**MACEDON RANGES PARTNERSHIP SERVICE**

**9th – 11th October 2020**

You may like to follow our service on our video. You can find it on our Worship Services page on our website at <https://www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au/worship-services> or on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/l143ZR49zyI>

 Our service invites you to read the scriptures, pause, meditate and pray. Allow the stories told to lead you. We suggest reading the passages when suggested below. We are touching on several of the scripture readings in one way or another this week.

If you would like to look at previous videos on our YouTube channel, go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb4hzdO-YgzmrIRVC-oby_w>.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

We acknowledge all the Aboriginal Groups who have cared for and nurtured the land on which we meet: the Wurundjeri; Woi Wurruung; Taungurung and Dja Dja Wurrung.

We acknowledge their leaders: past, present and emerging for it is in them that Australia’s future lies.

You are welcome here, as we reflect in different rooms and districts, States and Countries around the world, our spiritual connectedness through Christ Jesus, is remembered.

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

Welcome Galaxies and Stars that hang around us, unseen in daylight, vibrant at night

Welcome Sun and Moon, and our earthly home

Welcome Seas and Plains, Mountains and Valleys

Welcome All Creatures Great and Small

Welcome people of all lands and all cultures

Welcome those near and far as we come together to Celebrate our God and to join with the Spirit and each other

We pray that you experience the welcoming presence of Christ, wherever you are at whatever time of day it is

Come Holy Spirit Come.

Amen

**CALL TO WORSHIP/PRAYER OF ADORATION: Based on Psalm 106 – LINDA YOUNG**

Praise the Lord.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

*His love endures forever.*

Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord
    or fully declare his praise?

*His love endures forever*

Blessed are those who act justly,
    who always do what is right.

His *love endures forever*

We confess that,

We have sinned, even as our ancestors did;
    we have done wrong and acted wickedly.

Forgive us we pray.

*Your love endures forever*

Amen

**SONG: Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) Marantha! Music**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS– to be done**

Forgive us oh Lord

Forgive us when we have no words to say or say too much

Forgive us when we have no energy or use our energy at the determent of others

Forgive us when all there is left is to sit and cry and wonder and mourn

Forgive us when we forget to call out to you and try to do it alone.

Forgive us when we see others’ pain and turn away.

Forgive us we pray

Thank you for your loving kindness which surpasses our understanding

Thank you for your unfailing love

Thank you for your eternal presence

Thank you that you take our failings and our misadventures and bring forgiveness and healing.

We thank you for your promise, that indeed our sins are forgiven.

In Christ we pray.

Amen

**OUR READINGS FOR TODAY –**

**EXODUS 32:1-14**

**MATTHEW 22:1-14**

**REFLECTION** by Rev Deacon Meg Evans

**TEAM REFLECTION**

**QUESTIONS TO PONDER**

1. Have you, do we, make our own golden calf image of God to worship?
2. The invitation to the banquet is to the invited guests and to all who are gathered in (in other words everyone) How can all be prepared and wear ‘the wedding garment’?
3. How does ‘living a gospel life’ bear witness to a life of discipleship when many of these qualities exist in and out of the Christian community?

**SONG: 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord O My Soul)** – Matt Redman

**PRAYER FOR THE PEOPLE: - Annette and Meg**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER – NEW ZEALAND ANGLICAN CHURCH – LYNN WARD**

Say the Lord’s Prayer. We will be using this version from Aotearoa New Zealand:

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.
Amen.

*- The New Zealand Book of Prayer | He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*

**SENDING FORTH**

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you. – Philippians 4:8-9

**Amen**

**OFFERING**

You may like to consider giving an offering to your congregation via direct deposit. Details for each are:

* Gisborne: Gisborne branch, Bendigo bank, B.S.B. 633 108, A/C: 1512 83736
* Romsey: Bendigo Bank, B.S.B. 633 000, A/C: 161501200, Account name: UCA Romsey Uniting Church
* Lancefield: Account Name: Lancefield Uniting Church, BSB: 633 108, A/C No: 112926639
* Mia Mia – Kyneton: Commonwealth bank, B.S.B. 063 517, Account no.: 1002 1775

 *I will publish other congregation’s details as they come to hand. Contact you congregation’s treasurer for details if they are not here.*

<https://www.convergencemp.com/liturgical/prayers-of-the-people/leaning-in.html>