



Blacktown
Uniting
Church

Sunday Worship with a Difference

7 June 2020



Gathering with God

We light a light in the name of the Maker,
who lit the world and breathed the breath of life for us.

We light a light in the name of the Son,
who saved the world and stretched out his hand to us.

We light a light in the name of the Spirit,
who encircles the world and unites us in community.

We light three lights for the Trinity of Love:
God above us, God beside us, God beneath us:
The Beginning, the End, the Everlasting One.

You might like to light a candle in your home remembering that
God is with us.

Prayers

You may like to sing these words if you know the tune.

*Father, I adore you,
Lay my life before you,
How I love you.*

*Jesus, I adore you,
Lay my life before you,
How I love you.*

*Spirit, I adore you,
Lay my life before you,
How I love you.*

O God, as we lay our lives before you we know that we fall short in declaring your glory and fail to love others as you have loved us. Cleanse us and make us new. Hear our words of confession and take our guilt away. Amen.

....AND WE ARE FORGIVEN

God has a great plan for us and so God longs for each of us to experience forgiveness. When we confess our sins, God listens to our hearts. Hear these words of grace to us all: In Christ your sins are forgiven. Rise up and live in the freedom of the Spirit.

Preparing for worship

Find a comfortable space, e.g. around a table or living room, grab your Bible and offering and prepare for worship. You can either work through the service on this sheet or follow along with our online video at <http://www.blacktown.unitingchurch>

Hearing God's Word

Reading from Psalm 8

Song – Indescribable

From the highest of heights to the depths of
the sea
Creations revealing Your majesty
From the colours of fall to the fragrance of
spring
Every creature unique in the song that it sings
All exclaiming

Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know
them by name.
You are amazing God
All powerful, untameable,
Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly
proclaim
You are amazing God

Who has told every lightning bolt where it
should go
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with
snow
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its
light
Yet conceals it to bring us the coolness of
night
None can fathom

Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know
them by name
You are amazing God
All powerful, untameable,
Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly
proclaim
You are amazing God
You are amazing God

Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know
them by name.
You are amazing God
All powerful, untameable,
Awestruck we fall to our knees as we humbly
proclaim
You are amazing God
Indescribable, uncontainable,
You placed the stars in the sky and You know
them by name.
You are amazing God
Incomparable, unchangeable
You see the depths of my heart and You love
me the same

You are amazing God
You are amazing God

Songwriters: Laura Story / Jesse Reeves
Indescribable lyrics © Capitol Christian Music
Group

Reflection - Wonder, Worship and Work



Song – How Great Thou Art

(English and Tamil)

O Lord my God, When I in awesome wonder
En, nan ekath tho thudun Kaihal
Consider all the works Thy Hands has made;
Mun nat padaithvar vettrai yorunkaal
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Minveli aaravaram thondra lum
Thy power throughout the universe displayed
Undran iramanda shakthi kaan gee rain

(English and Tongan)

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,

E hiva hoku laumalie ni

How great Thou art, How great Thou art.

Ho ngeia 'Eiki, Ho ngeia 'Eiki

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee

E Hiva hoku laumalie ni

How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

Ho ngeia 'Eiki, Ho ngeia 'Eiki

(English and Tongan)

When through the woods, and forest glades I
wander,

I he vaota, mo molumalu ai pe

And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.

Si'i hiva ai, a e manupuna e

When I look down, from lofty mountain
grandeur

'Ou siofa 'a e ngaahi mouna na

And hear the brook, and feel the gentle
breeze.

Lea 'ae vai, moe angi hono 'ea

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,

E hiva hoku laumalie ni

How great Thou art, How great Thou art

Ho ngeia 'Eiki, Ho ngeia 'Eiki

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,

E Hiva hoku laumalie ni

How great Thou art, How great Thou art!

Ho ngeia 'Eiki, Ho ngeia 'Eiki

(English & Fijian)

But when I think, that God, His Son not
sparing;

Loloma soli wale nei Tamada

Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in;

Solia mai luvena duabau

That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,

Mai na veigauna ga e Kalivari

He bled and died to take away my sin.

Bokoci kina noqu caka ca

(English and Tongan)

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,

E hiva hoku laumalie ni

How great Thou art, How great Thou art.

Ho ngeia 'Eiki, Ho ngeia 'Eiki

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee

E Hiva hoku laumalie ni

How great Thou art, How great Thou art

Ho ngeia 'Eiki, Ho ngeia 'Eiki

(English and Samoan)

When Christ shall come, with shout of
acclamation,

E toe afio mai ma avatu a'u

And take me home, what joy shall fill my
heart.

I lona aiga I ai ke fiafia

Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,

O'u ifo ai ma ou ta'utino atu

And then proclaim: "My God, how great Thou
art!"

O lo'u atua e silisili ia

(English and Tongan)

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,

E hiva hoku laumalie ni

How great Thou art, How great Thou art.

Ho ngeia 'Eiki, Ho ngeia 'Eiki

Then sings my soul, My Saviour God, to Thee,

E Hiva hoku laumalie ni

How great Thou art, How great Thou

Ho ngeia 'Eiki, Ho ngeia 'Eiki

Words: Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

Prayer of Intercession:

Loving Triune God, you are the Creator, the Saviour and Sustainer of our lives. In wonder we worship you and in trust we are confident to lift before you the needs of our world.

You know the anguish of the sorrowful, you are attentive to the prayers of the broken-hearted. Hear your creation that cries out for balance and care and restoration. Hear your people who cry out to you in the streets of the United States of America and in Hong Kong, in refugee camps and in detention centres, in the Pilbara as indigenous ancient sites are blasted and lost, in homes where people are fearful because of lost jobs and domestic tensions and violence, wherever people feel unheard in their human need for justice and compassion and respect in these days. Strengthen their hope in your lasting goodness.

We pray today for those who have died because of violence and anger or disease. Draw them to yourself; let your face shine upon them. May they experience your eternal peace and joy.

Be near to all those who have been touched by violence or disease like Covid-19: those who have been hurt, lost their loved ones or lost their sense of security. Be for them a steady comfort and safe resting place.

Soften the hearts and steady the minds of those who would do violence to others and leaders who have the capacity to change things. May hate and fear be replaced with love, violence with peace and darkness with your light.

And we bring to you the names of those we know who are unwell, recovering from surgery, those who are sad and lonely and those who are troubled and carrying heavy loads. We pray for those who are coming to ends of their lives, those being born and those preparing for the birth of their children. Carry them all close to your heart and strengthen them with your Spirit.

You may like to pray the Lord's Prayer

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

Offering

You are invited to hold your offerings in your cupped hands as we dedicate it and ourselves, giving thanks for all God's blessings.

Bless our offerings Holy God,
Bless the gifts that we share, gifts of time, talents and treasure:
May our gifts reach out into the world
to express the wonder and delight we feel in your creation
and our love and care for one another. Amen.

Offerings can be transferred electronically to
Blacktown Uniting Church
BSB: 6343
Account No.: 100023472
or deposited directly to this account at any Westpac branch.

Holy Communion

The Acknowledgement of Togetherness

As we prepare in the sight of God to join in Holy Communion, know we are only a screen width apart.

The God of all creation is not beholden to the bounds of time or place.

God transcends our physical distances and parts the veil between us, so that we may be together in this special space.

Through God and the mystery of Holy Communion, we become one body, one church.

Join with me now in acknowledging our togetherness:

God's peace be with us all. Amen.

The Setting of the Table

Together, we share a table of enormous width as it extends to every household.

The table is laid bare, waiting for the providence of God

And so, I invite you now in your home as we set our table here, to collect what elements you have to serve as your bread and cup and place them on the table now.

The table is set. So, let's give thanks

Thanksgiving

It is good to be joyful as we give thanks to You, Holy God.

You created us in your image and gave us life with your breath.

Your love does not falter, even as we neglect that love.

You liberated us from our bondage, and continue to ease our burden.

With joy, and with all of Creation, we proclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy 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**

You are Holy God, and blessed is your son Jesus.
Your Spirit descended upon Jesus so that he could proclaim good news to the poor, release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind and freedom to the oppressed.
Jesus' life gave birth to the church through a new covenant,
one born out the Holy Spirit
whose power dwells within us today.

On the night in which he gave himself over, Jesus took bread,
gave thanks to you, God, and said to his disciples:
"Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

After dinner, he took the cup gave thanks, and said:
"This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many.
Drink from it in remembrance of me."

In remembering the mighty acts of Jesus, we offer ourselves as a living witness proclaiming the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died
Christ has risen
Christ will come again**

Pour out your Spirit on all of us gathered together in this Holy space,
and on the gift of these elements.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Jesus Christ,
that we may be the body of Christ for the world.

Your Spirit makes us one with Christ and one with each other.
It binds, blends, and multiplies us, as we minister to the world,
as one beloved community of faith singing your praises on Earth
and in Heaven until Christ comes again,
and we feast at your table in perfect harmony.

All honour and glory are yours God, now and forever. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

This bread is made from many grains from many fields in the creation,
yet was formed into a single loaf.
Because there is one God we, though many, and in many places, are one body.
Join us as we share the bread, in remembrance of him.

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
Ko e mā 'oku tau pakipakí, ko 'etau ma'u 'inasi ia 'i he sino 'o Kalaisí.
Take it and eat.

(persons at home take a piece of bread and eat it)

This fruit of the vine is made by many hands, from many places, yet pours freely.
Let us, together, share this blessing of the cup of the new covenant.

The cup we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
Ko e ipu 'oku tau talí, ko 'etau ma'u 'inasi ia 'i he ta'ata'a 'o Kalaisí.
Take it and drink
(persons at home take a cup and drink from it)

Words of Mission and Blessing

May you continue to live your lives in wonder and worship
caring for God's creation, sustained and inspired by Holy Spirit,
in the name of Jesus Christ.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ
The love of God who made us
And the communion of the Holy Spirit
Be with us all ever more

Song – Shalom to You Now

*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*

Elise Shoemaker Eslinger

Words from *The United Methodist Hymnal* USA by permission United Methodist Publishing House