



St Ives Uniting Church

29th January 2023

Epiphany 4

Call to worship and welcome

Lighting the Christ Candle

Hymn: 59 All people that on earth do dwell

Prayer adoration

Prayer of confession

We pray together:

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

**We pray you, of your mercy,
to forgive what we have been,
to help us to amend what we are,
and to direct what we shall be;
that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen.

Assurance of forgiveness

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

Thanks be to God

Responsive reading: Psalm 15

¹ Lord, who may dwell in your sacred tent?
Who may live on your holy mountain?

² The one whose walk is blameless,
**who does what is righteous,
who speaks the truth from their heart;**

³ whose tongue utters no slander,
**who does no wrong to a neighbour,
and casts no slur on others;**

⁴ who despises a vile person
but honours those who fear the Lord;
who keeps an oath even when it hurts,
and does not change their mind;

⁵ who lends money to the poor without interest;
who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

**Whoever does these things
will never be shaken.**

Hymn: 599 Take my life, and let it be

Notices

Bible readings

Micah 6:1-8

Richard Facer

¹ Listen to what the Lord says:

“Stand up, plead my case before the mountains;
let the hills hear what you have to say.

² “Hear, you mountains, the Lord’s accusation;
listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth.

For the Lord has a case against his people;
he is lodging a charge against Israel.

³ “My people, what have I done to you?
How have I burdened you? Answer me.

⁴ I brought you up out of Egypt
and redeemed you from the land of slavery.

I sent Moses to lead you,
also Aaron and Miriam.

⁵ My people, remember

what Balak king of Moab plotted
and what Balaam son of Beor answered.
Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord.”
⁶ With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow down before the exalted God?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?
Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.
This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Matthew 5:1-12

Beth Facer

¹ Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them. He said:
³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.
⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.
⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.
⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.
⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely
say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad,
because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Hymn: 647 Comfort, comfort all my people

Offering

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s prayer

Jo McDonough

Hymn: 517 Hallelujah, sing to Jesus

Benediction

Response: 772 Worship, honour, glory, blessing

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham