

ORDER OF SERVICE
2 May 2021
Easter 5

GATHER			
Call to Worship			Rev Allan Smith
Hymn/Song	O love, how deep, how broad, how high	TIS 194 (Tune: Duke Street TIS 439)	
Prayer of Invocation			Rev Allan Smith
Praise Time (10min)	Hear our praises Salvation belongs to our God	SCE[2] 886/CCLI 2543402 P&W 620/SCE 443/CCLI 24092	
Welcome & Visitors candles, Celebrations, Green Cards			Rev Allan Smith
Prayer: Adoration, Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness			Rev Allan Smith
Passing the Peace			
Children's Story			Selena/Emily
Song	Because we bear your name	TIS 686	
HEAR THE WORD			
Bible Readings	Acts 8: 26-40;	1 John 4: 7-21;	John 15: 1-8
Message	<i>The Grounds of Assurance</i>		Rev Allan Smith
Song (Optional)	The gift of love	CCLI 67327(tune: O waly waly TIS 654)	
RESPOND			
Affirmation of Faith	Nicene Creed		
Offering Dedication			Rev Allan Smith
Notices & Concerns of the Church			Rev Allan Smith
Prayers of the People			Rev Allan Smith
Communion Song	One Bread, One Body	SCE[4] 2017	
Communion	Rev Allan Smith & Elders		
Song (after Communion)	Touching heaven - changing earth	HS/SCE[2] 1046/CCLI 2317779	
BLESS			
Mission/Benediction			Rev Allan Smith
Benediction/Going Out Song	Touching heaven - changing earth	HS/SCE[2] 1046/CCLI 2317779	

Preaching	Rev Allan Smith
Worship Introduction	Rev Allan Smith
Notices of the Church & Prayers of the People	Rev Allan Smith
Bible Reader	Ian McKay
Song Selector	Allan Smith
Piano	Nicky Rippingale
Backup Singers	Ian McKay
Additional Music	Tony Leong
Sound System	Nathan Rippingale
Data Operator	Harry Rippingale
Power Point Producer	Nathan Rippingale
Offering Collectors	NA
Communion Bread	NA

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 22:25-31*)

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

those who seek the LORD shall praise him.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD God;

For dominion belongs to the LORD, embracing all the nations.

All who sleep in the earth bow down;

future generations will serve the LORD.

God's mighty saving acts will be proclaimed

from generation to generation;

our children's children will be told what the LORD has done

Let us worship God.

SONG [O love, how deep, how broad, how high](#)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We come before you Lord needing the love you alone can provide, and knowing that within you and by you and through you all that we need can be found. Pour out upon us today your grace and mercy - make your Spirit move strongly within us - that in our hearts there may be an abundance of your holy love and in our minds the fullness of your sacred word. Abide in us and with us and help us to abide in you as we proclaim your glory and seek your strength - both now, and indeed forevermore. Amen.

SONGS [Hear our praises](#)

[Salvation belongs to our God](#)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Teach us to love one another
with that passion which comes
from your overflowing heart, Vine Grower,
so those around us will recognize
us as sisters and brothers,
bound together by your love
not divided by our fears.

Teach us to serve one another
with that compassion which comes
from our broken heart, Vine of our lives,
for the hungry are our brothers,
the immigrants are our sisters,
the homeless are our families.

Teach us include others
with that embracing welcome which comes
from your inviting heart, Fruit-bearing Spirit,
offering forgiveness to those who hurt us,
peace to all filled with hate,
hope to those burdened by despair.

Teach us to understand all we read and hear,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we confess to you that we have fallen short. We don't always love our brothers and sisters in Christ. We hold grudges, we judge others, we brush off those who call upon us for help. We do not always see the needs around us and focus on our own busy lives.

Forgive us, O God, for not loving others as you have loved us. Forgive us when we fail to keep your commandment to love one another. Restore in us the willingness to reach beyond our comfort zone, to seek out those in need, and to let go of grudges and judging, remembering that all of us have sinned. Guide us back to your ways of love, peace, and reconciliation. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

God loved us and sent his only Son into the world
so that we might live through him.
True love is known, not in our love for God,
but in God's love for us, sacrificing his son
to overcome the burden of our sins.

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
Be at peace.
Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SONG [Because we bear your name](#)

BIBLE READINGS

[Acts 8:26-40](#)

[1 John 4:7-21](#)

[John 15:1-8](#)

SERMON [The grounds of assurance](#)

SONG [The gift of love](#)

OFFERING AND PRAYER

From you comes every gift we need, every blessing we have. May we not hoard them for ourselves, but offer them back to you, that the poor might be fed, the lonely befriended, and the despairing be filled with hope. This we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Loving God, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, raise up faithful teachers, preachers and volunteers for your church. By their willingness to serve, make them examples of your love for all creation. Keep them hungry to learn more about your goodness and eager to teach it to all people. (Acts 8:26-40)

Loving God, supreme ruler of all nations, bring peace and wholeness to your people in all lands. Make leaders bold to rule with mercy and equity. Encourage citizens of all lands to participate in their governments to the fullest extent possible, and help us to appreciate the privilege we have in to express our preferences through voting and petitioning our elected representatives. (Psalm 22:24-30)

Loving God, you inspire us with your constant abundance of gifts. Keep us mindful of our wealth so that we might be encouraged to share from our bounty with others who cannot provide for themselves. Since all we have comes from you, help us to pass it on to all your children. (1 John 4:7-21)

Loving God, through your Son, Jesus, you have provided new life for us, not just for after we die and are resurrected, but each day as we live on this earth. Among us are some who need your special care:

This morning, we pray especially for...

Abide in us. Feed us. Prune us, gently. Make us worthy of your love. Strengthen us to keep your commandments so that we might know true joy. (John 15:1-8)

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG [One bread, one body](#)

SONG [Touching heaven - changing earth](#)

WORD OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go now, and love one another,
because love is from God.
Proclaim God's salvation to every generation.
Remain in Jesus Christ,
and like branches of a vine, draw your life from him.

And may the grace...

HOLY COMMUNION: Easter 5 Year B

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,
for you have sent your Son as the Saviour of the world
and your Spirit to graft us into the vine of life.

You created the universe and everything in it,
and revealed your perfect love
in your commitment to your people
and your care for the poor and afflicted.

Through your prophets you promised a righteous servant
who would suffer humiliation and injustice
and, like a sheep to the slaughter, have his life taken away.
In your Son, Jesus Christ,
we have seen your promises fulfilled,
and through his resurrection,
he has broken the power of death to hold the righteous.

In his perfect love, our fear is cast out,
and now, like branches of a vine,
we live in him and draw our life from him,
that we might bear much fruit to your glory.

And so we praise you...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, we have been reminded of Jesus' sacrificial love
for us as we have shared this meal together, and through the
power of the Holy Spirit we have received his life and his love
in us. May we make our thanks visible by serving and loving
you and one another. Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen.

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION