



St Ives Uniting Church

22 September 2024

Pentecost 18

Call to worship

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**Worship the Lord with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.**

Know that the Lord is God.

**It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;

give thanks to him and praise his name.

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;

his faithfulness continues through all generations.

The Christ Candle

Hymn: 143 Immortal, invisible

Prayers of adoration and confession

Responsive reading: Psalm 54

¹ Save me, O God, by your name;
vindicate me by your might.

² Hear my prayer, O God;
listen to the words of my mouth.

³ Arrogant foes are attacking me;
ruthless people are trying to kill me—
people without regard for God.

- ⁴ Surely God is my help;
the Lord is the one who sustains me.**
- ⁵ Let evil recoil on those who slander me;
in your faithfulness destroy them.**
- ⁶ I will sacrifice a freewill offering to you;
I will praise your name, Lord, for it is good.**
- ⁷ You have delivered me from all my troubles,
and my eyes have looked in triumph on my foes.**

Assurance of forgiveness

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

Thanks be to God

Hymn: 217(i) Love divine

Notices – Lawrence

Bible readings

Mark 12:38-44

Jill McNamara

³⁸ As he taught, Jesus said, "Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets. ⁴⁰ They devour widows' houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely."

⁴¹ Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. ⁴² But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

⁴³ Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. ⁴⁴ They all gave out of

their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a

Ashley Jacobsson

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

^{4:1} What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ² You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: The right kind of wisdom

Hymn: 453 We limit not the truth of God

Offering

Offering response: 774 For the life that you have given (Tune: Austria)

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

Ross Lorenz

Hymn: 133 O worship the king

Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

In the name of Christ, Amen.

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham