



We begin with the Psalm for the day

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.  
Bring your silence and your shouting, as introverts and extroverts.  
Worship the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.  
Bring the songs of your heart and your stories, your struggles and your sacrifices.  
Know that the LORD is God. It is God who made us, and we are God's; people, the sheep of God's pasture.  
Enter these gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise. Give thanks and bless God's name.  
Bring your gifts and your personalities, your strengths and weaknesses.  
For the LORD is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.  
God is justice and wisdom, honesty and truth, caring and compassionate, eternal and holy; God is God.

**PA:** Our song is - let us sing to the God of salvation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8pFxFuRN3A>

**Bob:** Grace to you, and peace from the One who is and who was and who is to come.  
May this be a time and place of peace, where you are this day.

Today is both the end and climax of the Christian year, which began in Advent last December.

Today we celebrate the reign of Christ, Christ the King, and the paradox of the one named king who lays down the power of status

Christ the King, born to witness to God's truth, whose might lies in mercy.

When we speak of Christ as king, we speak of one who:  
is the first child of a village woman, born in a stable;

is a story teller among the common people:

Who welcomes children that gather around him, lays his hands on those with Covid -19 and enters into the home of those in lockdown

His only crown - a wreath of thorns.  
His only throne - two crossed planks of wood.

In him, there is no shadow or darkness, but a light there in

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r64gcGMNhDE>

**fade out @1:30**

**BH** As we light this candle today it is as a sign of our faith and love in Jesus Christ. we acknowledge the land of the Kurna people who were here before us, the first inhabitants of this place.

We honor them for their custodianship of the land here on which we gather today

**BH** **Focus:** lock down, restricted movements worship in our homes. Thoughtful of others, fearful for ourselves, frustrated and anxious. Times of unknown – what will next week bring and so we have as our prayer focus today, we who feel the strain, fear, tension, and even for those who find opportunities for new things in these times, and so we pray

**BH:** Dear God,  
we can't heal or resolve all the problems  
this pandemic has brought.  
But what we can do,  
(and it is a healing work)  
is to keep ourselves turned to the Light,  
to seek it against all odds,  
and to take it into ourselves and shine a little.  
That is what we can do, and it matters.  
(Source: Ann Siddall, *Being Present*, September 2020)

**BH** A prayer as I put on my mask:

Imagining God, Creator, God with us  
as I prepare to go into the world,  
help me to see the sacrament in the wearing of this cloth -  
let it be "an outward sign of an inward grace" -  
a tangible and visible way of living love for my neighbours,  
as I love myself.

Christ, since my lips will be covered, uncover my heart,  
that people would see my smile in the crinkles around my eyes.  
Since my voice may be muffled, help me to speak clearly,  
not only with my words, but with my actions.

Holy Spirit, As the elastic touches my ears,  
remind me to listen carefully -and full of care -to all those I meet.  
May this simple piece of cloth be shield and banner,  
and each breath that it holds, be filled with your love.  
In your Name and in that love, I pray.  
May it be so. May it be so.

Song: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0FSZ\\_iSYO8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A0FSZ_iSYO8)

Chris: Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

**When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup> and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, <sup>[a]</sup> you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup> Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ <sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ <sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”**

*PA* “Lord, when did we see you  
shot dead in the street and not cry out?  
When did we see you walking in the desert  
and not leave water for you?  
When did we see you deported  
or carted off to prison and not protest?  
When did we see you separated from your family  
and put in a cage, and not reach out?  
When did we see you struggling in the ICU,  
or the nursing home, or on the locked ward,  
and did not come to you?”

And he will answer..... (deliberate end)

**BH                    SERMON**

Christ be our light <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5g0c4YeABTs>

**CA                    Offering and prayer**

Creator God, receive the gifts we bring today and those made online as we respond to your loving care and mercy.

May they and we bring about your healing and peace across all creation.

May they and we help feed the hungry, heal the sick, and welcome the stranger, bring care and peace to the nations

We pray this in Jesus' name.

Amen

**Chris and Pam???:        PRAYERS FOR OTHERS**

We are encouraged by Jesus and have confidence in his good news of the reign, commonwealth, or ecosystem of God, and we seek for God's will to be done on earth by making love our highest aim – love for God and neighbour, for the outsider and enemy, for ourselves and the good earth,

May we seek new ways of encountering *the other* in today's pluralistic world through the creative and nonviolent wisdom of peacemaking, and to collaborate with other religious and secular groups in alliances for the common good.

We will affirm God's preferential treatment for the poor, the marginalised, the downtrodden and the persecuted in their struggle for justice and freedom.

May we also strive to reconnect with the earth, to understand the harm human beings are doing to it and to embody more responsible, regenerative ways of life in and with it.

May we build inclusive partnerships across between the powerful and vulnerable - including disparities based on wealth, gender, race and ethnic identity, education, religion, sexuality, age, politics and physical ability.

We emphasize spiritual and relational practices to strengthen our inner life with God, to build healthy families and to deepen our relationships with one another.

**A day of prayer for the pandemic.**

Gracious God, trusting in your providence and presence,  
we bring our prayer for an end to this pandemic.

We pray for your strengthening of all those committed to offering costly leadership during this crisis.

We pray for all who are ill.  
We pray for those anxious about getting ill.  
We pray for those full of grief.  
We remember those who have died.  
Aware of our fragility, we pray for your grace to sustain us as we do what we can to end this pandemic.  
As we worship in resurrection faith, we offer our heartfelt prayer in your through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.  
(Source: National Council of Churches Australia, 2 August 2020)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRGnftH\\_g4I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRGnftH_g4I)

### **Bob**

**We can be God's incarnation  
When we live in love and peace;  
God's own kingdom is reflected  
When all wars and conflicts cease;  
With the promise  
Of true justice  
We may see God's reign increase.**

**We can be God's incarnation  
When we care for all around;  
God's own kingdom is reflected  
When in kindness we are bound;  
In our living  
And our giving  
God's own action can be found.**

**We can be God's incarnation  
When we link with Galilee;  
God's own kingdom is reflected  
In our life and ministry,  
When with Jesus  
We find purpose  
Bringing love to victory.**

### **BH Blessing**

Go in peace, and remember,  
how we are all called.

To feed the hungry,

heal the sick, and welcome the stranger.

May you be the face of Christ and  
may you see the face of Christ  
in all you meet this week.