



St Ives Uniting Church

1st January 2023

New Year's Day

Call to worship and welcome

Lighting the Christ candle

Opening prayer

Hymn: 156 Morning has broken

Prayer of adoration & confession

Assurance of forgiveness

Your sins are forgiven

Thanks be to God

Bible readings:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

Pam Tickell

There is a time for everything,

and a season for every activity under the heavens:

² a time to be born and a time to die,

a time to plant and a time to uproot,

³ a time to kill and a time to heal,

a time to tear down and a time to build,

⁴ a time to weep and a time to laugh,

a time to mourn and a time to dance,

⁵ a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,

a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,

⁶ a time to search and a time to give up,

a time to keep and a time to throw away,

⁷ a time to tear and a time to mend,

a time to be silent and a time to speak,

⁸ a time to love and a time to hate,

a time for war and a time for peace.

⁹ What do workers gain from their toil? ¹⁰ I have seen the burden God has laid on the human race. ¹¹ He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end. ¹² I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. ¹³ That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Revelation 21:1-6a

Mike Tickell

Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

^{6a} He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: A time for everything

Hymn: 154 Great is your faithfulness

Offering and prayer

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s Prayer

Jane Ann Tainsh

Hymn: 511 Let us break bread together with the Lord

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

We pray together:

Lord,

We know that we are not worthy even to gather up the crumbs under your table,

But we also know that it is your nature always to have mercy, And so we ask you, as we share in this sacrament, to feed us with the body and blood of Jesus Christ, your Son, so that we may for ever live in him and he in us.

Amen.

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 the one 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.

And so, 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 symbolic foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all people, and so we pray:

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 opened the way to everlasting 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: 687 God gives us a future (4 verses)

Blessing

Postlude

Organist

John Hughes