



St Ives Uniting Church

26 July 2026

Pentecost 9

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 143 Immortal, invisible

Prayer of adoration

Responsive reading: Psalm 105:1-7

- ¹ Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.
- ² Sing to him, sing praise to him;
tell of all his wonderful acts.
- ³ Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
- ⁴ Look to the Lord and his strength;
seek his face always.
- ⁵ Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,
- ⁶ you his servants, the descendants of Abraham,
his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.
- ⁷ **He is the Lord our God;**
his judgments are in all the earth.

Prayer of confession

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you
with our whole heart and soul
and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

**Lord, in your mercy,
forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen**

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Hymn: 430 Your words to me

Bible Readings:

1 Kings 3:5-12

Elizabeth White

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

⁶ Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

⁷ "Now, Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out

my duties. ⁸ Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. ⁹ So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. ¹¹ So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, ¹² I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be.

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Stephen White

³¹ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his field. ³² Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches."

³³ He told them still another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls.

⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸ When it was full, the fishermen

pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all these things?” Jesus asked.

“Yes,” they replied.

⁵² He said to them, “Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old.”

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: The wisdom of Solomon

Hymn: 609 May the mind of Christ my saviour

Offering and prayer

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s prayer

Father, hear our prayer

Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Hymn: 547 Be thou my vision

Benediction

Threefold Amen

Postlude

Organist

John Hughes