

Order of Service with Holy Communion

Sunday 3rd May 2020 (Rev John Hopping)

Welcome Greetings Banora Point Uniting Church Family on this Lord's day. Welcome to another unusual church service due to the isolation imposed on us because of the COVID 19 virus. Please be assured that the Church Council, Elders and I are praying for you in this difficult time. Although we are not face to face, we are still one in Christ and as his body we are united by his Spirit.

If you are visiting with us online via our website we especially welcome you and hope this service is a real blessing. My prayer has been that we all experience God's special touch in this service that includes Holy Communion.

NB. The [blue youtube](#) links below are some worship songs for you to open and sing along with. Just click on the link

Also We acknowledge the **first nations people** of our district: the Nganduwai and Minjunbal People for their custodianship of the land on which we regularly gather.

Call to Worship: based on Rev 5:11-15 *¹¹ I looked and heard the voices of many angels around the throne and the voices of the living creatures and of the elders. There were millions of them, ¹² and they were saying in a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was killed, to receive power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory, and praise." ¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and in the sea offer praise. Together, all of them were saying, "Praise, honour, glory, and strength forever and ever to the one who sits on the throne and to the Lamb!"*

We have an awesome God, who sits on the throne and who is here with us this morning. A holy God who is deeply committed to our cause with love, justice and peace.

Please sing with me Holy, Holy, Holy – Lord God Almighty.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwuDSw-9cUQ> traditional

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VSIFuDH74js> more modern

6. PRAYERS OF ADORATION Almighty God, we come in awe of your holiness today, and we invite you to be present with each of us in our homes us by the power of your Holy Spirit. Dear Father, we declare that we can only love you because you first loved us. Thank you that you have made the way of love perfectly known through your son Jesus. Touch our hearts, lead us to overflow with thanksgiving and may our mouths proclaim your good news. In the wonderful name of Jesus, our Lord we pray. Amen.

Friends we are the people of God. Yet the Scriptures remind us that we still sin. We need to confess our failures, knowing that Jesus intercedes for us with the Father, who freely forgives.

Prayer Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have gone our own way, not loving you as we ought, nor loving our neighbour as ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do. We don't deserve anything. Yet Father, in your great mercy you forgive. Help us to love you and our neighbour, and to live for your honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: Hear the good news: The Lord is gracious so that *'if we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness'* **1 John 1:9** The good news therefore is this: In Jesus Christ ... our sins are forgiven. **All:** Thanks be to God.

BIBLE READING: OT Reading Exodus 12 The Passover

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ²'This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb^[a] for his family, one for each household. ... ⁵The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the door-frames of the houses where they eat the lambs. ⁸That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. ... ¹¹This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the LORD's Passover....

¹⁴'This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD – a lasting ordinance....

²⁴'Obey these instructions as a lasting ordinance for you and your descendants. ²⁵When you enter the land that the LORD will give you as he promised, observe this ceremony. ²⁶And when your children ask you, "What does this ceremony mean to you?" ²⁷then tell them, "It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.'" Then the people bowed down and worshipped.

Notices & Offering. Please see this week's Pointer. You will be receiving a letter from Neil Rackman explaining ways in which you can give.

PRAYER: Loving God, we offer these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to be people of love and mission, making Jesus' love visible through our worship & service. In his glorious name we pray Amen.

NT Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-28 The Lord's Supper

²³For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' ²⁵In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' ²⁶For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

²⁷So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

NT Gospel Reading Matthew 26:17-30 NIV

¹⁷On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?'

¹⁸He replied, 'Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, "The Teacher says: my appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house."' ¹⁹So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

²⁰When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve. ²¹And while they were eating, he said, 'Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.' ²²They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, 'Surely you don't mean me, Lord?' ²³Jesus replied, 'The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.' ²⁵Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, 'Surely you don't mean me, Rabbi?' Jesus answered, 'You have said so.'

²⁶While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat; this is my body.'

²⁷Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you. ²⁸This is my blood of the ^[b]covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.'

³⁰When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Please click on the link for my sermon. **Passover to Lord's Supper**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7dz11BBttw>

It's again our privilege to sing of Jesus our servant king.

Song: The Servant King

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQeIGbKqiw8>

You are invited now to prepare for Holy Communion. If you want to participate you will need to find a small amount of bread or a wafer for each person. Also find some dark juice or wine in a cup to drink.

(**NB** If you can't watch the video a copy is at the end of this service.)

Holy Communion (At the Communion Table)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eq3MTTaJAA8>

Holy Communion celebrates the start of new creation, anticipating it's completion when Jesus returns. Between now and then our mission as individual followers of Jesus and as his body (the Church) is to make disciples and thereby bring glory and honour to him.

We celebrate Jesus' victory on the cross. Let's sing

Song When I survey the wonderous cross

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4_fvFfPqjO4

Benediction

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

Leader: *Go in peace to humbly love and serve the Lord.*

Holy Communion

1 Cor 11:23-25 ²³ *For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: the Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.'*

²⁵ *In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.'* ²⁶ *For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: *And also with you.*

Leader: Lift up our hearts.

All: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: *It is right to give our thanks and praise to God.*

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Almighty God, merciful Father, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your loving-kindness to us. We thank you for our creation, preservation, and the blessings of this life; but above all for your great love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ's

death on the cross; and for the blessed hope of his return.

And, we pray, give us truly thankful hearts that we may daily show forth your praises, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by humbly giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

(let us bow our heads in silent prayer)

As our **Lord Jesus taught us to pray** we are confident to say:

Lord's Prayer - *Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen*

(silent prayer)

Leader: *Jesus, Lamb of God.*

All: have mercy on us.

Leader: *Jesus, bearer of our sins,*

All: have mercy on us.

Leader: *Jesus, redeemer of the world,*

All: grant us peace.

Distribution: *Please eat and drink as the one family*

Bread: *The body of Christ, given for you. Remember him as you eat.*

Cup: *The blood of Christ, shed for you. Remember him as you drink.*