

# Welcome to Worship

# Balmain Uniting

# Church

## September 12th, 2021

liturgy: Words for Worship, Uniting in Worship II and Rev. James Aaron

CCLI #339483

### **This week's Lectionary Readings:**

Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm 19

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

*Acknowledgment of Country*

This land is God's land and God's Spirit dwells here. We acknowledge the Gadigal clan of the Eora nation, traditional custodians of this land with God. We commit ourselves to working for reconciliation and justice for all people and all creation.

Let us collect in silence.

— *A Silent Collect* —

*Lighting the Christ light.*

Christ is the light to the world.

**And the darkness has not overcome it.**

*Call to Worship*

God of our days,

Your Spirit sings to us in s o many ways,  
As the wind speaks through the trees, and birds call out  
their joy,

Your Spirit reveals to us life in all its fullness.  
Come today and speak in the midst of your people.  
Your Wisdom is our teacher, bringing understanding.  
Your Laws guides us in our daily living and being.  
Come, Spirit, Come!

Wisdom, rest on our hearts and souls as we gather.

### *Prayer of Confession and Thanksgiving*

*And we confess...*

God is is in humility we await your wisdom.  
O gift of Word, of Community and Creation,  
We pray that you seek our hearts, and understand our  
minds,

And hear our words of confession, and our cries for  
help,  
In silence we pray for that which has been done, and  
that which is undone.

We are sorry, God of all.  
In your grace hear our request for forgiveness.

### *Words of Assurance*

The joy in the story that calls us back to each other,  
Is that in God all things are being reconciled,  
All things are being made new.

Receive these words instituted through Christ.

We are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*We pray thanks;*

God of all creation,  
We offer you our prayers of praise.  
You, O God, show us your love and constancy in so  
many ways.  
In the sunrise and sunsets,  
The changing of seasons,  
The warm embrace of friendships,  
The eyes above the masks,  
The hands of those who serve,  
The hearts of those who love.  
You, God, are our companion,  
In the busy of community and the quietness of solitude.  
Your wisdom guides and keeps us to the path of love.  
May our words and thoughts always sing our praises to  
you,  
O God.  
Amen.

*Hymn / Song: God Will Speak to you in the stillness*

*The Liturgy of the Word*

*All Age Conversation*

*Reading*

**Psalm 19**

**New Revised Standard Version**

*God's Glory in Creation and the Law*

*To the leader. A Psalm of David.*

1 The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and the firmament[a] proclaims his handiwork.

2 Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night declares knowledge.

3 There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;

4 yet their voice[b] goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.

In the heavens[c] he has set a tent for the sun,  
5 which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding  
canopy,

and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them;

and nothing is hid from its heat.  
7 The law of the Lord is perfect,  
reviving the soul;  
the decrees of the Lord are sure,  
making wise the simple;  
8 the precepts of the Lord are right,  
rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;  
9 the fear of the Lord is pure,  
enduring forever;  
the ordinances of the Lord are true  
and righteous altogether.  
10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.  
11 Moreover by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

12 But who can detect their errors?

Clear me from hidden faults.

13 Keep back your servant also from the insolent;[d]

do not let them have dominion over me.

Then I shall be blameless,

and innocent of great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of  
my heart

be acceptable to you,

O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

### **James 3:1-12**

New Revised Standard Version

#### **Taming the Tongue**

**3** Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters,[a] for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. **2** For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. **3** If we put bits into the mouths of



horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. **4** Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. **5** So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! **6** And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature,<sup>[b]</sup> and is itself set on fire by hell.<sup>[c]</sup> **7** For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, **8** but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. **9** With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. **10** From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters,<sup>[d]</sup> this ought not to be so. **11** Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? **12** Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters,<sup>[e]</sup> yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

In this we hear the Word of God.  
Thanks be to God.

*Sermon*

*Rev. Danielle Hemsworth - Smith*

*Hymn/ Song: Give me Doubt – The Brilliance*

*Prayers of the People.*

God of the trinity, lover of the world,  
We commit our prayers for others, your world and  
ourselves today.

....

In your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

...

Open our eyes,  
heal broken hearts and spirits,  
teach us how to feed the hungry and provide shelter to  
those in need,  
how to speak words of peace and offer hope.  
in all that we do and all that we say.

Amen.

### *Prayers over the offering*

We send out love and blessing with these gifts as they  
reach out into the places in the world in which they are  
needed. May they be a sign of hope and bring healing to  
the world.

Amen.

### **The Sending forth of the people of God**

### *Commissioning and Blessing*

We are God's children,  
Forgiven, loved and blessed,  
Sent that we might be bearers of hope and joy in the  
world.

May the love of God enfold you,  
The presence of Christ surprise you,  
And the breath of the Spirit give you joy.

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

Amen