

Ecumenical Service

7.00pm 15 September 2024

Gathered at St Andrews by the Sea, Glenelg.

Celebrating the Season of Creation



Acknowledgement of Country.

Geoff

This ancient land was here, in its silences and its sounds of life,
long before history was written.

The Kurna People belong to this land, custodians in its rhythms of life.
They have never ceded this land and have maintained a relationship with it,
loving it, dreaming with it, listening to its voices and reading its subtle
messages.

Here, they live and walk, connecting with its depths, weeping with its
struggles and laughing in its survivals.

May we, who have come later, honour these people. and their faithful
stewardship of this rich earth and its many inhabitants throughout the ages.

Let us celebrate with them the gifts and bounty of a loving, providing,
creator and commit ourselves to building together just relationships and
lasting reconciliation.

Song You Were In This Place

Band

At the dawn of the ages, you pulled land from the sea
With your word you invented all we know, all we see.
Creek and desert and forest red and grey kangaroo
You were in this place, but we never knew.

Paintings seen on the rock face, footprints left in the sand
Campfire next to the river songs that rise from the land
Signs that seem so elusive, shadows just out of view
You were in this place, but we never knew.

Do we take after Jacob Blind to what lies at hand
Needing dreams to inform us God is here in this land
See him suffering and dying Bread and wine tell the news
You were in this place, but we never knew.

Jesus open our senses, help us see you today
In the person beside us as we work as we play
While we love you and serve you may it never be true
You were in this place, but we never knew.

Focusing our attention

Geoff

We believe that God creates all things, renews all things and celebrates all things.

We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with our kin.

We believe that God became flesh and blood, became a piece of Earth, a human being called Jesus Christ, who lived and breathed and spoke among us, suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation.

We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation reconciling all things to God, renewing all creation and filling the cosmos.

We believe the Spirit renews life in creation, groans in empathy with a suffering creation, and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation.

Song

All Are Welcome

Band

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, Rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness and a symbol of God's grace;
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger.

Let us build a house where all are named, their song and vision heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.

Welcome

Geoff

Passing the Peace

All

Thanksgiving for Creation

All

In the name of the Spirit of God who hovered over the primal waters.

In the name of the Word of God who parted the waters for Earth to appear.

In the name of the Wisdom of God, who filled the deeps with amazing designs.

Holy! Holy! Holy! The oceans are filled with God's presence.

Christ, we come to into your presence, today, to worship in this sanctuary.

Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth and Oceans are filled with your presence.

We invite the oceans to worship with us.

The deep sea currents and coral reefs, the mountain peaks on the ocean floor.

We call the surging seas to celebrate with us.

From the ice at the edge of Antarctica to the warm waters that caress the equator... we join all ocean life in songs of praise, whales and dolphins dancing on the surface, and choirs of angel fish assembled below.

We ask the seashore to magnify the Lord,

The pelican, the stingray, the silver gull, the white caps and waves that splash in praise. Oceans, seas and watery deeps, celebrate with all that lives within you, and roar in praise with us today.

Roar, ocean, roar!

Roar, roar in praise.

We celebrate the song of the ocean!

Roar, ocean, roar!

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace on the high seas!

Song All Creatures of our God and King

Organ

All creatures of our God and King
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
O brother sun with golden beam
O sister moon with silver gleam!

O praise Him! O praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O brother wind, air, clouds and rain
By which all creatures ye sustain,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!

O sister water, flowing clear,
Make music for thy Lord to hear,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
O brother fire who lights the night,
Providing warmth, enhancing sight.

All ye who are of tender heart,
Forgiving others, take your part,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
Praise God and on Him cast your care!



Why we meet today Andrew

Scripture Romans 8:19-25 Tracey

For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Responsive Prayer Refrain Band

Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Lord.

Reflection (“Creation waits with eager longing...”) John

Prayer (For creation) Tricia

Responsive Prayer Refrain Band

Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Lord.

Reflection (“The whole creation has been groaning in labour pains...”) Anne

Prayer (For the people of the world) Tim

Responsive Prayer Refrain Band

Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Lord.

Reflection (“For in hope we were saved...”) Andrew

Prayer (For the Church and mission) Dianne

Responsive Prayer Refrain Band

Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Jesus, Lead us, Lord.

Offering and Song

My Lighthouse

Band

In my wrestling and in my doubts. In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through. You are the peace in my troubled sea,
oh oh You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence, you won't let go. In the questions, Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through. You are the peace in my troubled sea.
oh oh You are the peace in my troubled sea

My Lighthouse, my lighthouse Shining in the darkness, I will follow
You

My Lighthouse, my lighthouse I will trust the promise,
You will carry me safe to shore (Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)

Safe to shore (Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)

Safe to shore (Oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)

Safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings. With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through You are the peace in my troubled sea,
oh oh You are the peace in my troubled sea.

Blessing

Geoff

Song

For You Deep Stillness

Band

For you deep stillness of the silent inland
For you deep blue of the desert skies
For you flame red of the rocks and stones
For you sweet water from hidden springs

From the edges seek the heartlands
And when you're burnt by the journey
May the cool winds of the hovering Spirit
Soothe and replenish you

In the name of Christ. In the name of Christ

Supper

We have gathered today out of a shared vision of the Bay Area Ministers team.

Members and clergy from Anglican, Roman Catholic, Baptist, Lutheran, Uniting and Independent churches, together with members of the Schools Ministry Group believe that as we work, witness and worship together God in Jesus Christ is seen as our common source of life.

We are grateful for the work, thoughtfulness and care of many people who have co-operated to bring us together to worship in this way.

The offerings and gifts we bring this evening will be used to support the work of Pastoral Care Workers within our local schools.

Thank you for your participation and support.

