



# St Ives Uniting Church

9 February 2025

Epiphany 5

“Who do you say that I am?”



## Notices and Welcome

Introduction and Call to Worship

**We Light the Christ Candle**

**Prayer of Invocation**

## Gathering to Praise God

**Hymn 624** Christ be my leader

*Bonnie George Campbell*

**Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving**

**Declaration of Forgiveness**

*God is love. Through Christ, your sins are forgiven. Take hold of this forgiveness, and live your life in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen*

## Listening to God's Word

**Responsive Reading** Psalm 138 A psalm of David

<sup>1</sup> I will praise you, Lord, with all my heart;  
before the “gods” I will sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup> **I will bow down toward your holy temple  
and will praise your name  
for your unfailing love and your faithfulness,**

**for you have so exalted your solemn decree  
that it surpasses your fame.**

<sup>3</sup> When I called, you answered me;  
you greatly emboldened me.

<sup>4</sup> **May all the kings of the earth praise you, Lord,  
when they hear what you have decreed.**

<sup>5</sup> May they sing of the ways of the Lord,  
for the glory of the Lord is great.

<sup>6</sup> **Though the Lord is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;  
though lofty, he sees them from afar.**

<sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve my life.

You stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes;  
with your right hand you save me.

<sup>8</sup> **The Lord will vindicate me;  
your love, Lord, endures forever—  
do not abandon the works of your hands**  
**Amen**

**We share the peace amongst us**

**Hymn 613** Lord of all hopefulness      *Slane*

## **First Lesson**

1 Corinthians Verses 1 – 18

Elizabeth White

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and  
our brother Sosthenes,

2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus  
and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere  
who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours:

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Thanksgiving

4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— 6 God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### A Church Divided Over Leaders

10 I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. 11 My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. 12 What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14 I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. 16 (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) 17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

### Christ Crucified Is God's Power and Wisdom

18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

*This is the Word of the Lord*

***Thanks be to God***

## Second Lesson

Matthew Chapter 16 Verses 13 – 20

Stephen White

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter,<sup>[b]</sup> and on this rock<sup>[c]</sup> I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was<sup>[d]</sup> the Messiah.

*This is the Gospel of the Lord*

***Lord Jesus Christ we give you our praise.***

**Hymn 609** May the mind of Christ, my Saviour

*St Leonard's*

**Sermon** “A DIY Faith ?”

Lawrence Peak

## Responding to God's Word

### Offering

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
praise him, all creatures here below,  
praise him above, ye heavenly host,  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

### Prayer of Dedication

## Prayers of the People

Emily Jacobbson

### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever.

Amen.

**Closing Hymn** 231 At the name of Jesus *Camberwell*

**Benediction** *The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you,  
The Lord lift up the light of his countenance upon you,  
And give you peace. Amen*

**Blessing 778** Shalom to you now (sung twice) *"Somos del Senor"*

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends,  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom

**Postlude**

**Organist**

John Hughes



