St Ives Uniting Church

Order of service

14th November 2021

Welcome and lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to worship

Hymn: 132 Holy, holy, holy

Prayer of adoration

Hannah's prayer (1 Samuel 2:1-10, GNB)

"The Lord has filled my heart with joy; how happy I am because of what he has done! I laugh at my enemies; how joyful I am because God has helped me! ² "No one is holy like the Lord; there is none like him, no protector like our God. ³ Stop your loud boasting; silence your proud words. For the Lord is a God who knows, and he judges all that people do. ⁴ The bows of strong soldiers are broken, but the weak grow strong. ⁵ The people who once were well fed now hire themselves out to get food, but the hungry are hungry no more. The childless wife has borne seven children, but the mother of many is left with none. ⁶ The Lord kills and restores to life; he sends people to the world of the dead and brings them back again. ⁷ He makes some people poor and others rich; he humbles some and makes others great. ⁸ He lifts the poor from the dust and raises the needy from their misery. He makes them companions of princes and puts them in places of honour.

The foundations of the earth belong to the Lord; on them he has built the world.

 ⁹ "He protects the lives of his faithful people, but the wicked disappear in darkness; a man does not triumph by his own strength.
¹⁰ The Lord's enemies will be destroyed;

he will thunder against them from heaven.

The Lord will judge the whole world; he will give power to his king, he will make his chosen king victorious."

Prayer of confession

God our Father, you love us with an everlasting love. But we confess, with sorrow, that we have loved neither you nor our neighbour as we should. You have called us to be your people, but we confess, with shame, that our response has been half-hearted and indecisive. Loving God, enable us to face up to what we really are, that, turning to you in penitence and faith, we may receive forgiveness and healing; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of forgiveness

We did not choose God, God chose us. In that choice, God offers us mercy, grace and love. Through Christ, God chooses to grant us forgiveness. In Christ, we are restored as God's children. Our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 222 Rock of ages

Before the readings - Mark's gospel

Bible readings -

Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25 - Jill This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God** Mark 13:1-8 - Ashley This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Sermon: Is the end nigh?

Video: Be still my soul

Offering and prayer

Notices - Lawrence

Prayer for others - Emily

The Lord's prayer

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.

Hymn: 687 God gives us a future

Benediction

Threefold Amen