



St Ives Uniting Church

5 October 2025

Pentecost 17

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 111 Praise to the Lord

Prayers of adoration and confession

Assurance of forgiveness

Hear Christ's word of grace, "Your sins are forgiven."
Thanks be to God.

The peace

The peace of the Lord be with you
And also with you.

Notices

Lawrence Peak

Lament: Psalm 137:1-4

**¹ By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept
when we remembered Zion.**

**² There on the poplars
we hung our harps,**

**³ for there our captors asked us for songs,
our tormentors demanded songs of joy;
they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"**

**⁴ How can we sing the songs of the Lord
while in a foreign land?**

Bible readings:

Lamentations 1:1-6

Stephen White

How deserted lies the city,
 once so full of people!
How like a widow is she,
 who once was great among the nations!
She who was queen among the provinces
 has now become a slave.

² Bitterly she weeps at night,
 tears are on her cheeks.
Among all her lovers
 there is no one to comfort her.
All her friends have betrayed her;
 they have become her enemies.

³ After affliction and harsh labour,
 Judah has gone into exile.
She dwells among the nations;
 she finds no resting place.
All who pursue her have overtaken her
 in the midst of her distress.

⁴ The roads to Zion mourn,
 for no one comes to her appointed festivals.
All her gateways are desolate,
 her priests groan,
her young women grieve,
 and she is in bitter anguish.

⁵ Her foes have become her masters;
 her enemies are at ease.
The Lord has brought her grief
 because of her many sins.

Her children have gone into exile,
captive before the foe.

⁶ All the splendour has departed
from Daughter Zion.

Her princes are like deer
that find no pasture;
in weakness they have fled
before the pursuer.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Elizabeth White

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, in keeping with the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my dear son:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I thank God, whom I serve, as my ancestors did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.

⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.

⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline. ⁸ So do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God. ⁹ He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, ¹⁰ but it has now

been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. ¹² That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet this is no cause for shame, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until that day.

¹³ What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon: From lament to hope

Hymn: 123 Be still, my soul

Offering and prayer

Prayers of the people

Jane Ann Tainsh

Hymn: 538 Feed us now, bread of life

Holy Communion

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.**

...With this bread and this cup we do as our Saviour commands: we celebrate the redemption he has won for us.

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

...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.**

...The gifts of God for the people of God.

May we who share these gifts be found in Christ, and Christ in us.

...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: 28 God is our strength and refuge

Benediction

Threefold amen

Postlude

Organist

Jim Abraham