



St Ives Uniting Church

14 May 2023

Easter 6

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 133 O worship the king, all glorious above

Prayers of adoration and confession

Responsive reading: Psalm 66:8-14, 16-20

- ⁸ Praise our God, all peoples,
let the sound of his praise be heard;
- ⁹ he has preserved our lives
and kept our feet from slipping.
- ¹⁰ For you, God, tested us;
you refined us like silver.
- ¹¹ You brought us into prison
and laid burdens on our backs.
- ¹² You let people ride over our heads;
**we went through fire and water,
but you brought us to a place of abundance.**
- ¹³ I will come to your temple with burnt offerings
and fulfill my vows to you—
- ¹⁴ **vows my lips promised and my mouth spoke
when I was in trouble.**
- ¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God;
let me tell you what he has done for me.
- ¹⁷ I cried out to him with my mouth;
his praise was on my tongue.
- ¹⁸ If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened;
- ¹⁹ **but God has surely listened
and has heard my prayer.**
- ²⁰ Praise be to God,
**who has not rejected my prayer
or withheld his love from me!**

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear then Christ's word of grace to us:

'Your sins are forgiven.'

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 599 Take my life and let it be

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Bible readings:

John 14:15-21

Hazel Ruskin

¹⁵ "If you love me, keep my commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Peter 3:13-22

John Ruskin

¹³ Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." ¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander. ¹⁷ For it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit. ¹⁹ After being made alive, he went and made proclamation to the imprisoned

spirits—²⁰ to those who were disobedient long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water,²¹ and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,²² who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Do the right thing

Hymn: 650 Brother sister let me serve you

Offering and prayer

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s Prayer

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Hymn: 592 Stand up, stand up for Jesus

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham

