



St Ives Uniting Church

4th December 2022

Advent 2

Call to worship and welcome

Lighting the advent candles

Hymn: 265 O come, O come, Emmanuel

Prayer of adoration and confession

Assurance of forgiveness

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

Thanks be to God

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Christmas Bowl Appeal video - Peace

Bible Readings:

Isaiah 11:1-10

Max Osborne

11 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

² The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—

³ and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

⁴ but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

⁶ The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

⁷ The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.

⁹ They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples;
the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Romans 15:4-13

Shirley Luttrell

⁴ For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

⁵ May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, ⁶ so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, so that the promises made to the patriarchs might be confirmed ⁹ and, moreover, that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written:

“Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles;
I will sing the praises of your name.”

¹⁰ Again, it says,

“Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people.”

¹¹ And again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles;
let all the peoples extol him.”

¹² And again, Isaiah says,

“The Root of Jesse will spring up,
one who will arise to rule over the nations;
in him the Gentiles will hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: The first Christmas tree

Hymn: 446 Glorious things of you are spoken

Offering

Prayers of intercession

Hazel Ruskin

Hymn: 538 Feed us now, bread of life

Communion

The peace of the Lord be with you

And also with you

We pray together:

Lord,

**We know that we are not worthy even to gather up the crumbs
under your table,**

But we also know that it is your nature always to have mercy,

And so we ask you, as we share in this sacrament, to feed us with the body and blood of Jesus Christ, your Son, so that we may for ever live in him and he in us.

Amen.

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

And so we praise you with your people throughout the world and across the years, joining with choirs of angels and the whole of creation in the eternal hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

With this bread and this cup we do as our Saviour commands: we celebrate the redemption he has won for us.

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come again.

And so, awaiting his coming in glory, we pray as our Saviour taught us:

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today 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.**

...The gifts of God for the people of God.
May we who share these gifts be found in Christ, and Christ in us.

God has us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a symbolic foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all people, and so we pray:

We thank you, Lord, that when we were still far off, you met us in your Son. He lived and died and rose again, declared your love and opened the way to everlasting life.

May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we who the Spirit lights give light to the world.

**Keep us in the hope we have in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray.
Amen.**

Hymn: 215 You servants of God

Blessing

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham

