# St Ives Uniting Church

# 1 November 2026

# Pentecost 23

# Holy Communion

**Call to worship and welcome**

**Hymn**: 59 All people that on earth do dwell

**Prayers of adoration and confession**

**Assurance of forgiveness and the peace**

Hear Christ's word of grace, "Your sins are forgiven"
**Thanks be to God.**
The peace of the Lord be with you.
**And also with you.**

**Notices** Lawrence Peak

**Bible readings**

**Micah 6:3-8** Annette Burne

3 "My people, what have I done to you?
How have I burdened you? Answer me.
4 I brought you up out of Egypt
and redeemed you from the land of slavery.
I sent Moses to lead you,
also Aaron and Miriam.
5 My people, remember
what Balak king of Moab plotted
and what Balaam son of Beor answered.
Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the righteous acts of the Lord."

6 With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow down before the exalted God?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?
Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
8 He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.

For the word of the Lord
**Thanks be to God**

**Matthew 23:1-12** Rob Mayrick

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples: 2 "The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. 3 So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. 4 They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

5 "Everything they do is done for people to see: They make their phylacteries wide and the tassels on their garments long; 6 they love the place of honour at banquets and the most important seats in the synagogues; 7 they love to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to be called 'Rabbi' by others.

8 "But you are not to be called 'Rabbi,' for you have one Teacher, and you are all brothers. 9 And do not call anyone on earth 'father,' for you have one Father, and he is in heaven. 10 Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one Instructor, the Messiah. 11 The greatest among you will be your servant. 12 For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.

For the word of the Lord
**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**: Being special, being humble.

**Hymn**: 342 When I survey the wondrous cross

**Stewardship**

**Offering**

**Prayer over the offerings**

**Prayers of the people** Marion Berry

**Hymn**: 517 Hallelujah, sing to Jesus

**Holy Communion**

*We have an open table; everyone is welcome. We will be sharing communion by intinction: we have a common loaf, but we do also have a gluten free option, which will be on the small table. We divide the common cup into two – one wine (on the piano side), one grape juice (on the organ side), and you are free to choose either.*

*When you come forward, you will be given a piece of bread, please take it, dip it in the common cup of your choosing, and eat it straight away. It you're unable to come forward, we will bring the elements to you.*

**Lord,**
**We come to your table,**
**trusting in your mercy**
**and not in any goodness of our own.**
**We are not worthy**
**even to gather up the crumbs under your table,**
**but it is your nature always to have mercy.**
**So feed us with the body and blood**
**of Jesus Christ, your Son,**
**that we may for ever live in him**
**and he in us. Amen.**

The Lord be with you
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

…And so we praise you with your people throughout the world and across the years, joining with choirs of angels and the whole of creation in the eternal hymn, singing:

**Hymn:** 761
**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**
**God of power and might.**
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**
**Hosanna in the highest.**
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**
**Hosanna in the highest.**

…Awaiting his coming in glory, we pray as our Saviour taught us:
**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 forever. Amen.**

…God has us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all people, and so we pray together:

**We thank you, Lord, that when we were still far off, you met us in your Son. He lived and died and rose again, declared your love and opened the way to everlasting life.**
**May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we who the Spirit lights give light to the world.**
**Keep us in the hope we have in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray.**
**Amen.**

**Hymn**: 231 At the name of Jesus

**Benediction**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude** **Pianist** Lawrence Peak


ALL
SAINTS
DAY
NOVEMBER 1