



WODEN VALLEY UNITING CHURCH

25 October 2026

Pentecost 22A

WE GATHER AS PEOPLE OF GOD

The Gong calls us to gather, to be present in this time of worship.

Prelude for a time of quiet preparation

Lighting the Community Candle

As light comes from this candle, may the blessing of Jesus Christ come to us and brighten our way. May the word of Christ bring light into the darkness of this world, and also to us as we gather in worship today and await his coming to make all things new. Amen.

Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation we acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambiri people, the Traditional Custodians of this beautiful land of fauna and flora. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Call to Worship

Our hearts are lifted up toward God.

God created all that is !

We celebrate the great love of God, that is there for us all.

God gifted us with God's only son, Jesus the Christ.

Rejoice and be glad today!

God loves us and we love God.

Our hearts and spirits praise God for all God's blessings.

May love and blessing flow within our worship today. Amen.

Let us worship God, whose very nature is Love !

Hymn of Worship Tis 474 here in this place, new light is streaming

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus, we meet with You in this community today. We are sorry for the times when we have tried to go it alone and ignored the people on the way who have needed a friend. For not loving our neighbour as You have loved us.

For ignoring Your will for our lives and theirs.

Lord forgive us and heal us, help us to put things right.

Lord God, please give us what we need this day and always so that we can share Your love with others and show them the way, the only way to your peace and glory.

Word of Assurance

Receive this good news:

God, who tests our hearts,
gives us abundant grace to
turn from sin and back to God
again and again and again.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Glory to God! Amen.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

WE RECEIVE THE WORD FOR OUR TIME

Prayer of Illumination

Holy One, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and proclaimed, we may hear your word with joy.

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

²You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, ²but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. ³For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, ⁴but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. ⁵As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; ⁶nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,

⁷though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. ⁸So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Psalm 90

John Bell, PFAS 90D

Cantors sing lines 1 and 3; people respond with lines 2 and 4.



Wildflowers bloom and fade, soon come and gone

But God from age to age you still live on.

Older than time and space, you are our dwelling place,

Keep us in your embrace, O God our home.

Our lives are like the rose that quickly dies.

Teach us to count our days, God make us wise

Though time flies swiftly past, God let our good work last.

Your strong arms hold us fast, O God our home.

Fill us with faithful love as the morning wakes.

Let us rejoice in you as each day breaks.

May your great work be known, your power on earth be shown,

Do not forget your own, O God our home.

Matthew 22:34-46

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.

³⁶“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” ³⁷He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ ³⁸This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴²“What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, ⁴⁴‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet”’? ⁴⁵If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?” ⁴⁶No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Song of Reflection TiS 751 What does the Lore require of you?

What does the Lord require of you?

What does the Lord require of you?

Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice, and love kindness

and walk humbly with your God.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

Offering

Lighting the care candle

As we light this candle, we ask God to set our hearts on fire with love for our neighbours and the world, so that all may experience the wonder of God's care. Amen

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

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.

Closing Song TiS 571 (Vvs 1, 3 and 4) Forth in your name, O Lord I go

Blessing

Now go in peace,
Do what God wills, follow where Christ calls, pray for the gifts of the Spirit;
And may the blessing of God the creator, redeemer and sustainer rest on and remain with you now and always.

Extinguishing the candles

And as we extinguish our candles, we know that the light of the risen Christ continues to shine through the living of our lives.

Postlude

This week at Woden Valley Uniting Church

Notices; celebrations;

Morning tea and coffee

