



St Ives Uniting Church

25 June 2023

Pentecost 4

Call to worship and welcome

The Christ Candle

Hymn: 161 Tell out, my soul!

Prayers of adoration and confession

Responsive reading: Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17

Hear me, Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.

**² Guard my life, for I am faithful to you;
save your servant who trusts in you.**

You are my God; ³ have mercy on me, Lord,
for I call to you all day long.

**⁴ Bring joy to your servant, Lord,
for I put my trust in you.**

⁵ You, Lord, are forgiving and good,
abounding in love to all who call to you.

**⁶ Hear my prayer, Lord;
listen to my cry for mercy.**

⁷ When I am in distress, I call to you,
because you answer me.

**⁸ Among the gods there is none like you, Lord;
no deeds can compare with yours.**

⁹ All the nations you have made
will come and worship before you, Lord;
they will bring glory to your name.

**¹⁰ For you are great and do marvellous deeds;
you alone are God.**

¹⁶ Turn to me and have mercy on me;
show your strength on behalf of your servant;
save me, because I serve you

just as my mother did.

¹⁷ Give me a sign of your goodness,
**that my enemies may see it and be put to shame,
for you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.**

Amen

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace: "Your sins are forgiven."

Thanks be to God

Hymn: 217 Love divine

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Bible readings

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Caroline Turner

⁷ You deceived me, Lord, and I was deceived;
you overpowered me and prevailed.

I am ridiculed all day long;
everyone mocks me.

⁸ Whenever I speak, I cry out
proclaiming violence and destruction.

So the word of the Lord has brought me
insult and reproach all day long.

⁹ But if I say, "I will not mention his word
or speak anymore in his name,"

his word is in my heart like a fire,
a fire shut up in my bones.

I am weary of holding it in;
indeed, I cannot.

¹⁰ I hear many whispering,
"Terror on every side!
Denounce him! Let's denounce him!"

All my friends

are waiting for me to slip, saying,

"Perhaps he will be deceived;
then we will prevail over him
and take our revenge on him."

¹¹ But the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior;
so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail.
They will fail and be thoroughly disgraced;
their dishonor will never be forgotten.

¹² Lord Almighty, you who examine the righteous
and probe the heart and mind,
let me see your vengeance on them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³ Sing to the Lord!
Give praise to the Lord!
He rescues the life of the needy
from the hands of the wicked.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Matthew 10:24-39

Beth Dulin

²⁴ “The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

²⁶ “So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. ²⁸ Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care.

³⁰ And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

³² “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to turn
“a man against his father,

a daughter against her mother,
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

³⁶ a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

³⁷ “Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: Peace, or a sword?

Hymn: 256 From heaven you came (the Servant King)

Offering

Offering response: 768 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s prayer

Hymn: 28 God is our strength and refuge

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

John Hughes