



# St Ives Uniting Church

10 August 2025

## Pentecost 9

**Call to worship and welcome**

**Hymn:** 215 You servants of God

**Prayer of adoration and confession**

**Assurance of forgiveness**

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

**Thanks be to God**

**Hymn:** 607 Make me a channel of your peace

**Bible readings:**

**Luke 12:35-40**

**Beth Facer**

<sup>35</sup> "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup> like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. <sup>37</sup> It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will have them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. <sup>38</sup> It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or toward daybreak. <sup>39</sup> But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Richard Facer

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup>This is what the ancients were commended for.

<sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

<sup>11</sup>And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she<sup>[a]</sup> considered him faithful who had made the promise. <sup>12</sup>And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. <sup>14</sup>People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

**Sermon:** Faith matters.

**Hymn:** 125 God of Abraham praise

**Offering**

**Offering response:** 768 Praise God from whom all blessings flow

**Prayers of the people and the Lord's prayer**

Shirley Ashton

**Hymn:** 52 Let us sing to the God of salvation

**Benediction**

**Threefold Amen**

**Postlude**

**Organist**

**John Hughes**

