



St Ives Uniting Church

1 February 2026

Epiphany 4

Holy Communion

Call to worship and welcome

Hymn: 143 Immortal, invisible

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

Bible readings:

Micah 6:1-8

Shirley Ashton

Listen to what the Lord says:

"Stand up, plead my case before the mountains;
let the hills hear what you have to say.

²"Hear, you mountains, the Lord's accusation;
listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth.

For the Lord has a case against his people;
he is lodging a charge against Israel.

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

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Emily Jacobsson

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹ Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.”

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Sermon: Power and wisdom

Hymn: 342 When I survey

Offering and prayer

Prayers of the people

Jane Ann Tainsh

Hymn: 505 Jesus invites his saints

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: 411 Filled with the Spirit's power

Benediction

Threefold amen

Postlude

Organist

John Hughes

