

**Sunday Worship Service**  
**Pentecost 12, Sunday 28 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.**

**Call to Worship**      (inspired by Psalm 81)

Sing aloud to God our strength!  
Shout for joy to the God of Jacob<sup>1</sup>!  
**Raise a song.**  
**Sound the tambourine.**  
**Play sweet music with the harp.**

Hear, O my people, while I caution you.  
If you would but listen to me!  
**There shall be no strange god among you.**  
**You shall not bow down to a foreign god.**

I am the Lord your God.  
Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.  
**I would feed you with the finest of the wheat,  
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.**

**Opening Prayer**

O God, we gather in Your presence to praise Your Holy Name,  
with songs on our lips and love in our hearts.  
We gather here, because we find joy and love,

---

<sup>1</sup> Isaac's son, Abraham's grandson, Joseph's father

peace and understanding, among Your people.  
We seek to serve You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ,  
our Lord and Saviour.  
Deliver us from slavery to all sins.  
Save us from those who would deceive us.  
Teach us the way that we should go each day.  
Fill us with Your Holy Spirit  
that we might have the comfort of Your presence within us day and night.  
And now we pray together in Jesus' Name: **“Our Father. . .”**

### **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.

**Hymn Love Divine All Loves Excelling (TIS 217(i))**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown:  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave.  
thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be,  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee:  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.

Charles Wesley

## Scripture Reading

Daniel Yeon

### **Oh, That My People Would Listen to Me To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. Of Asaph.**

- 81** Sing aloud to God our strength;  
shout for joy to the God of Jacob!
- <sup>2</sup> Raise a song; sound the tambourine,  
the sweet lyre with the harp.
- <sup>3</sup> Blow the trumpet at the new moon,  
at the full moon, on our feast day.
- <sup>4</sup> For it is a statute for Israel,  
a rule of the God of Jacob.
- <sup>5</sup> He made it a decree in Joseph  
when he went out over the land of Egypt.  
I hear a language I had not known:
- <sup>6</sup> “I relieved your shoulder of the burden;  
your hands were freed from the basket.
- <sup>7</sup> In distress you called, and I delivered you;  
I answered you in the secret place of thunder;  
I tested you at the waters of Meribah. *Selah*
- <sup>8</sup> Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!  
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!
- <sup>9</sup> There shall be no strange god among you;  
you shall not bow down to a foreign god.
- <sup>10</sup> I am the Lord your God,  
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.  
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

- <sup>11</sup> “But my people did not listen to my voice;  
Israel would not submit to me.  
<sup>12</sup> So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts,  
to follow their own counsels.  
<sup>13</sup> Oh, that my people would listen to me,  
that Israel would walk in my ways!  
<sup>14</sup> I would soon subdue their enemies  
and turn my hand against their foes.  
<sup>15</sup> Those who hate the Lord would cringe toward him,  
and their fate would last forever.  
<sup>16</sup> But he would feed you with the finest of the wheat,  
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”

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

**Song      I See the Lord**

*I see the Lord I see the Lord  
Exalted high upon the worship  
Of the people of the earth  
I see the Lord I see the Lord  
My eyes have seen the King  
The Lamb upon the throne  
Who reigns forevermore*

The train of His robe fills the temple  
A cloud of heav'nly worshipers  
Surrounding His throne  
We join with them now crying  
Holy, holy is the Lamb  
The Lamb alone  
*I see the Lord I see the Lord ...*

Don Moen | John Chisum

**Prayer of Intercession**

Holy and Gracious God,  
we give you thanks for family, friends, life, love—

for all the blessings you have bestowed upon us.

In Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our Mothers and Fathers,  
your desire for us leads the way,  
may we have the ears to hear the cries of this world -  
responding with Your hope.

In Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Compassionate One,  
fill us with your love  
that we may see deeply into all the needs around us,  
help us to care with Your heart.

In Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

May Your love, Your grace, Your compassion, Your mercy,  
carry us away, this day  
and lead us with love  
to be Your hands and heart in the world.

Amen.

Retrieved (23 August 2022) from: <http://revgalblogpals.blogspot.ca/>

## **Minister's Sharing of a Reflection on Psalm 81**

The Psalms in the Bible see us all as a people of God who may have prayers and songs everyday. They allow us to offer prayers and sing songs anytime if we could do. The Psalms invite us to express without hesitation our emotion and feeling whenever and wherever we need. They remind us that we can always come to God no matter what circumstances we face right now. Next five Sundays I will share my reflections on five psalms from the lectionary readings – Psalm 71, 81, 139, 14 and 79. I am so excited to do this commitment for us all because it will be my first attempt to preach on the Psalms that reveal the true character of God in *us*.

### **Psalm 81: Listen to God When He Calls**

Do you believe that God has eye upon you? If your answer is ‘yes’, I would say that we gather here this moment to give thanks and praises to God who has eye upon us all the time. The Church, especially a Sunday church is the most place where we collectively worship and give praise to God. We sing hymns and songs in worship. We could sing aloud songs of joy and thankfulness while our music team – Bianca, Grace and Isabella – is leading worship. The minister could play guitar and some other instruments when we sing. We have good old hymns to sing and sometimes new songs that we need to get used to before singing them freely and immersing deeply the meaning of the lyrics. And you may raise hands and move your body, in response to God’s presence in and among us, expressing thankfulness to God who dwells in you to give strength and guidance. As one of worship leaders of this congregation, I am honoured to witness that you express your own faith in Christ and strength given by God by giving thanks and praises in our public worship. I believe that God would love seeing us all respond to Him in the time of worship, where God has eye upon us and heart for us to pray.

Psalm 82 begins by giving praises to God who gives strength all the time. Asaph, the song writer and with him, the choirmaster invited the whole Israel congregated in a special season’s gathering to remember who God is for them. They would have had music band that performed many instruments such as vocals, percussions like tambourines, string instruments like lyre and harp, and trumpet. I guess that those ancient instruments created its unique sound effect and impact to people gathered there, lifting up the mood of celebration. In verse 3, the sound of trumpet at the new moon and at the full moon, let people know that it was the time for their feasts to celebrate. Blowing Shofar, a ram’s horn trumpet, is still used in Jewish religious ceremony. When the Inter-Church Council of Hunters Hill and Gladesville used to have a combined Good Friday walk called *Way of the Cross*, Shofar was used as a signal at each station. Its unique sounds made the event solemn and sacred. The trumpet sound is like our *Call to Worship* that is said in the beginning of Sunday worship service. When trumpet was blown, people was called to have their full attention to God who has eye upon them. And they celebrated who God is for them. Then hearing the sound of trumpet, they were reminded each time of what God had done for their ancestors and themselves. Verses 4 to 6 sing to God who brought them protection, liberation, guidance and strength when their ancestors were placed in wilderness. It says this:

For it is a statute for Israel,

a rule of the God of Jacob.  
He made it a decree in Joseph  
when he went out over the land of Egypt.  
I hear a language I had not known:  
I relieved your shoulder of the burden;  
your hands were freed from the basket.

People who listened to Asaph and the choir singing would have been inspired and encouraged, elevating their hearts of thankfulness of knowing their relationship with God and identity as God's people. They brought courage to each other in singing aloud the song and reminding of what God had done for them. God was faithful for their ancestors. God is for them the source of joy and hope for their future no matter what circumstances they faced. Do you believe that God has eye upon you now? Yes, God is looking upon us now so that we have strength in our faith journey to continue.

At verse 7, there is a change of tone. It says this:

In distress you called, and I delivered you;  
I answered you in the secret place of thunder;  
I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

Here, the waters of Meribah is recorded in the Old Testament, Book of Numbers 20. Nearing the end of the Israelites' 40 years in wilderness, God led them to a desert place where there was no water. The community turned against Moses and his leadership. God told Moses to gather the assembly and speak to the rock. Then Moses struck the rock twice with his staff. Water came from the rock, as God had promised. But God immediately told Moses that he would not bring the children of Israel into the Promised Land. Because he failed to trust God enough to honour Him as holy. God showed Moses the Promised Land, but did not let him enter in. God's eye was upon Moses but he did not know where God's eye looked upon. God tested him whether he listens or not. God wanted to contact eyes with Moses. God wanted him to listen whatever He said. Then God didn't punish them but expect the Israelites to understand God's holiness that can only be kept by God's holy people. This was the lesson for the descendants of the people in wilderness when they sang this psalm. The lesson from their ancestry and history reminded the gathered people of the significance of listening to God. This was key for the gathering where this psalm 81 was sung because the



Israelites affirmed and declared their faith in one God from hearing the word of God. *Shema Yisrael Adonai eloheinu Adonai ehad.*

Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One. (Deuteronomy 6:4)

And Apostle Paul once said in Romans 10:17 the significance of listening that forms one's faith in Christ.

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

In verse 13, the gathered people were called to hear and discern the word of God that would make them holy as God is holy. During celebrating their feast, while those instruments were played, the trumpet was blown, they reminded each other that they shall live on the land God promised if they obey God from hearing the word of God. It says this.

Oh, that my people would listen to me,  
that Israel would walk in my ways!

After this service, we will have a congregational meeting. This meeting is a special one because we will elect new members of the Church Council. For this, Alan, Jenny and Justin have been nominated. We don't know yet where God has his eye upon. But we do know those nominees are faithful to God and to all God's people here at Boronia Park Uniting Church. The current Church Council has prayed for this special meeting, and the election of new council members, discerning what God wants us to be as Council of the congregation. I also believe that you have all discerned and prayed for those nominees since the notice of meeting was announced. This will be a momentous meeting for the life of Boronia Park congregation and for our future journey. For us this moment, I would like to ask this question to us all: Do you believe that God has words to speak to us now? Let us listen to God and obey what God wants us to be.

As I conclude, I want to have words to the nominees and the current Church Council members. Earlier, I mentioned about trumpet or shofar used in the ancient Israel ceremonies. That was not all. There was another use of shofar in the history of Israel. Shofar was used by them as a battle signal, alerting that it was an emergency situation. Blowing shofar meant to call the whole community to get ready for battles. Blowing shofar was an important act for their life or death of the community. For all of you elders and council

members, your role is to blow shofar when the Church needs to seek to find where God has his eye upon and to drop everything and pray together. For this, you listen to God carefully and discern his call and will all the time. When you listen to God in prayers, study about the word and any services you commit, God will satisfy us all. In verses 14-16, it says this.

I would soon subdue their enemies  
and turn my hand against their foes.  
Those who hate the Lord would cringe toward him,  
and their fate would last forever.  
But he would feed you with the finest of the wheat,  
and with honey from the rock I would satisfy you.”

Amen.

Note: Next week, we will study about Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18. Please read once if you can.

**Song      Comfort, Comfort All My People (TIS 647)**

*Comfort, comfort all my people  
with the comfort of my Word.  
Speak it tender to my people:  
all your sins are taken away.*

Though your tears be rivers running,  
though your tear be an ocean full,  
though you cry with the hurt of living:  
comfort, comfort.

Every valley shall be lifted,  
every mountain shall be low,  
every rough place will be smoother:  
comfort, comfort.

*Comfort, comfort all my people ...*

Though your eyes see only darkness,  
though your eyes can see no light  
though your eyes see pain and sorrow:  
comfort, comfort.

Every night will have its morning,  
every pain will have an end,  
every burden will be lightened:  
comfort, comfort.  
*Comfort, comfort all my people ...*

Words and music © Robin Mann

## **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](mailto:robyn.49@bigpond.net.au) for more information about how to make Direct Debit.

*Let us pray:*

Heavenly Father,  
thank you that you are God,  
and there is no other, you are God,  
and there is none like you.

You love us with an eternal love  
and we give you our offerings  
as an expression of our love for you.

We pray our gifts would be used  
to extend your reign in our local community.

May you, the God of all grace,  
who has called us into eternal glory  
by Christ Jesus, make us holy, strong,  
and filled with peace.

To you be glory and honour for ever and ever.  
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

## **Benediction**

Trust in the Lord and do good;  
dwell in the presence of God  
and prepare room for your friends.  
Listen for the Word of the Lord,  
and he will give you guidance and strength.  
Commit yourself to obey God;  
trust in him and live the life given by God  
who created you in his image.

The blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

### **Sung Blessing**

### **Jesus You Are Lord**

Rising from the grave  
Died to set us free  
Full of grace and love  
Shining above all  
Jesus You are Lord  
Full of grace and love  
Shining above all  
Jesus You are Lord

Words © Peter Rowe

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

All English scripture readings in this service are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ESV® Text Edition: 2016. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers.