

PLEASE LEAVE WHEN YOU ARE READY AND WHEN THERE IS SUFFICIENT SPACING BETWEEN YOU.

AS YOU MOVE OUT OF THE CHURCH BY THE WAY YOU ENTERED YOU WILL RECEIVE A GIFT OF A YOUNG BOTTLE BRUSH PLANT. AS YOU CARE FOR THIS, IT WILL EVENTUALLY BARE RED BLOSSOM TO REMIND YOU OF YOUR RETURN TO CHURCH. ALSO OF THE CONTINUING GROWTH IN THE LIFE-GIVING PRESENCE AND SPIRIT THAT IS THE HEART OF ALL CREATION.



We meet on land for which the Mouheneener people are the traditional custodians. We remember the forebears with respect, and commit ourselves to working for reconciliation and justice.



The Uniting Church in Australia
Scots-Memorial Congregation



Celebration Service



"We've Come Home"

Sunday 12th July 2020 – Pentecost 6

Minister: Rev Keith Allcock
Artist: John Coleman
Organist: Christian McCallum
Reader: Anne Grube
Prayers: Paul Wicks

*(As you take your seat in the pew be sure you have placed
your Blessing Jar on the table in the sanctuary
or ask a steward to take it up for you.)*

Gathering:

We come to celebrate our return as a faith community to this building but we do not turn inward. We turn to Life, to that vast creativity, seeking to let go of that which blocks our healing and open ourselves to the wonder of Life. In all our moments be mindful of the present-ness not only of COVID 19 and other ever-present viruses, but also of all that is sacred within and around us. We come and to see the new possibilities of the now.

Hymn "As our congregation..."

(Tune: 590 TiS, 'Blaenwern' 87 87D) 43 WNC

**As our congregation gathers
lift our lives, with love amaze;
offer some melodious treasure,
fill our hearts with wondering praise.**

**Crashing brass and singing cymbals,
soaring organ, sound and light;
fill this space with awe and thunder,
lift us through the veil of night.**

**Then a sudden, silent stillness
holds an echo in the air:
on a knife edge, balanced, waiting,
in the silence, you are there.**

**Joy beyond imagination,
love incarnate, hope to hold,
faith we cannot sound or fathom,
gripped in wonder, we behold.**

APratt

We Pray (Keith)

John Coleman sings a specially composed song of Celebration
"We've Come Home"

***We've come home
Singing praises to our God
Singing praises to our God
We've come home
We've come home
We've come home
On an ocean we've been tossed
Troubled waters we have crossed
We've come home
We've come home***

**Peace be within these walls
Peace be within each heart
Peace be within this house
This holy place of gathering**

CHORUS

**With one voice we hold the world
With one voice we hold its pain
With one voice we pray for healing
In this holy place of gathering**

***We've come home
Singing praises to our God
Singing praises to our God
We've come home
We've come home
We've come home
On an ocean we've been tossed
Troubled waters we have crossed
We've come home
We've come home
We've come home
We've come home***

© John Coleman 2020
(a song for Scots UCA July 12 2020)

Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as 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 for ever. Amen.**

Hymn: "This love, this life, this enterprise"

Tune: O Waly, Waly. 88 8 654TiS)

**This love, this life, this enterprise
is that by which we will arise
affirmed, up-raised, to live again
when we have suffered death or pain.**

**Our practical adventure here
involves both urgency and care;
compelled by shared humanity
to offer love, set people free.**

**And if the task enlarges sight
to wider visions, greater height
than those which we can reach on earth,
then know that God has come to birth.**

Andrew Pratt

Blessing:

Go now and do not be anxious
Go in the midst of the immediate presence of God with the
strength you have.
Go in the way of Jesus – simply, lightly, gently.
Go, in the power of the Spirit, searching for and giving love and
hope, **AMEN.**

Our Sharing Time:

'How is it for you that we are at last back together'
(*Blessing Jar is a symbol for you*)

A Message

Thirsty Ground Video

**John Coleman sings a specially composed song of
Celebration: "We've Come Home"**

Sharing our resources (Offering—Please place your offering at
the aisle end of the pew, for the steward to pick up)

Readings:

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (NIV)

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear."

"Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no

root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

Romans 8: 1-11 (NIV)

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Reflection

(Let us join in together as a way of going forward)

A Covenant For Now and Tomorrow

God our bright and amazing creator, as you call us together to be your people, we will live by the values and in the hope of your realm.

We will value each other and seek to be an inclusive community in which every member is given full justice, dignity, and love. As your Spirit is given to us we will seek to discern and act upon your promptings.

We will seek to be sensitive to the lure of your Spirit in all aspects of our personal life, and open to discovering your purposes and directions for our corporate life. Thus we commit ourselves to deepen our knowledge of you and our love of you.

We will do this in solidarity with one another, through our worship, through our spiritual journey, through faithful action in the local community and in honest fellowship with each other.

We will respect the different expressions and understandings of faith among us.

We commit ourselves to this congregation in Scots Memorial for we believe it is with and through each other that you have called us in love to serve.

We commit ourselves to act upon our discoveries in the faith, for we believe we are partners with you, on your business in the world, Amen. *(Adapted from: Falla. Be our freedom, Lord).*

John Coleman sings: "House of Hearts"

Prayers of the People: *(Paul W)*