



# St Ives Uniting Church

8 October 2023

## Pentecost 19

### Call to worship and welcome

Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

**let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.**

<sup>2</sup> Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
**and extol him with music and song.**

<sup>3</sup> For the Lord is the great God,  
**the great King above all gods.**

<sup>6</sup> Come, let us bow down in worship,  
**let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;**

<sup>7</sup> for he is our God  
**and we are the people of his pasture,  
the flock under his care.**

Hymn: 155 O Lord my God (How great thou art)

### Prayer of adoration and confession

Responsive reading: Psalm 80:7-9,12-14

<sup>7</sup> Restore us, God Almighty;  
**make your face shine on us,  
that we may be saved.**

<sup>8</sup> You transplanted a vine from Egypt;  
**you drove out the nations and planted it.**

<sup>9</sup> You cleared the ground for it,  
**and it took root and filled the land.**

<sup>12</sup> Why have you broken down its walls  
**so that all who pass by pick its grapes?**

<sup>13</sup> Boars from the forest ravage it,  
**and insects from the fields feed on it.**

<sup>14</sup> Return to us, God Almighty!  
**Look down from heaven and see!**

### **Assurance of forgiveness**

Hear Christ's word of grace to us, "Your sins are forgiven"  
**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn:** 341 My song is love unknown (5 verses)

### **Notices**

### **Bible readings**

#### **Isaiah 5:1-7**

Guy Smith

I will sing for the one I love  
a song about his vineyard:  
My loved one had a vineyard  
on a fertile hillside.

<sup>2</sup> He dug it up and cleared it of stones  
and planted it with the choicest vines.  
He built a watchtower in it  
and cut out a winepress as well.

Then he looked for a crop of good grapes,  
but it yielded only bad fruit.

<sup>3</sup> "Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and people of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup> What more could have been done for my vineyard  
than I have done for it?

When I looked for good grapes,  
why did it yield only bad?

<sup>5</sup> Now I will tell you  
what I am going to do to my vineyard:  
I will take away its hedge,  
and it will be destroyed;

I will break down its wall,  
and it will be trampled.

<sup>6</sup> I will make it a wasteland,  
neither pruned nor cultivated,  
and briars and thorns will grow there.

I will command the clouds  
not to rain on it.”

<sup>7</sup> The vineyard of the Lord Almighty  
is the nation of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are the vines he delighted in.

And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed;  
for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

### **Matthew 21:33-46**

Robyn Egarr

<sup>33</sup> “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. <sup>34</sup> When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

<sup>35</sup> “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. <sup>36</sup> Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. <sup>37</sup> Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

<sup>38</sup> “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup> So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

<sup>40</sup> “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

<sup>41</sup> “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the

crop at harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

the Lord has done this,

and it is marvellous in our eyes’?

<sup>43</sup> “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. <sup>44</sup> Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.”

<sup>45</sup> When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. <sup>46</sup> They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

This is the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon:** God’s vineyard

**Hymn:** 457 The Church’s one foundation

**Offering**

**Offering response:** 768 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

**Prayers of the people**

Ross Lorenz

**Hymn:** 52 Let us sing to the God of salvation

**Benediction**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude**

**Organist**

Jim Abraham