



# St Ives Uniting Church

**29 October 2023**

**Pentecost 22**

**Call to worship and welcome**

**Hymn:** 132 Holy, holy, holy

**Prayers of adoration and confession**

...we pray together:

**Merciful God,**

**We come to you weary of the world, with the burdens of our lives upon our shoulders.**

**Forgive us the words we should not have said, and the words we should have said, but did not say.**

**Forgive us the things we should not have done, and the things we should have done, but did not do.**

**Forgive us, cleanse us, and change us,**

**By the power of your Holy Spirit.**

**Amen.**

**Assurance of forgiveness**

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

**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn:** 217 Love divine

**Notices**

Lawrence Peak

## Responsive reading - Psalm 1

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one

who does not walk in step with the wicked  
**or stand in the way that sinners take  
or sit in the company of mockers,**

<sup>2</sup> but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,

**and who meditates on his law day and night.**

<sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
which yields its fruit in season

**and whose leaf does not wither—  
whatever they do prospers.**

<sup>4</sup> Not so the wicked!

**They are like chaff  
that the wind blows away.**

<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

**<sup>6</sup> For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.**

## Bible readings

### Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Heather Lakiss

The Lord said to Moses, <sup>2</sup> “Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: ‘Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.

<sup>15</sup> “Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favouritism to the great, but judge your neighbour fairly.

<sup>16</sup> “Do not go about spreading slander among your people.

“Do not do anything that endangers your neighbour’s life. I am the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> “Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbour frankly so you will not share in their guilt.

<sup>18</sup> “Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”

*This is the word of the Lord*

**Thanks be to God**

## **Matthew 22:34-46**

Barbara Coupe

<sup>34</sup> Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. <sup>35</sup> One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: <sup>36</sup> “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

<sup>41</sup> While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,

<sup>42</sup> “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose son is he?”

“The son of David,” they replied.

<sup>43</sup> He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,

<sup>44</sup> “‘The Lord said to my Lord:

“Sit at my right hand  
until I put your enemies  
under your feet.””

<sup>45</sup> If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?” <sup>46</sup> No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

*This is the word of the Lord*

***Thanks be to God***

**Sermon:** The right way

**Hymn:** 609 May the mind of Christ my saviour

**Offering**

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

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

**Hymn: 547 Be thou my vision**

**Benediction**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude**

**Organist**

**John Hughes**