

Brougham Place Uniting Church

Sunday September 7, 2025, 10.00am

Preacher: Rev Linda Driver

Season of Creation Week 1. Aqua

Communion

Kardlayirdi Karnungga A Light on the Hill

We acknowledge the Kaurna people as the traditional carers of the land on which our church is built.

As you wait for worship to begin, please turn your phone to silent.

Prelude

Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country

Naa marni? (Are you all good?)

Marni Ai! (Good I am)

Lighting of the Candles

Introduction

Call to Worship

Hey everyone! Give praise to God!

God dreamed you and called you and here you are!

Seas and oceans, tranquil waves and turbulent currents, praise God.

God dreamed you and called you and here you are!

You fish and whales and squid, sing praise in the deep.

God dreamed you and called you and here you are!

So listen out for the Name that is above every Name,
sing out with all the love and joy you can find:
all you are is made by God,
all you have is gift from God.

Calling all creation – come and be found in praise!

Opening Prayer

God of oceans and inland lakes, source of our life and keeper of earth's waterways, open our hearts within the vastness of creation.

With awe and respect, we ponder the precious gift of life shared across the waters. Channel our empathy not from above, but from beside—as kin among creatures, as siblings to the sea, as people who learn from the ocean how to praise.

Amen.

We sing: Where wide sky rolls down

Together in Song 188

- 1. Where wide sky rolls down and touches red sand, where sun turns to gold the grass of the land, let spinifex, mulga and waterhole tell their joy in the One who made everything well.
- 2. Where rain-forest calm meets reef, tide and storm, where green things grow lush and oceans are warm, let every sea-creature and tropical bird exult in the light of the life-giving Word.
- 3. Where red gum and creek cross hillside and plain, where cool tree-ferns rise to welcome the rain, let bushland, farm, mountain-top, all of their days delight in the Spirit who formed them for praise.
- 4. Now, people of faith, come gather around with songs to be shared, for blessings abound! Australians, whatever your culture or race, come, lift up your hearts to the Giver of grace.

Prayer of Thanks and Lament

Great God of creation, thank you for the wonders of the natural world. We praise you for the oceans that surround our lands, for the diverse life they contain—plankton and whales, coral and seaweed, sharks and dolphins. The sea sings of your glory, O God. May we learn her song.

Thank you for the many ways we value the sea: enjoying days fishing, water sports, walking by the beach, sharing the harvest of the sea at meals with family and friends. The ocean gives and gives.

We confess how little we have listened to her need.

We are humbled as we learn how much we depend on the health of the oceans for our own wellbeing. We are not above the ocean; we are her kin. When she suffers, so do we all.

We are shocked when we discover how small particles of waste discarded on land find their way to vast areas of ocean rubbish.

The sea is choking, O God. Have mercy on what we have done.

We are dismayed as we hear how coral reefs are dying, and precious animal species are becoming extinct.

The coral grieves; the fish flee.

Creation cries out.

We are scared by news of warming oceans and rising sea levels. It makes us feel vulnerable and afraid.

Holy One, may our fear be turned to reverence. May our sorrow deepen into love. The sea laments. May we lament with her.

Restore our kinship, O God. Teach us to walk gently along the shore, to speak blessings, not burdens, to let the oceans teach us again how to live in praise.

The sea still sings. We listen, we will learn, we will love. Amen.

Short silence

Words of Assurance

Don't be afraid!

Hear God's call to care for the earth and protect the oceans. Know that God shows loving kindness for all life and offers us the ways and the will to bring greater wholeness to creation.

Thank you for your love. We hear your call to care. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of our God be with you.

And also with you.

Community News and Notices



You can <u>sign up</u> to receive BP E-news by email and <u>read past</u> issues on our website: www.bpuc.org

Children's Time (Exploring the Theme)

Communion

The children are invited to sit with their families.

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Let us give our thanks to God:

The Earth is God's and everything in it. God's glory covers the earth as the waters over the sea.

The trees of the field clap their hands.

The birds of the air sing songs of praise.

If we should stop expressing our worship, even the rocks and stones would cry out in praise!

And so, we lift up our hearts and we lift up our voices. We offer thanksgiving and praise to God, Creator of all.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Blessed are you, Creator God, for from seeds sown into the earth you have given us the gift of bread to feed and nourish us.

At Jesus' last meal with his friends, before facing the cross, it was bread that he chose to take.

He blessed it and broke it.

He passed it amongst his friends, saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this to remember me."

Blessed are you, Creator God, for from grapes which grow ripe and sweet on the vine, you have given us the gift of wine to refresh and heal us.

At Jesus' last meal with his friends before facing the cross, it was wine that he chose to take.

He blessed it.

He passed it amongst his friends, saying: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my life in the new covenant, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this to remember me."

And now we come to your table again, Jesus...

... Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices, with the faithful of every time & place and with all of creation, we bless & praise your glorious name:

Holy, holy, holy God, Wisdom, strength and hope Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest!

Come Holy Spirit,

... and ready us to take our role as agents of healing and change.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God of love, now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let's pray together a variation of the Prayer that Jesus taught us:

Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker. Source of all that is and that shall be. Loving Parent of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by all peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your kin-dom of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, **feed us.**

In the hurts we absorb from one another,

forgive us.

In times of temptation and test,

strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure,

spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil,

free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen.

THE COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Children and Young People may go downstairs for Sunday School and Youth. Parents, you are welcome to join your child in Sunday School if you feel your child may need your assistance. Alternatively, you may wish for your child to remain with you for the duration of worship. Activity packs are available at the entrances.

We sing: We Sing the Almighty Power of God

Words: Together in Song 119. Tune: Together in Song 361 (Ellacombe 1)

1. We sing the almighty power of God that made the mountains rise, that spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.

We sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; the moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

- 2. We sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food; God formed the creatures with God's word, and then pronounced them good. There's not a plant or flower below but makes your glories known; and clouds arise and tempests blow by order from your throne.
- 3. All creatures, numerous as they be, are subject to your care; there's not a place where we can flee but God is present there. God's hand is my perpetual guard, God guides me with God's eye; why should I, then, forget the Lord, who is for ever nigh?

Scripture Reading: Job 31:1-18 and Luke 5:1-11

JOB 38:1-18

From out of a storm,
the Lord said to Job:
Why do you talk so much
when you know so little?
Now get ready to face me!
Can you answer
the questions I ask?
How did I lay the foundation for the earth?
Were you there?
Doubtless you know who decided
its length and width.
What supports the foundation?
Who placed the cornerstone,
while morning stars sang,
and angels rejoiced?

When the ocean was born,
I set its boundaries
and wrapped it in blankets
of thickest fog.
Then I built a wall around it,
locked the gates, and said,
"Your powerful waves stop here!
They can go no farther."

Did you ever tell the sun to rise?
And did it obey?
Did it take hold of the earth
and shake out the wicked
like dust from a rug?
Early dawn outlines the hills
like stitches on clothing
or sketches on clay.
But its light is too much
for those who are evil,
and their power is broken.

Job, have you ever walked on the ocean floor?
Have you seen the gate to the world of the dead?
And how large is the earth?
Tell me, if you know!

LUKE 5:1-11

Jesus was standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret, teaching the people as they crowded around him to hear God's message. Near the shore he saw two boats left there by some fishermen who had gone to wash their nets. Jesus got into the boat that belonged to Simon and asked him to row it out a little way from the shore. Then Jesus sat down in the boat to teach the crowd.

When Jesus had finished speaking, he told Simon, "Row the boat out into the deep water and let your nets down to catch some fish."

"Master," Simon answered, "we have worked hard all night long and have not caught a thing. But if you tell me to, I will let the nets down." They did this and caught so many fish that their nets began ripping apart. Then they signaled for their partners in the other boat to come and help them. The men came, and together they filled the two boats so full that they both began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw this happen, he knelt down in front of Jesus and said, "Lord, don't come near me! I am a sinner." Peter and everyone with him were completely surprised at all the fish they had caught. His partners James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were surprised too.

Jesus told Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you will bring in people instead of fish." The men pulled their boats up on the shore. Then they left everything and went with Jesus.

The Gospel of Christ, Light of the world. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

We sing: God, You Made Your Good Creation

Tune: Together in Song 493 BEACH SPRING

God, you made your good creation and you hold it in your care —
 From each starry constellation to each forest under-layer.
 Tiny creatures, mountain splendor, rivers, lakes and ocean floors —
 You are loving, kind and tender in your care for what is yours.

- 2. Yet, O God, the earth is crying, times are changing, storms are strong. Now the coral reefs are dying, floods are raging, droughts are long. Though the circumstances differ, when the earth is in distress, See! The poor are first to suffer from our greed and selfishness.
- 3. God, you love this world we live in, so you sent your only Son.
 "Here on earth as in your heaven," God, we pray, "Your will be done." By your Spirit, may we listen to the earth and to the poor; May we care for all you've given till creation is restored.

Prayers of the People

Response:

God of the oceans, hear our prayer.

PRAYER FOR FATHER'S DAY

Offering



To give electronically please go to <u>bpuc.org/give</u> Alternatively, there is an offering bowl near the lectern on the left-hand side as you exit the church.

Offering Prayer

May these gifts move with the current of your love, to bring your life and love to those most in need, In the name of Christ, who calms the storm and walks the shore.

Amen.

We sing: I the Lord of Sea and Sky

Together in Song 658

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,I have heard my people cry.All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.I who made the stars of night,I will make their darkness bright Who will bear my light to them?Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord, is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night;
I will go, Lord, if you lead me;
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain; I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame I will tend the poor and lame; I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts are satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Sending Forth and Benediction

The God of thunderous waves and rippling seas, of ocean depths and sandy beaches, of fragile plants and mighty sea creatures, lift your vessel into the week ahead. Go with the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer. We go in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

Postlude

Come and share morning tea together, in the basement. There are stairs behind the organ and a ramp between the church and the car park. All are welcome!

Thank you for joining us for worship!

If you would like to get in touch or request a prayer,
please make use of the Contact Cards in the pews and
next to the Offering Bowl. Alternately, you can email our
Minister, Rev Linda Driver: lindad@bpuc.org

This service has been prepared with assistance from

Liturgy, Learning, & (Purposeful) Life (L3) - Season of Creation Viv Whimster, John Carr, Susan Burt © 2025, Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of South Australia

Call to Worship adapted from 'Psalm 148'
Silvia Purdie
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John Van De Laar, Thom Shuman and Uniting in Worship 2.

Prayer for Father's Day
Rev. Chuck Currie. Posted on the Jesuit Resource page of the
Xavier University website.
https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/

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Congregation Hymns/Songs:

Where wide sky rolls down
Elizabeth J. Smith 1956Together in Song 188. Words © E. J. Smith – All rights reserved.

We sing the almighty power of God
Words: Together in Song 119
Tune: Together in Song 361 (Ellacombe 1)
Issac Watts. Melody from the 'Scottish Psalter', 1635, as given in
John Playford's 'Psalms', 1671

God, You Made Your Good Creation
Tune: Together in Song 493 BEACH SPRING
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Email: carolynshymns.com
New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com

I the Lord of Sea and Sky
Together in Song 658
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"A light on the hill"