

# Balmain Uniting Church

## August 7th



Liturgy adapted: Feasting on the Word, Words for Worship,  
Uniting in Worship II and Rev. James Aaron

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CCLI #339483

Today's Readings:

Luke 12:32–40

### **Acknowledgment of Country**

We begin today by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we gather here in Balmain, the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, and we pay our respects to Elders and leaders, past, present and emerging.

- Let us collect in silence -

— A Silent Collect —  
Lighting the candle

### **Call to Worship**

Holy One,  
You are our God,

Creator and lover of all.  
You speak, and creation listens,  
From the rising to the setting sun.  
Be near to us, speak with us,  
As we come to worship you.

**Hymn/Song: I the Lord of Sea and Sky**

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain. I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone  
I will speak my words to them. Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Loving God,  
There are times when we have not trusted you,  
But doubted your mysterious grace.  
We have enacted rituals,  
Seeking pardon without making a change.

We are willing to be follow you,  
Our hearts are open to your grace,  
Forgive us and our turning from you,  
God of mercy,  
Remember us in your steadfast love.

### **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Hear this affirmation of grace;  
We are welcome with our confession,  
And our commitment to try again.

Our Sin is forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING**

God of Justice, thank you  
**For showing us mercy.**

God of mercy, thank you  
**For teaching us wisdom.**

God of wisdom, thank you.  
**For guiding us to a just path.**

**We praise you, Justice, Mercy, Wisdom,  
Holy One, Holy Three,  
Forever. Amen.**

**Hymn / Song: God Gives us a future**

God gives us a future, daring us to go  
Into dreams and dangers on a path unknown  
We will face tomorrow with the Spirit's power  
We will let God change us for new life starts now.

We must leave behind us sins of yesterday  
For God's new beginning is a better way  
Fear and doubt and habit must not hold us back  
God gives hope and insight and the strength we lack.

Holy Spirit teach us how to read the signs  
How to meet the challenge of our troubled times  
Love us into action stir us into prayer  
Till we choose Gods life and find our future there

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Readings

Luke 12:32-40

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

**32** “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Creator’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. **33** Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. **34** For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**35** “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; **36** be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. **37** Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. **38** If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

**39** “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he<sup>[a]</sup> would not have let his house be broken into. **40** You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

In this we hear the word of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

Grace, peace and mercy are yours from God triune, Justice, Mercy and Wisdom,  
forever . Amen. ...

## **Prayers of the People.**

We gather our prayers for each other, the world and the church...

In your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

...

God we lay the concerns and yearnings of our hearts, spoken and unspoken into  
your hands. Help us live with these, help us live out your word,  
Make us your hands and feet in your world.  
Amen.

**Hymn/Song** : Bread broken wine shared

### ***Refrain***

*Bread broken, wine shared; Jesus, here,*

*Taking our lives, opening our hearts, making us whole,*

*Setting our loving free.*

### ***Verse 1***

*Take all our dreams, all that we are,*

*All that we could ever be.*

*Lord of all life, we want to be Yours,*

*We take bread and eat.*

### ***Refrain***

*Bread broken, wine shared; Jesus, here,*

*Taking our lives, opening our hearts, making us whole,*

*Setting our loving free.*

**Verse 2**

*Open our minds, open our hearts,*

*Let love set us free within.*

*Lord of all life, we want to be Yours,*

*We pour wine and drink.*

**Refrain**

*Bread broken, wine shared; Jesus, here,*

*Taking our lives, opening our hearts, making us whole,*

*Setting our loving free.*

**Verse 3**

*Make us alive, filled with Your hope,*

*Living what's really true.*

*Lord of all life, we want to be Yours,*

*We know this is You.*

**Refrain**

*Bread broken, wine shared; Jesus, here,*

*Taking our lives, opening our hearts, making us whole,*

*Setting our loving free.*

## Communion

The eternal God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift our hearts to God.**

Let us give thanks to God who is Wisdom and Love.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is always right in all times and all places

To give thanks to God, Holy Wisdom and Eternal Love.

We offer you thanks and praise, In wonder and awe,

In delight and astonishment For you are Creator of all things,  
And Lover of each one.

You created extravagant life, By the sound of your voice. Fish,  
birds, and animals on the land, You brought trees from seed,  
Built mountains from hard rock, Crafting humankind from the  
mud, Breathing life into our lungs.

You painted the rainbow and the law, Renewing your  
relationship with us, Through prophets, and nations,

Who share your stories through all time.

When we have failed to honour Your work and your being,  
Your Word of Wisdom Entered creation as Jesus,

To share with us the joy and pain Of our humanity.

**Through Christ,**

**Life rises from despair.**

**In Christ, all things are made new. Because of Christ,**

**Your Spirit remains with us.**

As at the beginning of time,

Your spirit stirred over the deep, And your Spirit now brings  
new creation, New thought and revelation, Seeking out your  
purpose for us.

Therefore,

With the whole creation;

With all your people gathered across time and space, With all  
the works of your hands

With everything visible and invisible, Imagined and  
unimaginable,

We say in thanks and praise;

**Holy, holy, holy God,**

**Wisdom strength and hope, Heaven and earth are full of  
your glory; Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One**

**Who comes in the name of our God, Hosanna in the  
highest.**

Blessed is Jesus, Wisdom embodied,

Who feasted with sinners, disciples, saints and friends, And  
now shares this meal in our midst.

We remember,

On the night before Jesus died,

On the evening of betrayal,

Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it saying, 'This is  
my body which is for you.

Do this in memory of me.'

In the same way, also the cup, after supper saying: 'This cup  
is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, whenever you drink it,  
In memory of me.'

...

Send your Holy Spirit, O God, That these gifts in creation May  
also be for us

The gift of re-creation in Christ. Shape us into one body;

Press us into one wine;

Bake us into one bread

The Bread of Life

And Cup of Liberation

For the feeding of all your children And the nurture of creation.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ

In the power of the Spirit of Love, All glory be to you, O God,  
Source of All Being,

Eternal Wisdom

And Holy Spirit

As it was in the beginning

Is now and ever shall be. Amen.

The body of Christ broken The cup of Christ poured

...

## *Prayer after the supper.*

God we give you thanks for what we have received.

May we go on to share this story and this blessing, through our actions, words and deeds throughout your world. Amen.

## **Announcements and Offering**

### **Announcements and Offering**

### **Prayers over the offering**

God of generosity,  
We offer these gifts as part of the wider gifts of our lives.  
Use our being and our living to bring about your kingdom.  
That we might be bearers of hope today and the days to come.  
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 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.**

Amen