

Sunday Worship Service

24 October 2021 (Pentecost 22)

Sometimes we need commit to sit – resting, reading, reflecting, meditating, thinking of something we should hold. Sometimes we get up and move – work, learn, play, explore, find something we should let go. Whichever comes to us now, we believe that we are called by God in doing so.

This worship resource may be for all members, friends, guests and those who accidentally find us. It is absolutely free for all as if a gift brings joy and hope. I, on behalf of the congregation and all of you, thank to members who pack this gift – Joshua Yeon (Bible Reading), Robyn Harvey (Kids Talk), Phoebe Kim (Prayers of the People) and the music team.

There is a good news! Next Sunday 31 October, the church will be re-open for all to join our face-to-face worship service at 9:30am. Please fill free to come. And from next Sunday, all Sunday worship service will be filmed and accessible from our website following Monday. You will never be missed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FOR THE FIRST PEOPLES

We acknowledge the Wallumettagal People,
the first inhabitants of this place.

**We honour them for their custodianship of the land
on which we gather today.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

We see light, hope, and joy;
We bring heart, soul, mind, and body;

We share blessings and fears;
We bring faith and doubt.

With all that we are and all that we have,
let us worship God.

Attributed to Beth Merrill Neel

SONG: GREAT IS THE LORD

Great is the Lord
And most worthy of praise
In the city of our God the holy place
The joy of the whole earth
Great is the Lord
In whom we have the victory
He aids us against the enemy
We bow down on our knees

*And Lord we want to lift
Your name on high
And Lord we want to thank You
For the works You've done in our lives
And Lord we trust in Your unfailing love
For You alone are God eternal
Throughout earth and heaven above*

Steve McEwan © 1985 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing

KIDS TALK ROBYN HARVEY

Do you know the story of guide dogs in Australia?



In 1950 Dr Arnold Cook arrived in Australia with the country's first Guide Dog. Arnold, a young West Australian had lost his sight at the age of 18 through a rare disease.



Dr Arnold Cook and his Dreana

Arnold became familiar with guide dogs after travelling to England to study at the London School of Economics. He trained at Britain's Guide Dog Association and was paired with a black Labrador named Dreana. Arnold and his guide dog Dreana created enormous interest upon their return to Australia.

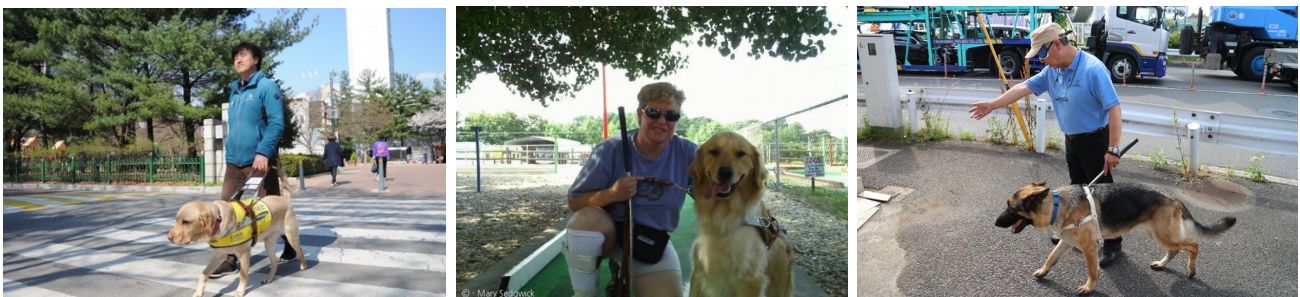
Unsurprisingly many other West Australians with low vision were eager to partner with a guide dog and a year later the first guide Dog Association was formed

in Perth. In 1957 there were Guide Dog Associations in each state of Australia.

Did you know Guide dogs are permitted to travel inside cars, trains, buses and aeroplanes as well as go to restaurants and hospitals. Have you ever seen a guide dog in any of these areas with their handler? You must always remember to ask permission of the handler before you try to pat the dog.



What are the best breeds for a guide dog? I know we have families with dogs in our congregations and we all probably think their dogs would be great as a guide dog. Labradors, Golden Retrievers and German Shepherds have been and remain our most common pure breeds on the programme. Historically Golden Retriever crossed with the Labrador has produced the most successful guide dog of all combining many of the great traits of both breeds.



From left, Labrador, Golden Retriever, German Shepherd

In our Bible reading today we hear about Bartimaeus who was blind and sitting on the side of the road. He had never seen the beauty of a bouquet flowers or the people he loved. He was sitting on the roadside one day when he heard that Jesus was passing by. Bartimaeus had heard about Jesus and how he had healed many who were blind, so he called out to Jesus. “JESUS,

JESUS!” Jesus heard him and asked Bartimaeus, “What do you want me to do for you?” “Teacher I want to see.” “Go, your faith has healed you” said Jesus and the bible tell us that his sight was healed, and he followed Jesus down the road.

Let us pray:

Dear Father,

we thank you for the gift of sight,
but more than that
we thank you that one day
we will see you in heaven.

May we always open our eyes
and see your wonderful creation
and we pray you will guide us in the best way
to protect this world we live in
for our families and friends and communities.

AMEN.

I am really looking forward to seeing most of you next Sunday (31 October) at our church – this will be our first face to face service since 27 June.

BIBLE READING JOSHUA YEON

First Reading: **Job 42:1-6**

Job

42 Then Job replied to the Lord:

- ² “I know that you can do all things;
no purpose of yours can be thwarted.
- ³ You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’
Surely I spoke of things I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me to know.
- ⁴ “You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak;
I will question you,
and you shall answer me.’
- ⁵ My ears had heard of you
but now my eyes have seen you.
- ⁶ Therefore I despise myself
and repent in dust and ashes.”

Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: **Mark 10:46-52**

Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight

⁴⁶ Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging.⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁸ Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁹ Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.”

So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.”⁵⁰ Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

⁵¹ “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him.

The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.”

⁵² “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PASTORAL PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

The prayers are inspired by Mark 10:46-52, Job 42, Hebrews 7:23-28.

Heavenly Father, like Job, when we ask for your presence and intervention, we will end up on knees, astounded at your greatness, and humbled by our own unworthiness.

Loving God, you hear our prayers: You live among us.

Holy Spirit, when we tearfully share our hopes and dreams with you, you promise a harvest of joy. Fill us with expectations of your goodness.

Loving God, you hear our prayers: You live among us.

Lord Jesus Christ, high priest and intercessor for our sins, help us live as your children, trusting that we are also children of the Heavenly Father.

Loving God, you hear our prayers: You live among us.

Lord Jesus, healer of Bartimaeus' blindness, help us see you in this world active in love, and help us see you by our side, so we may walk your way without stumbling.

Loving God, you hear our prayers: You live among us.

Lord Jesus, Great Physician, hear now the names of those we know who need your healing – Marie Luise Klimkowski, Judy Robinson, Elaine Wallbank, and also names we may miss.

Loving God, you hear our prayers: You live among us.

The love of God has won. The new life has begun. Amen.

Attributed to Paul Sauer

SERMON SEUNG JAE YEON

My Grace is married for 20 years with me and raises three children. She is my wife and a parent. In terms of her career, she is a jazz pianist and teaches primary school kids how to play piano as beginner. She loves coffee and having chat with people especially her sister Julie. She always misses her mother very much who lives in her hometown in South Korea and dreams to go visit her mother one day. She helps me remarkably in my ministry at Boronia Park Uniting Church as a member and a friend of many. I believe that she seems to travel well now with her family, friends, her career and church community.

I want to add one more thing. Without this, Grace is not who really she is. She is a person of faith who has such a great passion in God's mission. Her mission or God's calling in her life means to go for the good news of Jesus Christ to people in North Korea one day if God leads her purpose. In 1998, Grace and I had an altar call and responded by standing up during a mission and evangelism worship conference called "Revival 1998". She had already been to the Philippines and Taiwan for mission outreach trip. And at that time, I was planning to join a mission trip for the First Peoples in Wellington and La Perouse, NSW in Australia. I recall that we both were full of passion in following Jesus Christ and believed that going overseas with Christ's mission was what it means to follow and obey God's call in our entire lives. In our response to the altar call, we could have gained new eyes to see this

world where God moves and works for his people in various and marvellous ways that we have never seen. After the godly incident, I joined two overseas mission trips – the first one for Australia in June 1999 and the other for Sudan and Ethiopia in January 2000. Then we decided to give our first year of married life to God in serving a Korean migrant church and Aboriginal mission in 2001. When we arrived in the Sydney Airport, we had only two large check-in luggage and two small carriers. We kept reminding each other, saying, “Grace/Seungjae, let us always make it possible to move if God calls us to go. We are missionaries. Don’t store up anything that stops us going where God’s call leads us.” However, when we became realistic in this country few years later, we found that we have three children who have already form their own community of heart to belong, and a puppy who walks and plays in the area where we live, and so many things that we possess. My worry is that I would not say yes if God calls Grace and me to follow the call that we received in the autumn of 1998.

Bartimaeus was sitting beside the road to Jerusalem via Jericho. The city was the last stop before arriving in Jerusalem. The poor blind beggar was sitting by the roadside hearing only of many people walking on their pilgrimage. Imagine that his father Timaeus or someone walked him to the spot and let him sit for begging all day and after each day took him back where he should have hidden himself. This was what his daily life looked like. He is landless and disabled. He is a victim of the system. He has nothing to lose but a tiny hope that there is one who can bring mercy for him. He did not know when and what to ask. He was desperate for mercy. Again, someone walked him to the roadside and sit. That day was a bit different to him. He heard amongst the crowd of pilgrims that it was Jesus of Nazareth. Nothing stopped him. He shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” His action could make Jesus and the disciples dangerous because Jesus was known to many as the Messiah, which meant his words and deeds were all against Roman rulers and Jewish religious authorities. He was targeted by powers and authorities. Thus, many rebuked him, telling him, ‘Shush! Do you want us to be in trouble?’ But he had nothing to lose. Then shouted all

the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Did his desperate effort move the one amongst the pilgrims? Yes. He called Bartimaeus. Then he replied, “My teacher, let me see this world again.”

In 1999, I had a day surgery for my left eye. I used to have a minor squint. I could not inform this to anyone when I found that I am a squinter. I kept this secret many years. But there was a good opportunity for me and my parents to open that secret up and have the surgery. All went well. The doctor recommended me not to drive car which makes eyes move a lot during the recovery period. It took almost three months to recover. During the period, my left eye did not work 100 per cent. It was so blurry and always teary to see. My family, Grace, friends, nature and all things looked half clear and half blurred. The eyesight came back eventually and then I could see my eyes before a mirror that has no more squint. I was so glad that I am ok to see. I gained a new sight which helps me to see myself and my portrait with confidence. The world looked more beautiful than ever before because I could gain confidence to present myself to the world. Like Bartimaeus, it was a merciful moment in life for me to see the world anew. He used to have nothing to lose but after the godly encounter with Jesus Christ, he would have gained something to give. He did not need any help from his father or others to walk him to the roadside. He did not need anymore to beg for his living. He used to be a victim of the system. But now he became a beneficiary of God’s mercy. He now became Bartimaeus and scared instead of being called ‘a blind man on roadside’ or ‘beggar’. His name is written on the gospel reading and now remembered by many who may want to see this world clearly where every human being and every living thing are sacred. Do we see like Bartimaeus?

Jesus commanded him, saying, “Go, your faith has healed you.” He was able to see Son of David, Jesus of Nazareth in his sight. The famous verse from Job, which is one of the readings today, says, “My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.” (42:5) Yes, Jesus made Bartimaeus hear and see a God of healing and giving hope who loves and calls him. He used to be

sitting on the roadside on pilgrimage toward Jerusalem. Now he had a God's call and, in his response, he began to follow Jesus Christ along the road to His final mission in Jerusalem to fulfil God's love for every human being and every living thing. He became a pilgrim with Christ on the road of discipleship. Maybe Bartimaeus was well known to the early Christian communities and believers in Galilee. He and his name, Bartimaeus was a symbol of Christ's healing, new thing that people might find in their moment of light and sight, and following as Christ's pilgrim. His name was a signpost that all people are created in the image of God to live as part of God's love, justice, and peace. All are created for abundant life. Bartimaeus' union with Christ gave him sight and healing insight beyond seeing. His new perspective was placed not on the roadside anymore but on the road. I wondered what the world looked like from Bartimaeus' new perspective on the road and the pilgrimage. I believed that his goal was set like Jesus. The story of the following of Bartimaeus could encourage us as we are following Christ on the road this moment.

Since the altar call and our initial responses, Grace and I have encountered so many people and been involved in many life events. In Korea, Australia, African countries, European countries, South East Asian countries, we have met many people and heard of their sacred and unique life stories. To me, in my journey within the Uniting Church, I believe that I have been formed and transformed by many people and communities becoming who really I am. All I believe is that people and communities I have encountered with have helped me to gain new eyes to see clearly this world and its all experiences. It might be cultures, languages, lifestyles, values and norms. Some are personal and some communal. As I reflected upon the gifts of all who I have met, their wisdom, understanding and knowledge in both life and faith, I would feel that I have the courage to give back the gifts to you and to many. I am feeling obligated to many including all of you for sharing their life-giving stories and faith in Christ Jesus. This makes me continue my ministry today. This makes me locate in order to find out God's will on the road of discipleship.

Bartimaeus gave up what little he had. The cloak was left. The place where he used to sit and beg became a mark of what it meant to follow Jesus. Dear my brothers and sisters in Christ, let us remember that what we do and what we say are a mark of our faith in Jesus Christ. I may ask you to think about what your first word would be and what your first deed would look like on Sunday 31 October, the first day of re-opening. I hope that those words and deeds do not have to be the 'correct' ones but need to be the 'life-giving' ones. I pray that our life-giving words and deeds bring us back on the road where we find a hope for a better tomorrow during the 'with Covid-19' world. Let us be a christ for each other and re-open our eyes to see the world.

We pray: Jesus, "let us see again." Let us see through your eyes of love, so that we might follow you on the road. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE PHOEBE KIM

Dear Heavenly Father,
We thank you for another Sunday
where we can come to worship together
in spirit, if not in body.
As the world opens up to normal life,
we ask you for your guidance.

We ask for your help.
We ask you for your blessings on the frontline workers
who have been working for us for the past few months.
We remember that Covid-19 is a global issue
and there are lots of people who needs help in the world.

We pray for you to help all your children in the world.
In particular, we pray for The Caribbean:
Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Curaçao,
Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica,

Puerto Rico, Sint Maarten, St Kitts-Nevis, St Lucia,
St Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago.
We pray for their citizens and their world leaders.

We also pray for Glades Hill Presbyterian Church and Kalos Korean church.
We pray that you will lead their congregation
as they do your work in the community.

We also ask for your love and guidance for our congregation.
In particular, please help us to prepare wisely
for the joyful face-to-face worship that will begin next week.
We pray for your blessing on our minister Seungjae and his family.
We pray for all of our members and pray that you'll keep us all safe.

We pray for all these things in your name.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
我們在天上的父，
願人都尊祢的名為聖，
하늘에 계신 우리 아버지，
아버지의 이름을 거룩하게 하시며，

your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
願祢的國降臨，
願祢的旨意行在地上，
如同行在天上。
아버지의 나라가 오게 하시며，
아버지의 뜻이 하늘에서와 같이
땅에서도 이루어지게 하소서.

Give us today our daily bread.

我們日用的飲食 今日賜給我們，
오늘 우리에게 일용할 양식을 주시고，

Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.

免我們的債 如同我們免了人的債
우리가 우리에게 잘못한 사람을
용서하여 준 것같이
우리 죄를 용서하여 주시고，

Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.

不叫我們遇見試探，
救我們脫離兇惡，
우리를 시험에 빠지지 않게 하시고
악에서 구하소서.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.

因為國度，權柄，榮耀，
全是祢的，直到永遠。
나라와 권능과 영광이
영원히 아버지의 것입니다.

Amen.

OFFERING AND DEDICATION

The offering will be used for the congregation's continuing mission and ministry in these changing times. Please make your offering through a Bank Deposit or a personal cheque whichever is convenient to you.

Account Name: Boronia Park Uniting Church
BSB: 634-634 Account: 100023784
Reference: Offering

Mail to: Mrs. Robyn Harvey
96a Champion Rd. Gladesville NSW 2111

Please contact Robyn Harvey, Treasurer on 0418 783 290 or
robyn.49@bigpond.net.au for more information about how to make
Direct Debit.

SONG: HE BINDS THE BROKEN HEARTED

Lord I hunger thirst
For Your righteousness
Father come and fill me once again
Lord I hunger thirst
For Your righteousness
Fill me with Your oil and Your wine

You bind the brokenhearted
You heal the wounded soul
Father of all heaven
I give You full control
Come have Your way in us
O Lord come set our spirits free
Father send revival
And start the work in me
Lord I hunger thirst ...

Fill me with Your Spirit
I want to see Your face
To live in Your presence
Know Your glory and Your grace
It's not my will but Yours I choose
To follow to the end
So mold yes and make me
Let a new day begin
Lord I hunger thirst ...

BENEDICTION

Go now from this service of worship
to the service of God's people near and far
refreshed by the healing insight of Jesus Christ.

Listen for the thirsting voices of neighbours;
search out the hopeless places where they may need fresh perspectives,
and become for them a companion on the road.

And as you go,
may the blessings of the God of life,
the Christ of love,
and the Spirit of grace
be upon you this day and forevermore. Amen.

The Boronia Park Uniting Church communications team who recorded and edited the videos, ensured all the videos ran as they should and designed the invitation and order of service.

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