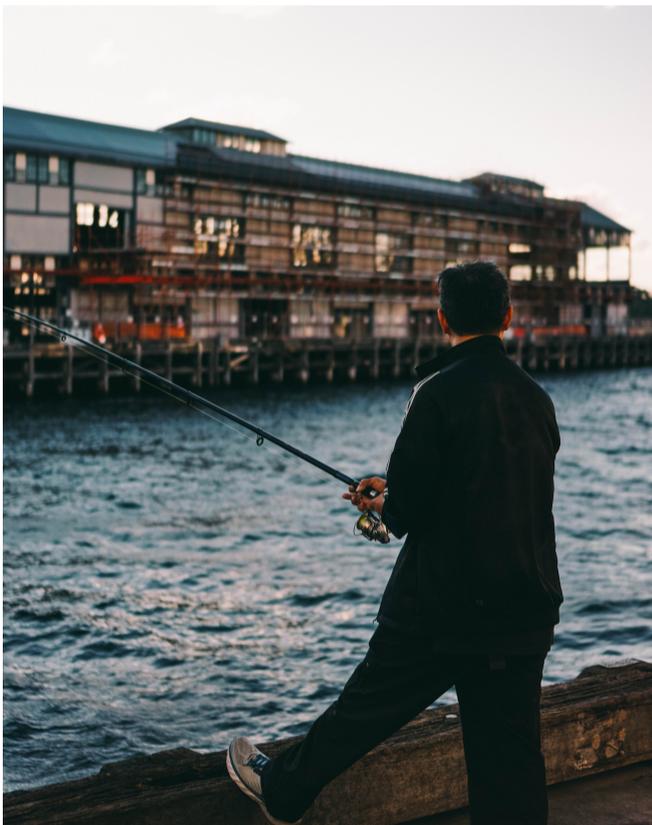


Welcome to Worship

Balmain Uniting Church

January 24th



Epiphany 3

image: Sean Lim, Unsplash (open source)

liturgy: adapted from Words For Worship Year B and South Sydney
Uniting Church liturgy

CCLI #339483

This weeks Lectionary Readings:

Jonah 3:1-5,10 Psalm 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

The Gathering of the people of God

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land which we gather. We give thanks to their Elders and Leaders, who might be past, present and emerging. We commit ourselves to the work of justice and liberation.

Call to Worship

Come, the time is now,
The time God is now,
Break daily routines if they are hindering you,
Lift up your eyes, that you might be seen,
That you might see.
The potential of compassion.
The Call of Christ.
The Good new lived out, proclaimed.

God you call out to us,
Come and follow me,
And so,
We come.
We come that we might listen,
We might know,
We might be seen,
And that we might be known.
Amen.

Song/Hymn Sing out earth and skies

Verse 1

Come, O God of all the earth; come to us, O Righteous One. Come and bring our love to birth; in the glory of your Son.

Chorus

Sing out, earth and skies!
Sing of the God who loves you. Raise your joyful cries,
Dance to the life around you.

Verse 2

Come, O God of wind and flame; fill the earth with righteousness. Teach us all to sing your name; may our lives your love confess.

Verse 3

Come, O God of flashing light; twinkling star and burning sun. God of day and God of night; in your light we all are one.

Verse 4

Come, O God of snow and rain; shower down upon the earth. Come, O God of joy and pain; God of sorrow, God of mirth.

Verse 5

Come, O Justice, come, O Peace; come and shape our hearts anew. Come and make oppression cease; bring us all to life in you.

Words and music: Marty Haugen

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Confession

God of Joy,
We give you thanks;
That you gift us this extraordinary journey of life.
With amazement, we see the places your call takes us.
We are grateful to be part of your people and follow you in the journey.
We are thankful for the fellow travellers and companions who have gifted us wisdom, shared
laughter and tears.
We are thankful that ordinary moments are made special by your presence and the company
of others.
For the gift of our community, here and indeed all over the world and through many times.
For the challenge of Christian discipleship.
For the joy of journeying with you.
We offer you our thanks and our praise.
Amen.

God who calls us,
We come to our time of confession, knowing that there are times that we have fallen short of
your grace and your love. And we ask that your eyes be turned onto us. That you might
search and know us. That you might encourage and guide us into new life and wonder.

Give us grace to release the debts of others, and where pain has been inflicted deep, and it
can't be safe to forgive, give us courage to enter into our own new song, and journey.

You are the God who calls us, and so call and lead us again, we pray.
Amen.

Words of Assurance

Faithful is the God who calls us and will never fail us.
Hear these words anew today.
We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.
Amen.

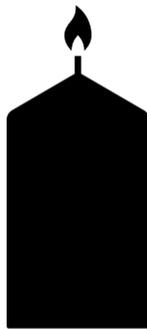
The Liturgy of the Word

All age Conversation

Sermon

Grace, Peace and Mercy are yours from our triune God, Creator, Christ and Spirit, forever.
Amen.

Today I want to lead by saying that this week I have used the commentaries from Karoline Lewis aptly named John; I have used feasting on the word commentaries by Leslie J Hope and Elton Brown, and Lee Barrett, both Robyn Whittaker and Fran Barber on the By the Well Podcast and Joseph Change in an introduction to Queer Theology. I will be putting a reading list together for each week so if you want to find something or read up on something you have that a resource to start with.



Sermon of Stillness

Prayers of intercession.

Holy God,
You are our rock and our salvation.
We turn to you with our prayers for our community, for our world, for the creation, for our hearts
and for our families.

...

Love have mercy,

Christ have mercy.

...

Gently hold our prayers and listen to the longing of your people, loving God,
for our hope is found in you.

Abba God, in heaven, hallowed be your name!
May your reign come,
May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
Give us today the bread we need.
And forgive us our debts,
As we hereby forgive those who are indebted to us.
Don't put us to the test,
But free us from evil.

Hymn: Amazing Grace

Verse 1

Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now am found
Was blind but now I see

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed

Verse 3

Through many dangers toils and snares
I have already come
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home

Verse 4

When we've been there ten thousand
years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we've first begun

CCLI Song # 2762836

The Sending forth of the people of God

Notices

Commissioning and Blessing

Go into the week ahead,
Encouraged in faith and upheld in prayer.
May God help you see the strength and courage,
Patience and resilience,
Hope and trust for the journey ahead
It is already in you.

The blessing of the creator,
The Son,
And the Spirit
Fall upon you today and indeed well up in you everyday.

Let us go out to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ.
Amen.