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**YrA Season of Creation
@ Ashburton-Burwood UCA**



13th September 2026

We Gather

Welcome [Michael Donnelly](#)
Opening Hymn [Lynette Hurley](#)
TIS 693 "Come As You Are"

Acknowledgement of Country

[Michael Donnelly](#)

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today.

We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present, and acknowledge their continuing connection to Country, waterways, land and community.

As we begin this Season of Creation, may we learn again to listen to the wisdom of those who have cared for this land and its waters for generations. We acknowledge that we are part of creation, not separate from it.

Call to worship [Michael Donnelly](#)

(Based on Psalm 114)

Come, let us worship the God who makes a way through the waters.

We come trusting in God's presence.

The sea looked and fled; the Jordan turned back.

The earth trembled at the presence of the Lord.

The mountains skipped like rams, the hills like lambs.

We worship the Creator of heaven and earth.

Come, let us worship God.

We come with wonder, gratitude and faith.

Peace [Rev. Yoo Mi Park](#)

The peace of the risen Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Prayer of Adoration and Confession

God of creation,
we worship you with wonder and gratitude.

You are the God who brings life from the waters, who makes a way where there seems to be no way, and whose presence causes the earth to tremble.

You led your people through the sea and brought them from slavery into freedom. You are faithful when we are afraid, and you are near when the way ahead is unclear.

Yet, O God, we confess
that we do not always trust you.

When we face our own boundaries,
we can become frightened and lose hope.
When the way forward is difficult,
we sometimes remain where we are,
afraid to take the next step.

We confess, too, that we often fail to notice
the wonder of your creation.
We take water for granted.
We forget that the earth is your gift
and that all life depends upon your goodness.

Forgive us, gracious God.
Open our eyes to see your presence,
open our hearts to trust you,
and open our lives to follow where you lead.
We pray in the name of Christ.
Amen.

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news.

The God who made a way through the sea
is still faithful to us.

God does not abandon us when we are afraid,
nor leave us alone when the way seems
impossible.

In Jesus Christ,
we are met with grace, forgiveness and new
life.

God's mercy is greater than our failures.

God's grace is stronger than our fear.

And God's love makes a way for us.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Hymn of Praise: Lynette Hurley

**TIS 534 "Love is his way, love is his
way" (Vs. 1, 5, 6 & 7)**

Selected by Anne Forrest

We Listen

Christine Chappell, Shimunza Kaunga

Your word is a lamp to our feet.

A light to our path.

Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they

turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, 'Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.'

The Pursuers Drowned

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.' ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Psalm 114 (read responsively)

When Israel went out from Egypt, the
house of Jacob from a people of strange
language,

**Judah became God's sanctuary, Israel his
dominion.**

The sea looked and fled; the Jordan turned
back.

**The mountains skipped like rams, the hills
like lambs.**

Why was it, sea, that you fled?

Why, Jordan, did you turn back?

Tremble, earth, at the presence of the Lord.

At the presence of the God of Jacob.

Who turns the rock into a pool of water,
the flint into a spring of water.

Praise be to God.

Lord, may your word live in us.

And bear much fruit for your glory.

Sermon: "When Water Moves"**We Respond**

Hymn of Response: [Lynette Hurley](#)
"God it was who said to Abraham"
 (Tune [Maria's Tune 87.87 D, TIS 420](#))

GOD IT WAS

1. God it was who said to Abram,
 'Pack your bags and travel on.'
 God it was who said to Sarah,
 'Smile, and soon you'll bear a son.'
 Travelling folk and aged mothers,
 wandering when they thought they'd done -
 this is how we find God's people,
 leaving all because of One.

2. God it was who said to Moses,
 'Save my people, part the sea!'
 God it was who said to Miriam,
 'Sing and dance to show you're free.'
 Shepherd-saints and tambourinists,
 doing what God knew they could -
 this is how we find God's people,
 liberating what they should.

3. God it was who said to Joseph,
 'Down your tools and take your wife.'
 God it was who said to Mary,
 'In your womb I'll start my life.'
 Carpenter and country maiden,
 leaving town and trade and skills -
 this is how we find God's people,
 moved by what their Maker wills.

4. Christ it was who said, 'Zacchaeus,
 I would like to dine with you.'
 Christ it was who said to Martha,
 'Listening's what you need to do.'
 Civil servants and housekeepers,
 changing places at a cost -
 this is how Christ summons people
 calling both the loved and lost.

*from "100 Contemporary Texts To Common
 Tunes"*

Notices [Michael Donnelly](#)

Prayers of the People [Michael Donnelly](#)**The Lord's Prayer****We are sent****Offering Invitation**

With gratitude for all that God has given us, let
 us offer our gifts and our lives in response.

Hymn of Sending: [Lynette Hurley](#)
TIS 468 "We are your people"
Selected by [Anne Forrest](#)

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God,
 all that we have comes from you.
 Receive our gifts and our lives.
 Give us courage when we face boundaries,
 faith to follow where you lead,
 and hearts that care for your creation.
 Use all that we offer
 for your glory and the flourishing of life.
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Commissioning and Blessing

Go now in the presence of God.
 When the way seems blocked,
 may God make a way.
 When we look upon creation,
 may we see it with wonder.
 And wherever God's living water flows,
 may life and hope flourish.

And the blessing of God, Creator, Christ and
 Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you
 always. Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Sung Blessing: [Lynette Hurley](#)
"Turn your eyes upon Jesus"
(Refrain only x 2)

Turn your eyes upon Jesus

Look full in His wonderful face
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace

Postlude

Minister: Rev Yoo Mi Park
Worship leader: Michael Donnelly
Prayers: Michael Donnelly
Narthex/Count Leader: Adrian Miller
Door, Greeting, Offering: Christine Chappell
Organist: Colin Prohasky
Pianist: Anne Forrest
Song Leader: Lynette Hurley
Readers: Christine Chappell, Shimunza Kaunga
Computer/Sound: Anne Campbell
Power Point: Michael Donnelly
Youtube Link: No one available to set up link
Flowers: Maree Silver & Lindley Webb
Morning Tea/Clean Up: Jill Capstick, Dawn
Sullivan, Replacement for Jenny Stone
Online Communications: Christine Chappell/
Dawn Sullivan