

2 June 2024

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 4

Storehouse Sunday

The God Who Enters Our Experience

GATHERING

Welcome

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that this land is God's land, and God's Spirit dwells here. We pay our respects to the elders, past, present and emerging of the Bidjegal people who have cared for this land in time beyond our dreaming. This land on which we live and move was and always will be Aboriginal Land.

We light the candle to show God's presence with us this morning:

God is here!

God is always here!

God is with Us!

God is always with us!

We say who we are

We are a congregation and community ...

Who welcome people of all cultures and lifestyles,

Who create a safe place for the community, and

Who share the journey of life and faith.

Introduction to Theme

The God who enters into our experience in order to bring freedom and healing. **We see and seek the face of God in the work of the Storehouse.**

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Call to Worship

Come, enter in –
come with your full heart.
No need to dress anything up
or to be anything other than how you are.
Just be who you are.
Jesus will meet us here, just like this,
making freedom and healing the order of the day

Opening Prayer

Here we all gather,
standing in the tradition of those who go before us –
those like Samuel, young in years, guided by elders.
We, too, hear a voice calling out our name.
We are a people woken by a sweet voice.
Speak, loving God; your people are listening.
make our ears tingle with anticipation and wonder!

**Sing : *Come and find the quiet centre* (Shirley Murray) Tune
TiS 493 [https://youtu.be/to-6eiVwnlg?
si=LjqcJWw0y6ZD42kl](https://youtu.be/to-6eiVwnlg?si=LjqcJWw0y6ZD42kl)**

**Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.**

**Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.**

**In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for hearts to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!**

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Prayer of Confession

In our own lives and all around us
we see suffering and struggle.
Not knowing what to do with all
or how to make sense of the larger struggles of our lives
we try to manage our own discomfort
by pointing the finger at someone –

accusing, judging from a distance,
saying, 'They're the problem with society!'
But nothing really changes.
We need to change. We all rely on grace.
Forgive us, merciful God,
for all the ways we try to distance ourselves
from that which runs through every human life.
Bring your forgiving, restoring touch to our lives.

Words of Grace

Jesus enters into our experience,
and invites us to find our way again
within the unforced rhythms of grace,
which brings healing, forgiveness
and freedom to all of our lives.
You are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

Sing • Online Resource / AoV2-031 / ATW 424 *O God, you search me and you know me* (Bernadette Farrell).

https://youtu.be/mEGc3_D19Vo?si=hzEGP6TuYpP0a--0

O God, you search me and you know me.

All my thoughts lie open to your gaze.

**When I walk or lie down, you are before me:
ever the maker and keeper of my days.**

You know my resting and my rising.

**You discern my purpose from afar,
and with love everlasting you besiege me:
in ev'ry moment of life or death, you are.**

**Before a word is on my tongue, Lord,
you have known its meaning through and through.**

**You are with me beyond my understanding:
God of my present, my past and future, too.**

**Although your Spirit is upon me,
still I search for shelter from your light.
There is nowhere on earth I can escape you:
even the darkness is radiant in your sight.**

**For you created me and shaped me,
gave me life within my mother's womb.
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you:
safe in your hands, all creation is made new.**

Words based on Psalm 139

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Pass the Peace of Christ

ENGAGING THE WORD

Readings from the Hebrew Scriptures

1 Samuel 3:1–10, (11–20) Samuel 3:1-20

3 Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. ²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the

lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. ¹⁰Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Sing ATW 487 *Make your home in me* (Fay White)

[https://soundcloud.com/createminis/05-fay-white-make-your-home-in?
utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing](https://soundcloud.com/createminis/05-fay-white-make-your-home-in?utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing)

***Make your home in me
as I make my home in you.
I am everywhere that you can be,
make your home in me.***

**If you fly to the point of the day's sunrise
or westward across the sea,
if you travel to the uttermost ends of the earth,
there I will be.**

***Make your home in me
as I make my home in you.
I am everywhere that you can be,
make your home in me.***

I knew you and love you before you were born,
as a child in your mother's womb.
I have seen your struggles in the secret place.
I know you through and through (and I still love you)
*Make your home in me
as I make my home in you.
I am everywhere that you can be,
make your home in me.*

You will find me in the faces of the broken ones,
in the sick, the troubled and the poor.
You will find me in the wounds of your very own soul.
I am knocking at your own heart's door.
*Make your home in me
as I make my home in you.
I am everywhere that you can be,
make your home in me.*

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Readings from the Christian Scriptures

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; ⁹persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. ¹¹For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

Mark 2:23–3:6

23 One Sabbath he was going through the grain fields, and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. **24** The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?” **25** And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food, **26** how he entered the house of God when Abiathar was high priest and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions?” **27** Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for humankind and not humankind for the Sabbath, **28** so the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.”

3 Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. **2** They were watching him to see whether he would cure him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. **3** And he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come forward.” **4** Then he said to them, “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to kill?” But they were silent. **5** He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. **6** The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

Offering

**Because we have received abundantly,
we give from our abundance.**

O joyful God!

Spread your generosity into the world through our offering. Amen.

Sing TiS *I the Lord of sea and sky / Here I am Lord* (Dan Schutte)

<https://youtu.be/2zr9SMm1gll>

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.***

**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?**

***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.*

**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?**

*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.*

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**Reflection (No reflection today except for an introduction
to what the Storehouse is about)**

[We hear reports from the Storehouse:

- Introduction of Staff**
- Food mission**

- **DV programs**
- **Community Support Programs for ethnic groups**
 - o **Nepalese**
 - o **Mongolian**
 - o **Indonesian**
 - o **Thai**
 - o **Ukrainian**
 - o **Arabic**
 - o **Chinese -**
- **Community Lunches**
- **Gambling Awareness and Counselling**
- **NILS**
- **Where our support comes from Grants**

Announcements

- **Appeal for Financial Support from Donors]**

Prayers for Others [Add specific prayers for the Storehouse]

O God, you are love,

and you invite us to make our home in your love – together.

Sometimes, we are good at this,

sometimes, we are not.

You, God, are a safe place, a refuge,

a rallying point for all the marginalised, hurting and discontent.

Bring your comfort now to those feeling the weight of grief and loss,

of disconnection and loneliness.

Bring comfort, God of love.

**Bring strength and vitality to those who are sick
or limping through life in all kinds of ways.**

Bring strength, God of love.

**Smash down the barriers
that stop people from experiencing full participation in life,
that strip people of dignity,
or define people poorly.**

Bring change, God of love.

**And help us to be a safe people,
who lend a hand, who listen,
who create space in our own lives
to genuinely enter into the experience of others.**

**We pause for a moment to allow you to fill our hearts and minds
with anyone you might place here.**

A silence is kept.

We pray for blessing.

We pray also that we might be a blessing.

Amen.

**Sing: •Jesus Christ is waiting TiS 665 © Wild Goose Publications
Words: John L. Bell**

https://youtu.be/CSzEviUc_o?si=amX7ziEvFhrDA7K2

Jesus Christ is waiting,

**waiting in the streets;
no-one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too.
Make me, friend or stranger,
fit to wait on you.**

**Jesus Christ is raging,
raging in the streets;
where injustice spirals
and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too.
In the Kingdom's causes
let me rage with you.**

**Jesus Christ is healing,
healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer,
touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too.
Let my care be active,
healing just like you.**

**Jesus Christ is dancing,
dancing in the streets;
where each sign of hatred**

he, with love, defeats.

Listen, Lord Jesus, I should triumph too.

Where good conquers evil

let me dance with you.

Jesus Christ is calling,

calling in the streets;

“Who will join my journey?

I will guide their feet.”

Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few.

Walk one step before me;

I will follow you.

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SENDING OUT

Blessing/Benediction

Jesus continues to be on the move,
bringing freedom and healing wherever he goes.

He calls your name and says,
‘Stretch out your hand!’

His life surges into your very being,
and you get to carry it with you as you go from this place.
So go – go in peace to love and serve.

Exit Song: *Sent by the Lord am* | Jorge Maldonado All Together 412

https://youtu.be/_eJTRtPdSYM?si=TDCa3vr4rq89AQAV

Sent by the Lord am I; my hands are ready now

to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes.

Sent by the Lord am I; my hands are ready now

to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes.

The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain

into a world of love, of justice and of peace.

The task is mine to do, to set it really free.

O help me to obey, help me to do your will

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