



## **Sunday Communion Service**

6 February 2022 (Blessing of Backpacks, Epiphany 5)

We, Boronia Park Uniting People are proudly supporting our young people and families with loving fellowship and commitment in teaching the good news of Jesus Christ. As part of our commitment, we bless young learners and their journey in school environment as they are starting a new academic year. Each year we have one Sunday called “Blessing of the Backpack”, practising how we journey together.

Also this Sunday is a communion Sunday. Yes, wherever we are, we can celebrate the table fellowship by eating bread and drinking from a cup. Feel free to prepare your home communion kit and lead the liturgy provided. On this Lord’s Day, I believe that we will form Christ’s body in celebrating communion and blessing each other in the movement of the Holy Spirit.

### **Call to Worship:      Jesus Calls Us**

Jesus calls us  
to praise and prayer,  
to song and silence;  
**Jesus calls us to worship.**

Jesus calls us  
to hearing and healing,

to service and *uniting*;  
**Jesus calls us to love.**

Jesus calls us  
to advocacy and action,  
to protest and provision;  
**Jesus calls us to justice.**

Let us *thank for* the call of Christ.  
**Let us worship together with joy.**

*Attributed to Joanna Harader*

**Song: Table of Plenty (Daniel L. Schutte)**

*Come to the feast of heaven and earth  
Come to the table of plenty  
God will provide for all that we need  
Here at the table of plenty*

O come and sit at my table  
Where saints and sinners are friends  
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely  
To share the cup of my love  
*Come to the feast of heaven and earth ...*

O come and eat without money  
Come to drink without price  
My feast of gladness will feed your spirit  
With faith and fullness of life  
*Come to the feast of heaven and earth ...*

My bread will ever sustain you  
Through days of sorrow and war  
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness  
To flood the depths of your soul  
*Come to the feast of heaven and earth ...*

**Prayer of the Day**

Creator God,  
whose holiness is not limited to time and space,  
spectacular mountains, oceans or the universe;

Dwelling God,  
whose holiness is often discovered in everyday places  
and everyday people around us,  
plant Your holiness in this place, in us now.

Grow us this hour,  
that we might flourish, right where we are,  
with the beauty of Your holiness.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading: Psalm 84 and Luke 2:22-40**

**First reading: Psalm 84 (English Standard Version)**

### **My Soul Longs for the Courts of the Lord**

*To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of the Sons of Korah.*

**84** How lovely is your dwelling place,  
O Lord of hosts!

<sup>2</sup> My soul longs, yes, faints  
for the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and flesh sing for joy  
to the living God.

<sup>3</sup> Even the sparrow finds a home,  
and the swallow a nest for herself,  
where she may lay her young,  
at your altars, O Lord of hosts,  
my King and my God.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who dwell in your house,  
ever singing your praise! *Selah*

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

<sup>6</sup> As they go through the Valley of Baca  
they make it a place of springs;  
the early rain also covers it with pools.

<sup>7</sup> They go from strength to strength;  
each one appears before God in Zion.

<sup>8</sup> O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;  
give ear, O God of Jacob! *Selah*

<sup>9</sup> Behold our shield, O God;  
look on the face of your anointed!

<sup>10</sup> For a day in your courts is better  
than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

<sup>11</sup> For the Lord God is a sun and shield;  
the Lord bestows favor and honor.

No good thing does he withhold  
from those who walk uprightly.

<sup>12</sup> O Lord of hosts,  
blessed is the one who trusts in you!

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel: Luke 2:22-40**

### **Jesus Presented at the Temple**

<sup>22</sup> And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall

and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed<sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin,<sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

### **The Return to Nazareth**

<sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

### **Blessing of the Backpacks Seung Jae Yeon**

We bless:

**Ashley**, hoping you started well a year of learning and expanding knowledges of the world. You are a lovely human being made in God’s image. Don’t forget this.

**Emily**, isn’t it exciting that you go to a big school and bigger world where you may find God’s love? And you make your circle of life bigger than ever before this year.

**Both of you**, help and respect each other. We know going to same school is sometimes challenging. I pray that both of you will be light of this world and for each other.

**Ava** (Katrina’s granddaughter), did you know that we met before at the school when I led Easter Assembly? You greeted to me by waving hands. I loved that.

**Isabella** (Katrina’s granddaughter), and I was your Scripture teacher when you were a bit younger. I can recall that you were a bright and smart girl in my class.

**Savannah** (Katrina’s granddaughter), you came to church with your grandmother and also brought your energy to us. Can you come next time if possible?

**Zoe** (Katrina's granddaughter), I pray that you will be a path for your friends to go find Jesus. And please say thank you to your grandmother who shows her best in caring for you. Also pray for recovery of you after the surgery.

**Michelle**, The psalm today teaches us that God wants us to walk with him and with integrity. Commuting to school isn't an easy task. Believe God goes with you.

**Jayden**, and also God wants us to be content, in other word, to trust in him all the time. And trust your parents who always bring the best for your growth and future.

**Both of you**, I pray that God will hear you when you two pray together in Jesus' name for family and for all God's people.

**Zachary**, did you know that our God is Ear-offering God for all his people, including you and your family. He listens always actively and seriously. On your way to school and back home, please find and hear his voice speaking and guiding you to the Life.

**Sebastian**, I have missed so much my scripture class where I was able to teach you. You are such a fast learner and a person of manner and gentleness. I pray that you continue finding meaningful things at school and home and share them with friends, teachers and your mother who loves you so much. And become a fisherman of men and women.

**Naomi**, new school, new dwelling place and new opportunities! Like a gem, let the world admire you and your giftedness in music and things that you only know. I pray that your family will settle well in new suburb and bring Christ's peace to many people.

**Vivian**, you are such a passionate learner. In year 6 and coming years, you will stand and surprise this world with your understandings and unique skills that you alone have. Keep going and then achieve it. God may help you with all that he has.

**Olivia**, do you still want to be a vet? No matter what, I believe you can be what you want. You may amplify the good in Jesus' life and give honour and glory to his name among all other names!

**Daniel**, this year, 2022, our goal is to grow to be more like Jesus. Your goal is the same. Jesus is the purpose, the goal, the standard and the means of perfection. He is the beginning and the end. Please let all things begin with him and accomplish with gratitude.

**Heather**, in the next coming years, go and live with a call by God to become a follower of Christ. You have done so well. Please persevere in being faithful and trusting in God.

We pray this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

### **Kids Talk Rosemary Brook**

School's back for 2022 and I hope you're loving being back with friends or enjoying the excitement and increased independence of being in Year 7 at high school!

I loved high school because I learned so many new things and some of these have stayed with me all my life – like learning French and Indonesian; taking up what was then the brand-new subject of Asian Studies; studying history; and developing great friendships – a very dear best friend I met on Day 1 of Year 7!

Going to high school gives you more independence but also more responsibility.... I'm sure you're finding this out already.

All around the world, young people are returning to school. Maybe you've heard about some interesting or unusual schools. I love this one in Paris – it's worth looking up and it can't help but make you happy!



Ecole Maternelle Pajol – Paris (Eng. Pajol Preschool)

Everyday, when little ones come to school, even if it's overcast or raining, they still see...? Yes, rainbows! This is in fact an older building in Paris that has been revitalised, largely through these wonderful colours.

**But how many children are out of school in the world? According to UNICEF,** Over 265 million children are currently out of school and 22% of them are of primary school age.

**This is not a new problem** and in fact, it was way back in the 1750s, before many Europeans had ever visited Australia, that some people in England started schools in England for poor children who were 'out of school'. These children had no hope of affording a private tutor to teach them which was the way many better off children were educated.

**The idea of schools for poorer children really took off in England in the 1780's. Robert Raikes was a newspaper owner and editor in Gloucester in England and he could see what was going on around him. He set up schools on a Sunday** helping poor young people (chimney sweeps) learn to read and write. He chose Sunday because that was the one day of the week when poor children didn't have to work... in a factory or a mine. Many children worked at least 12 hours a day on every other other day of the week. Many of them had no parents to care for them: they had either died or were in prison and as you can imagine, many young ones just ran wild in the streets on Sundays, often stealing and fighting.

**Robert Raikes was a man of faith and together with his friend the Reverend Thomas Stock in time they had 100 children aged 6 to 14 attending their Sunday schools.** They taught reading and writing for part of the day and Bible lessons for the other part. The children's behaviour started to improve and people began to notice.

When Robert Raikes was sure that Sunday schools were really helping children, he used his newspaper to promote Sunday Schools and they started to take off in lots of places.

Sunday Schools were also started in Sydney and one of the very first Sunday schools in the colony was not so far away- at Parramatta Anglican Church where Sunday School still runs.

**Now today, we are welcoming Margaret and Lenny as Sunday School teachers for 2022.** We know how important they have been to your learning about Jesus and how to show God's love to others. They have done this over many years and we are just so thankful to them.



**In closing, keeping on learning is just so important – right throughout our lives.**

**As we get older, we try to gain wisdom as well.** Jesus, even as a child showed great wisdom. By wisdom, we mean, being able to make wise choices based on our understanding of what is most relevant and most important in a situation or in facing a problem.

**Are we becoming more wise?** Learning at school and at church and at Sunday School helps us to develop the wisdom that God wants us to have.

**Let us close in prayer.**

*Heavenly Father,  
Thank you that you love us so much.  
Thank you for kind and thoughtful teachers at school,  
in church, at Sunday School, and at youth camps.  
Bless Margaret and Lenny and guide them in all they will teach us this year.  
Help us learn to be wise young people who care deeply for others and your creation.  
In Jesus name we pray, Amen.*

## **Prayers of the People      Joshua Yeon**

Dear heavenly Father,

thank you for everything you have done to protect us so far. we thank you for all the blessings you have poured out for our congregation and keeping us safe from the virus.

Lord, as we face a new year, our youth are now back at school. We pray that you guide them through their school life and have them learn to the best of their abilities. We pray for Sebastian, Olivia, Jayden, Michelle, Emily, Heather, Naomi, Zachary, Ashley, Daniel, Oscar, Bianca, Isabella and myself. Lord, keep our youth safe, keep them from harm and keep a fire in their hearts so they never stray away from you.

Lord, pour out your blessings upon their parents as they go into a new year with their children. Protect the teachers, also the ones in our congregation. We give thanks to the work of our Sunday school teachers and their commitment to our youth.

Keep them all safe and pour your blessings upon them all.

We pray for the churches around us, Villa Maria Holy Name of Mary and St. Peter Chanel. We pray for their congregation and their ministry, as they go into the new year, keep their hearts burning for you and keep them safe also.

In the world cycle of prayer, we pray for Andorra, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino, Spain and Vatican City. We pray that they are well and out of harm.

Lord, we pray for the thousands of medical staff that risk and sacrifice their lives to protect others. Pour your blessing upon them, and we pray that they get good rest, have time to replenish their bodies and have time for themselves.

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



## HOLY COMMUNION

### The Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

You came down into chaos, Lord our God,  
creation cradled in your arms:  
mountaintops where we could meet you,  
valleys where we could serve your people,  
green meadows where we could dance with you in joy.

You shaped us in your image,  
hoping we might be forever in your wondrous grace,  
but we felt it was better to live where sin and death could be found.

You continued to speak to us  
through those men and women named prophets,  
who encouraged us return to your side,  
yet we were afraid to come near to your forgiveness and hope.

So you became flesh and blood for our sake,  
coming as the One who would reveal salvation to us.

With those who gather on mountaintops and by the sea,  
with those who are afraid to draw close  
and those who eagerly run towards you,  
we offer songs of thanksgiving in these moments:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blesses is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

You alone are holy, Everlasting God,  
and blessed is your Child, Jesus, who took off veil's glory  
that we might see you face to face.

He could have remained distant, yet was willing to get down  
in the unworthiness of our everyday lives.

He could have walked among us without a care to the world,  
but was willing to be weighed down  
with the burdens of our fears and doubts.

He could have begged for an easy passing,  
yet took up the cross for us,  
entering into the mists of death where,  
by removing its mask,  
we saw it for the empty threat.

As we remember  
how you called him your Beloved,  
as we rejoice that we are his chosen friends,  
we proclaim that mystery we call faith:

**All: Christ died,  
that the veil of our fears will be removed;  
Christ was raised,  
so we will see the glory of the resurrection;  
Christ will come,  
so we will live as your own forever.**

Pour out your Spirit of life upon us  
as we gather around the Table,  
for it is here we find the gifts  
of which you spoke so long ago.

As we are fed by the Bread of life,  
we will not lose heart,  
but go forth to boldly:  
holding the hand of a scared child,  
bathing the fevered brow of a senior,  
lifting up all who have had their dreams  
dashed to the ground.

As we drink deeply from the Cup of grace,  
we will not be weighed down by fears,  
but go out into the world  
to bring light into the shadowed corners,  
to carry hope to all who have none,  
to set the oppressed free.

And when the veil of time is finally removed,  
when we see your glory revealed as grace,  
we will join our sisters and brothers  
from every time and of every place,  
enthroning you on our resounding praises,  
God in Community, Holy in One,  
forever and ever. **Amen.**

## Bread and the Cup

Christ is the bread of joy, who shares food with friends.  
Christ is the cup of life, who revives the broken-hearted.

Let us receive what we are; let us become what we receive.

**All: The body of Christ.**

## The Communion

*All is prepared so please eat bread and drink from the cup!*

## 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 잘못된 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.

### **Prayer After Communion**

**All: Lord, we bless and praise you  
for feeding us with this bread and the cup.  
Fill us with your Spirit,  
and make us living signs of your love;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Dedication of the Offering**

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: King of My Heart**

Let the King of my heart  
Be the mountain where I run  
The fountain I drink from  
Oh He is my song

Let the King of my heart  
Be the shadow where I hide  
The ransom for my life  
Oh He is my song

*You are good good oh (Four times)*

Let the King of my heart  
Be the wind inside my sails  
The anchor in the waves  
Oh He is my song

Let the King of my heart  
Be the fire inside my veins  
The echo of my days  
Oh He is my song  
*You are good good oh (Four times)*

*You're never gonna let  
Never gonna let me down (Eight times)*

*You are good good oh (Four times)*

When the night is holding on to me  
God is holding on (Two times)

## Blessing

Heavenly Father,  
bless us when we have words and actions  
to respond to your call with faith.

**Through your Spirit  
we stand in the promise of you.**

Bless us when we boldly share your love  
by understandings of knowledge of you  
and the good news Jesus Christ has given to us.

**Through your Spirit  
we are called to live and bring your empowering love.**

Bless us when we dream of the future  
and answer your calling.

Bless us when we are content with your grace in the present moment,  
and trust for our future.

**Through your Spirit we offer ourselves in discipleship.**

**We stand together as your disciples.**

**We seek renewed and renewing faith.**

**Touch us now with your Spirit, Lord.**

**Let us touch many lives now with your Spirit.**

**Amen.**

Attributed to Seung Jae Yeon

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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