

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
15TH Sunday after Pentecost

*Silent Reflection: "A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal."
— Steve Maraboli*

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

OPENING SONG "For the Beauty of the Earth", # 92

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

SCRIPTURE: James 1:17-27

MESSAGE: "The Other Generosities"

SPECIAL MUSIC



MOMENTS FOR PRAYERS – LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN: "This is My Song", # 437

COMMUNION *(liturgy by Revd Rex A E Hunt, MSc(Hons) Rex A. E. Hunt is an Australian 'grass roots' religious naturalist, social ecologist, and progressive liturgist. Born in Horsham, Victoria (Jardwadjali Country) he now lives on the Central Coast (Darkinjung Country) of New South Wales.*

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Holy One.

Let us give thanks

It is right to give thanks and praise.

All creation blesses the Source of Energy and Life.

For all things bright and beautiful.

For all things dark and mysterious and lovely.

For all things green and growing and strong.
For all things weak and struggling to push life up through rocky earth.
For all human faces, hearts, minds, and hands which surround us.
And for all non-human minds and hearts, paws and claws, fins and wings...

Praise and wonder be.

So we join our praise with all your people across the generations, saying

**Holy, holy, holy, Celebrating God,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.
Hosanna throughout the Earth.**

In our praise and thanksgiving, we also remember the ways of Jesus who walked the dusty roads of Galilee, who taught from seashore and mountainside, who told stories of the sower and the seed, the lilies of the field, and the birds of the air. May we, too, know your presentness in the beauty of creation. We also remember, Creating God, that your care for this earth and your people can be denied; for your goodness was abused and the Human One betrayed. On the night of his arrest, Jesus shared a meal with his disciples.

**Bread taken, blessed, broken in silence
Wine taken, poured out in silence**

Through grain and grape, bread and wine, he spoke of his coming death and new life, asking his disciples to remember him. Be present with us now, Enfolding God, as we share this sacrament. Let your Holy Spirit brood among us...and upon and through this Bread and Wine. Bless us with a desire to praise in song and story and poetry. Bless us with a sharpened awareness of your presence. Bless us with deep compassion. Bless us with the patience and daring of the mystics.

Abide with us always. Amen!

CLOSING SONG: "Where Charity and Love Prevail", # 549

CLOSING SCRIPTURE/BENEDICTION. Let us be about the business of God in the world; be generous and kind, do what is right, work for justice and peace, and be loving to all. Know that God will be with you. Amen..

Departing Meditation: "Conquer the angry one by not getting angry; conquer the wicked by goodness; conquer the stingy by generosity, and the liar by speaking the truth."

— *Siddhārtha Gautama*