and give them joy in my house of prayer.

Their burnt offerings and sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called
a house of prayer for all nations.”

⁸ The Sovereign Lord declares—
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:
“I will gather still others to them
besides those already gathered.”

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Matthew 15:21-28

Richard Facer

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

²⁶ He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

²⁷ “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Faith without borders

Hymn: 659 The Lord is my shepherd

Reflection: Planned giving, joyful giving

Offering

Offering response: 768 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Prayers of the people

Jo McDonough

Hymn: 569 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

John Hughes