

**Sunday Worship Service**  
**Pentecost 10, Sunday 14 August 2022, 9:30AM**  
**Boronia Park Uniting Church**

**Lead: Rev. Seung Jae Yeon**

**Acknowledgement of the First Peoples**

We acknowledge the Walloomattagal people,  
the first inhabitants of this place.

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

**Opening Prayer (inspired by Isaiah 5: 1-7, Psalm 80)**

Most Gracious God  
we greet you once again in this sacred space.

We have come because we need to be reminded  
of your love and your expectations for our living.

We are like the vine you planted, watered and protected.  
We know in our hearts  
that we need, want and desire your presence in our lives.

So we come in prayer  
and listen for your Word to speak to our hearts  
and reveal again your desires for us.

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

[Henrietta Stith Andrews](#)

**Hymn      TIS 590 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

What a friend we have in Jesus  
all our sins and grief to bear,  
what a privilege to carry  
everything to God in prayer  
O what peace we often forfeit,

O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry  
everything to God in prayer

Have we trials and temptations,  
is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Jesus is our only refuge:  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
in his arms he'll take and shield you,  
you will find a solace there.

Joseph Medlicott Scriven

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving for All Saints**

O Lord our God,  
We thank you for the many people throughout the ages  
Who have followed your way of life joyfully:  
For the many saints and martyrs, men and women,  
Who have offered up their very lives,  
so that your life abundant may become visible.  
For your love and faithfulness we will at all times praise you.

O Lord, we thank you for those who chose the way of Jesus Christ.  
In the midst of trial, they held out hope,  
In the midst of hatred, they kindled love;  
In the midst of persecutions, they witnessed to your power;  
In the midst of despair, they clung to your promise.  
For your love and faithfulness we will at all times praise you.

O Lord, we thank you for the truth they passed on to us:  
That it is by giving that we receive;  
It is by becoming weak that we shall be strong;  
It is by loving others that we shall be loved;  
It is by offering ourselves that your kingdom shall unfold;  
It is by dying that we shall inherit life everlasting.  
Lord, give us courage to follow your way of life.  
For your love and faithfulness we will at all times praise you.

Retrieved from (10 August 2022): <http://www.consideryourcall.org>

In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

**Song      TIS 671 Made in God's Likeness**

*Made in God's likeness, moved by the Spirit,  
called to create a new world for the Lord,  
called to create a new world for the Lord.*

Birds in the mountains sing of your praises,  
called in the morning to tell of your love;  
bellbirds and whipbirds sing of creation,  
celebrate always that Christ is the King.

*Made in God's likeness ...*

Summoned at noontide, come now and follow,  
joyfully marching wherever you lead;  
roller birds stuntmen, kingfishers' laughter,  
clowns of creation in the circus of God.

*Made in God's likeness ...*

Called in the night-time to act in your drama,  
to take on the Christ role, your script in our hearts;  
Masked owl and bowerbird teach us to study  
the part we must play and the gifts we can share.

*Made in God's likeness ...*

Called now at all times to wait on the Father,  
follow his lead as he partners our dance;

broilga bird dances, retreats, and, returning,  
bowing at last to his partner, the Lord.  
*Made in God's likeness ...*

Words © P. Lewis  
Music © A. Spence

## **Scripture Reading**

**Jenny Warren**

Hebrews 12:1-3 (Contemporary English Version)

### **A Large Crowd of Witnesses**

**12** Such a large crowd of witnesses is all around us! So we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially the sin that just won't let go. And we must be determined to run the race that is ahead of us. <sup>2</sup> We must keep our eyes on Jesus, who leads us and makes our faith complete. He endured the shame of being nailed to a cross, because he knew later on he would be glad he did. Now he is seated at the right side of God's throne! <sup>3</sup> So keep your mind on Jesus, who put up with many insults from sinners. Then you won't get discouraged and give up.

Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Minister's Sharing of a Reflection on Hebrews' Reading: Jesus, Founder and Perfecter of Faith**

Last Sunday I talked about faith and a faithful commitment of Abraham and Sarah, which is their journey toward the land that God promised. Hebrews 11, the whole chapter is all about faith and the confidence found in faith. So it's called the "Hall of Faith." It is followed by the stories of many men and women in the bible who had faith in God and by faith they pleased God, showing their faith by encouraging others to continue to live by their own practice of faith. By faith, Abraham obeyed and Sarah received power to conceive. By faith, Isaac prayed for future blessings on his twin sons, Jacob and Esau. By faith, Jacob blessed each son of Joseph. By faith, Joseph, made mention of the exodus. By faith, Moses left Egypt. By faith the Israelites crossed the Red Sea. By faith, the wall of Jericho fell down. By faith, Gideon, Samson, David and Samuel, and prophets did all God's work, enduring all struggles and challenges so that they were made strong out of

weakness. Who else we can list more names? Hebrews 11 talks about our ancestors of faith who at once prefigured Jesus Christ, our Saviour and the Son of God. The story of our ancestors of faith may help us recall our own baptism, confirmation, ordination and our own faith ancestors. And the story of faithful people reminds us of the importance of faith that we live today.

Last Sunday, just before the worship service, I was given a business card from Lorraine. This was her response to my request which I asked her to get her contact details. Such a nice and respectful response to me. Anyway, I kept it well and then later saved the detail in my phone and computer. Done. Then I had found a very interesting section on the card. It says, "SURNAMENAMES I'M RESEARCHING: Crossman, King, Parker, Ronaldson, Schieler, Small, Stokes, Taylor." Some are familiar and some not. I wondered what made her to research about those English-European surnames. If you know anyone in your circle of life who has one of those surnames, please let me know. I will pass it onto her as soon as possible. Let us give her opportunity and help to make her work in progress!

Having had my wondering moment on the business card, I ended up thinking of where my surname YEON came from. What I have learned is that the Surname YEON has its origin in *Henan*, China. During the Yuan dynasty of China (the Mongol Empire) our ancestor, SU CHANG YEON was a public servant of the imperial family of *Kublai Khan*, the founder of the Dynasty. Here I assume that my ancestors could have come from Mongolia because they served the royal of Mongol Empire. Anyway, he became join the diplomatic mission that was given such a huge task to escort the first daughter of *Kublai*, called the supreme princess, *Qutlugh Kelmysh*. She was the great-grand daughter of *Genghis Khan*. Because of Yuan overlordship of *Koryo* dynasty, she became the first Mongol queen consort in the history of ancient Korea.

Finally, the diplomatic mission and himself arrived safely with the supreme princess and completed their mission in 1275. Then a new journey began from there. Our ancestor SU CHANG decided to remain in the Korean Peninsula. I don't know whether his settlement in Korea was part of the mission or a huge reward from the princess. He was received a territory in *Goksan*, near the capital territory of *Koryo*, *Gaeseong*. He became a lord. It happened more than 700 years ago that my ancestors immigrated from *Henan*, China to *Goksan* in the Korean Peninsula. I wonder whether he would have tempted to go back home where the rest of his YEON family and friends. I wonder his DNA of leaving home and living in a foreign land might remain in me. So as a result, I live in Australia, journeying through this land as

immigrant and missing sometimes my motherland, South Korea. Have you ever traced your family's history on an ancestry website or heard the ancestry from your parents or grandparents? What about your surname and its origin? I believe that your surname may contain all the richness of your ancestry and the story of family's faith, no matter where you come from. With my whole self and absolute respect, I honour your name that has its origin or founder who had the surname in the beginning of ancestry. Hebrews 12:1-3 describes Jesus Christ, our Saviour, as Founder and Perfecter of our faith. It's amazing, isn't it? We, Christians, have the story of faith that has its first chapter, the first paragraph and the first line, Jesus Christ. By faith, we live and believe in Jesus Christ, Founder and Perfecter of our faith.

In the Bible, both the Old Testament and the New Testament, there are tons of names. Some are well known to its readers. Adam and Eve, Joseph and Moses, David and Goliath, Ruth and Esther, Daniel and Isaiah, Mark, Matthew, Luke and John, Peter, Paul and Timothy, Anna and Phoebe. And Jesus of Nazareth, who became lowered and humbled for us to give life everlasting in God. Which bible character you can recall when it comes to all men and women in the bible? According to the Biographical Bible, the second edition, there are 3,237 Bible characters named in the Scripture. And the people of faith whom you have known could be included in them.

If I choose one of them in the Bible, Stephen, one of early church's leaders would come first in my mind. He preached the gospel message to all believers and people without faith in Christ, then as the result he was killed by stoning. He testified of the truth with confidence and what he said angered the people enough to kill him. (Acts 6-7) This story is embedded in me because the story of his preaching and persecution always reminds me of the call that I have lived with. It makes me always humble and obey God. And it always reminds me of Who Jesus Christ is and his proclamation of good news, what makes all things upside down. Like Heaven on earth, God in human form, sitting and eating with sinners, walking a mile with enemies, turning the other cheek for the enemy to slap. And finally died upon a cross but rose again from the dead. All that he said and did was paradoxical! I believe that I am called to follow Christ not only in the same way that he demonstrated but also in the same conclusion, which may mean I would be suffered because of my faith and commitment in ministry. Apostle Paul said, "The Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me." (Acts 20:23) By faith, Stephen lived out God's will and by faith, apostle Paul bore all pains and agonies. God's help and faith in Christ sustained him while he worked for the good news of Jesus

Christ. From Abraham, the father of faith, to Jesus Christ, all those who believe in God and follow God's promises are with us as witnesses like a cloud. This is what the Bible tells us. This is what we are called to be. By faith, we may become someone's founder of faith and perfecter of faith like Stephen and apostle Paul. I wonder what it means to become a founder and a perfecter of faith in life?

Hebrews 12:2 describes Jesus as the Founder(ἀρχηγὸν, *archegon*) and Perfecter(τελειωτὴν, *teleiote*). The first word also means leader, but the concept is one of someone who not only leads, but also has created the opportunity for us to follow. Sometimes the word is translated "author." It is similar to the word "cause" or "source" in Hebrews 5:9. It says, "And, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him." (New International Version). So he started the journey and prepared it for us. Hebrews 6:20 speaks of him as the "forerunner." "Where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever ..." (NIV) The second word can be translated "finisher", meaning that he started the course and he finished the course. But it can also mean that he not only finished the course himself, but helps others to complete the journey by praying for them. Jesus, Founder and Perfecter of our faith, set it up the way and he can bring us to its goal, as well as having completed the journey himself and for us. Despite the joy which lay before him, holding it in mind, he was prepared to endure all kinds of suffering for all who believe in him. Then by faith we don't grow weary. By faith we can look to Christ when especially time is tough.

Looking to Jesus is an inspiring theme. Again, I would say that we are not escaping to another world by faith. Instead, he encourages us to go together through this world as companions of faith journey and join him in another place and another time. His calling isn't "Christian, follow me," but "Brothers and sisters, don't be afraid," setting us on that way and helping us get there, because he has been along that road, and still journeys through it. Jesus is the Founder and Perfecter of our faith journey. Let us run with endurance the race where we could provide opportunity for others to follow Jesus. And we are called to become helpers for others to complete their journey. This is our ministry, our mission and our commitment here at Boronia Park Uniting Church and wherever we go in this coming week.

Romans 1:1 says, "Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God." (New King James Version) When Paul describes himself as a "servant" (δοῦλος, *doulos*) of Jesus Christ, he confesses, perhaps, saying, "Jesus Christ is the owner of my life and I submit

unconditionally to Christ, to rely on and dedicate myself to Christ alone.” Then he lived out the call as founder and perfecter of faith for early Christians and the faith communities in the Roman Empire. And even today his teaching and mission trips written in the New Testament are a great source for many Christians in order to provide opportunity to find Christ and to help them to complete their own endurance of cross.

In this coming week, I want us to commit ourselves to giving opportunity to those who desperately find meaning in life. Simply you may offer your listening ears and compassionate heart for them. Don't need to say many words. Just listen and pay your whole attention to them in presence or over the phone. Like a servant, sit and attend. And this coming week, let us become encouragers for our children, friends, and colleagues. Help them to complete their faith journey no matter how it looks like by prayers and thoughts. Which thing in this world is greater than the faith in Christ we have? By faith, we can live. By faith we can share the life of Jesus Christ with many and they may live in Jesus, Founder and Perfecter of faith.

Amen.

### **Prayers of the People**

August 15 is Liberation Day in both South and North Korea, marking the date in 1945 when Korea gained independence from Japanese colonial oppression after 36 years.

Sadly and ironically, the year 1945 also marks the year Korea divided into two countries by the foreign powers instead of building a self-determined independent country like the one that the Korean people had lived in for more than 5,000 years. Then Korean War broke out on Sunday 25 June 1950. Since the War and the armistice, the Korean Peninsula and her peoples and the Korean Diaspora have lived out the great pain of division, generation after generation.

Each year, the World Council of Churches and the World Communion of Reformed Churches call member churches to pray for peace and unity in Korea, and peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula. This is usually on the Sunday before 15th August each year.

Rev Seung Jae Yeon reflects:

“In recent years, we Koreans have been concerned about the international situation amongst countries around the Korean Peninsula and the rising of neo-



colonialism in the Pacific. What we learned from the past is that we would act for peace as a mediator, so that we might create harmony and reconciliation in that situation rather than ride on crisis as a player in that power game. We believe that at this time of the year, as we celebrate Liberation Day and remember our past, we are called by each other to bring an end to division locally, and call on the name of God, *Hana-Nim Abu-Ji* (meaning ‘Heavenly Father’ in Korean) who can only bring the wave of reconciliation and reunification in the world as well as in the Peninsula. We commit ourselves to making peace because we Korean people are known as a people who love harmony and unity, respect all humanity and do good for others in the neighbourhood.”

### **Prayer points**

1. Peaceful, considerate, mindful leadership and co-operation across the Korean Peninsula and in the Pacific.
2. A renewed will for humanitarian cooperation, reconciliation and sustainable reunification.
3. Strengthen Korean Christians in the Peninsula and all around the world/Australia as they deal with complex and often difficult situations.
4. Uphold the people in the Korean Peninsula especially those who are affected by the extreme flooding. (8 August-Present)

A prayer by Joy Han, second-generation Korean migrant and young UCA leader

### **Hana-nim\*, Holy One,**

We praise you for your promise of renewal throughout the cosmos.

We thank you for Christ’s reconciling work and recommit ourselves to the ministry of reconciliation.

We lament the historical and ongoing violence and trauma that divide people from one another.

As a people for whom Christ’s gift and will is unity, we lift up before you the Korean community, both in the homeland and the diaspora, who are hurting from more than 70 years of partition.

---

\* Christians who speak Korean all around the world may call Heavenly Father *Hana-nim* in prayers, hymns and the Scripture.

We especially lift up before you  
the people of North Korea,  
a people estranged from the rest of the world,  
as they struggle against the pandemic.

We grieve alongside those who are mourning,  
and we share the anguish of the many –  
North Korean refugees, families separated by the war –  
who are anxious for their loved ones across the border.  
We yearn for your comfort, healing and hope  
for all who are sick and suffering.

Grant an extra measure of your strength and sustenance  
to the people of North Korea  
and to all those who would come to their aid,  
bringing them vaccines, other medical supplies  
and basic food supplies as well.

We cry out against the inaction  
that entrenches inequality;  
We cry out against the vested interests  
that entrench systemic violence.  
We cry, come, Holy Spirit.

Come, Holy Spirit,  
bring your liberation and Gwang-bok<sup>^</sup>  
to the Korean peninsula and to the whole cosmos.

Move us to live out your unity in witness to the world.

In Christ's name we pray.

**Amen.**

Joy Han, (6 June 2022: Sydney)

---

<sup>^</sup> After long suffering under the colonial invasion of Japan for 36 years, as a result of the end of World War II in Asia-Pacific, the people and the land of Korea were liberated on 15 August in 1945. The National Liberation of Korea is called gwang-bok. The word “gwang-bok” means “restoration of light”.

## 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**

Account Name: Boronia Park Uniting Church

BSB: 634-634

Account: 100023784

Reference: Offering

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

*Let us pray:*

Almighty and gracious God,  
we pray for your blessing today.

As we come to give you our praises and offerings,  
we ask that you would bless us in return.

Cause the windows of heaven to open  
and pour out showers of blessings as you promised.

Bless our hearts and souls with all that You are  
so that we may keep continuing our ministry for this world.

O God, we know that you promised to bless us  
with everything you have so that we can bless others, too.

Please fulfill your word in our lives today. Amen.

## **Hymn TIS 129 Amazing Grace**

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.

As grace first taught my heart to fear  
so grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come:  
God's grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

John Newton

## **Benediction**

Go now from this service of worship  
to the service of God's people near and far,  
refreshed by the living water  
that Jesus offers to you.

Listen for the thirsty voices of the least of these;  
search out the dry places and the barren souls,  
and become for them a spring of living water.

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.

## **Sung Blessing**

## **Now unto Him**

Now unto Him, who is able to keep  
Able to keep you from falling  
And present you faultless

Before the presence of His glory  
With exceeding joy  
To the only wise God our Saviour  
Be glory and majesty  
Dominion and power  
Both now and forever  
Amen.

Lyrics are copyrights: © 1972 Olive Wood  
Scripture Song Database #2466 “Now Unto Him”

All music reproduced and streamed with permission. CCLI Copyright and Streaming License: 260394, 33617.

All English scripture readings in this service are from Contemporary English Version (CEV). Copyright © 1995 by American Bible Society For more information about CEV, visit [www.bibles.com](http://www.bibles.com) and [www.cev.bible](http://www.cev.bible).