



Wesley Church Melbourne

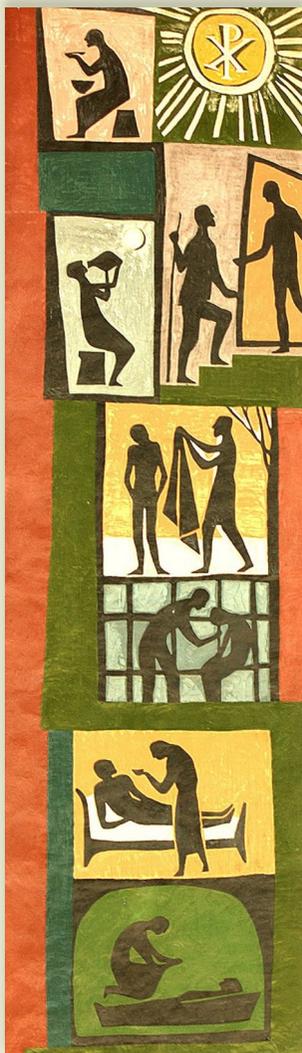
Congregation of the Uniting Church in Australia

Sunday Worship at Home

22nd November 2020

Reign of Christ Sunday

*Title:
Seven Works of
Mercy (Matthew
25: 31-46)*



*Diakonie Neu-
endettelsau is one
of today's major
independent
Christian institu-
tions for social
welfare work in
Germany.
Founded in
1854.*

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the First Peoples of the Kulin Nation,
traditional custodians of the land, under God.

We commit ourselves to work and pray for justice in this land.

Using this resource:

1. At points through this Order of Service you will find links (**in brown text**) to audio and video files which are recordings by the worship leaders.
2. To hear the sound file for the hymns and still be able to read the words on the Order of Service, simply hold the 'Control' key while you click on the hymn link. It will open up a new tab which enables you to play the music AND go back to the previous Tab and see the words.

Worship Leader & Preacher : Rev Alistair Macrae

Musicians : Geoff Urquhart and Catherine McLean (Music recorded at Wesley)

Greeting and Introduction

Call to Worship (Psalm 100)

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands!

**Serve the Lord with gladness,
come into God's presence with singing!**

Know that the Lord is God.

It is God who made us and we belong to God;

we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving,
and God's courts with praise!

Give thanks, bless God's name!

For God is good;

God's steadfast love and faithfulness endure for ever.

Hymn 228 v1,2,4,6 Crown him with many crowns

©*Together in Song. Organist: Geoff Urquhart. Soloist: Catherine McLean*

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own:
awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for me,
and hail him as your chosen king
through all eternity.

Crown him the Son of God
before the worlds began:
and we who tread where he has trod
crown him the Son of Man,
who every grief has known
that wrings the human breast,
and takes and bears them for his own,
that all in him may rest.

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save:
his glories now we sing
who died, and rose on high;
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
majestic and sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail!
for you have died for me;
your praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

Prayers of thanks and confession

Eternal God, maker of the skies above,
Spirit of life, wind over the flowing waters,
in earth, sea and sky, you are here.
Lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth,
we acclaim you as the King who serves in humility.
Rabbi Christ, who taught your disciples the ways of God,
we acclaim you as the King who washed the disciples' feet.
Prophet Christ, who witnessed to God's justice at the cost of his life,
we acclaim you as King, risen and alive forevermore.

O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns,
soul behind all souls, in everything we touch,
in everyone we meet,
your presence is around us and we give you thanks.

But when we have not touched but trampled your creation,
when we have not met but missed you in one another,
when we have not received but rejected you in the poor,
hear now our pleas for mercy,
forgive us and reshape us in the spirit of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Hear now the words of Jesus
for all who are sorry and seek to renew their lives.
In the name of Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

Introduction of theme with children

"The Christmas Bowl"

Readings

Reader: Catherine McLean

Matthew 25:31-46

Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet;
A light to our path.

Jesus said: "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. 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, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

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; 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, 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.'

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? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'

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, you did it to me.' 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; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 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.'

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?'

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.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Lord, may your Word live in us;
and bear much fruit to your glory.

Solo - He shall feed his flock

Organist: Geoff Urquhart. Soloist: Catherine McLean

G F Handel

Sermon: 'Serving the servant King'

Hymn 629 When I needed a neighbour (Sydney Carter, 1915-2004)

©Together in Song. Organist: Geoff Urquhart. Soloist: Catherine McLean

When I needed a neighbour were you there, were you there?
When I needed a neighbour were you there?

*And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?*

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?

Refrain:

I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?

Refrain:

When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there?
When I needed a shelter, were you there?

Refrain:

When I needed a healer were you there, were you there?
When I needed a healer, were you there?

Refrain:

When they put me in prison, were you there, were you there?
When they put me in prison, were you there?

Refrain:

Wherever you travel, I'll be there, I'll be there,
Wherever you travel, I'll be there.

Refrain:

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Christ the King, you have been made head over all things:
may your church everywhere and here
live as your body in our world,
faithful to the teaching and example of Jesus,
creatively engaging with our context,
witnessing to your will for mercy, justice and love.

Silence.

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, you gather all the nations of the world to yourself:
meet the world's suffering with your everlasting mercy.
May the oppressed be fed with your justice.

Silence.

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, it is from your hand that all are fed:
inspire righteousness in all people
that the hungry may be fed and the thirsty given clean water to drink.

Silence.

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, you care for those in prison:
give us hearts for all those who are incarcerated.
Where there is crime and violence in our city, bring your peace.

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the Shepherd King,
your goodness and mercy follow us:
We pray you seek the lost, bind up the injured and strengthen the weak.

We give thanks that Covid 19 has been contained in this country.
We pray for all countries that continue to be ravaged,
especially those least able to respond.
We pray for international cooperation
in finding, producing and distributing vaccines.

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

Christ the King, your faithfulness endures from age to age:
May all your saints, at work and at rest,
know the hope to which you have called us
and the riches of your glorious inheritance.
We commend into your care our loved ones
and all whom we know to be in special need
of a sense of your sustaining presence...

Silence

We give you thanks, O Lord;
and call upon your Name.

**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 for ever. Amen.**

Hymn 192 Christ is the world's redeemer

©*Together in Song*. Organist: Geoff Urquhart. Soloist: Catherine McLean

Christ is the world's redeemer,
the lover of the pure,
the fount of heavenly wisdom,
our trust and hope secure,
the armour of his soldiers,
the lord of earth and sky,
our health while we are living,
our life when we shall die.

Christ has our host surrounded
with clouds of martyrs bright
who wave their palms in triumph
and fire us for the fight.
For Christ the cross ascended
to save a world undone,
and suffering for the sinful
our full redemption won.

Down in the realms of darkness
he lay a captive bound,
but at the hour appointed
he rose a victor crowned,
and now, to heaven ascended,
he sits upon the throne
in glorious dominion,
his Father's and his own.

Benediction

Postlude

Prelude and fugue in C minor

J S Bach

Want to have a 'cuppa and chat' with others after worship today or any Sunday? Email Alistair at:

amacrae@wesleychurch.org.au

and you will receive an invitation to join the conversation on Zoom at 12 noon (you can arrive a bit late and still get in).



Giving

You can contribute by setting up a regular or occasional transfer from your bank account into the Wesley Church Melbourne Offerings Account.

Direct Transfer

BSB 013 423

Account Number 472 967 586

OR PayID: WesleyMelbOffering@gmail.com

If you'd like to set up a regular transfer, please contact us at churchoffice@wesleychurch.org.au for more details.

Wesley Church Melbourne

130 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

churchoffice@wesleychurch.org.au

<https://wesleychurchmelbourne.org.au/>