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



4th October 2026

We Gather

Welcome [Glenys Borland](#)

Opening Hymn [Megan McLaughlin](#)
TIS 746 "The Heavens Shall Declare"
Selected by [Anne Forrest](#)

Acknowledgement of Country
[Glenys Borland](#)

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 [Glenys Borland](#)

Come to the river of life.

We come to receive God's living water.

Come, all who are weary.
We come to be renewed.

Come, all creatures of God's creation.
We come to celebrate the gift of life.

For wherever the river flows—
Life flourishes.

Let us worship the God of all creation.
Amen.

Peace [Rev. Yoo Mi Park](#)

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

Prayers of Adoration and Confession

God of all creation,
you are the source of every living thing.
You send rain upon the earth,
you fill the rivers and seas,
you make the trees grow
and you give breath to every creature.

Today we give thanks for the world you have entrusted to us.
For the creatures who live beside us,
for the animals who share our homes,
for the birds of the air,
the fish of the sea,
the trees and plants around us,
and for the land and waters that sustain us.

Open our eyes to the wonder of your creation.
Open our hearts to receive your grace.
And teach us to become channels of your life and love.

God of life,
you have entrusted us with a beautiful and fragile world.
We confess that we have sometimes taken more than we need, used without thinking, and forgotten that we are creatures among creatures.
We have not always noticed the lives that depend upon the choices we make.
Forgive us.

Turn our hearts again towards your creation.
Teach us to receive with gratitude
and to live with care.

Silence

Words of Assurance

In Christ, God's grace is not withdrawn from us. Like the living water, it continues to flow.

**Let us receive God's forgiveness and peace.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

We Listen

Fran Willmott, Patsy Donnelly

Your word is a lamp to our feet.

A light to our path.

Ezekiel 47:1-12

The River From the Temple

¹ The man brought me back to the entrance to the temple, and I saw water coming out from under the threshold of the temple toward the east (for the temple faced east). The water was coming down from under the south side of the temple, south of the altar. ² He then brought me out through the north gate and led me around the outside to the outer gate facing east, and the water was trickling from the south side.

³ As the man went eastward with a measuring line in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits and then led me through water that was ankle-deep. ⁴ He measured off another thousand cubits and led me through water that was knee-deep. He measured off another thousand and led me through water that was up to the waist. ⁵ He measured off another thousand, but now it was a river that I could not cross, because the water had risen and was deep enough to swim in—a river that no one could cross. ⁶ He asked me, "Son of man, do you see this?"

Then he led me back to the bank of the river.

⁷ When I arrived there, I saw a great number of trees on each side of the river. ⁸ He said to me, "This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, where it enters the Dead Sea. When it empties into the sea, the salty water there becomes fresh.

⁹ Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live. ¹⁰ Fishermen will stand along the shore; from En Gedi to En Eglaim there will be places for spreading nets. The fish will be of many kinds—like the fish of the Mediterranean Sea. ¹¹ But the swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they will be left for salt. ¹² Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear fruit, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing."

Psalm 19:1-6

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

² Day after day they pour forth speech;
night after night they reveal knowledge.

³ They have no speech, they use no words;
no sound is heard from them.

⁴ Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,
their words to the ends of the world.

In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵ It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber,
like a champion rejoicing to run his course.

⁶ It rises at one end of the heavens
and makes its circuit to the other;
nothing is deprived of its warmth.

Lord, may your word live in us.

And bear much fruit for your glory.

Hymn of Praise: Megan McLaughlin

**TIS 232 "O the deep, deep love of
Jesus" *Selected by Anne Forrest***

Sermon: "The Waves of Grace"

We Respond

Blessing of Animals

Today we give thanks for the animals who share our lives.

They are companions,

creatures entrusted to our care,
and fellow creatures within God's creation.
We remember that they too receive life from
God.
And so, as we bless them,
we also give thanks for the whole community
of creation.

As we look at these photographs,
we give thanks for the creatures who share
our lives. [\(Photos\)](#)
For all the animals represented here today—
for those who are with us in photographs,
for those who are at home,
and for those we carry in our hearts—
we give thanks.

We give thanks for their lives.

May they be surrounded by care.
May they know safety and peace.

May we be faithful in our care for them.
**And may God's blessing rest upon all God's
creatures.**

**In the name of God,
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Hymn of Response: [Megan McLaughlin](#)
**TIS 100 "All creatures of our God and
King" (Vs. 1, 3, 5 & 7)**

Notices [Glenys Borland](#)

Prayers of the People [Mary Casey](#)

The Lord's Prayer

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

We have spoken of the waves of grace.
We have remembered the living water
that brings life wherever it flows.
And now we come to the table.

Here, once again, we are reminded:
we live by receiving.
We receive bread.
We receive the cup.
We receive the grace of Christ.
And what we receive here

is not meant to stop with us.

So come to the table of Christ.
Come with gratitude.
Come with hope.
Come as creatures who receive life as gift.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

God of all creation,
we give you thanks.
For earth and sea,
for sky and rain,
for rivers and oceans,
for every creature that lives and breathes.

We thank you for the gift of life
and for the grace that sustains us.
And above all,
we thank you for Jesus Christ,
through whom you draw us into your life.

Therefore with all creation,
with all who worship you in heaven and on
earth, we praise your name.

TIS 761

**"Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and
might. Heaven and earth full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest. Bless'd is he who
comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in
the highest. "**

Words of Institution

On the night before He died, Jesus shared a
meal with His disciples.
He took bread, gave thanks, broke it,
and gave it to His disciples, saying:
"Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me"

After supper, He took the cup, gave thanks and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Prayer of Consecration

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and cup.
Make us one with Christ and one with one another.
Make us attentive to creation, generous in our care, and faithful in our love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup we take is a sharing in the blood of Christ.
The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion

Come, not because you have enough,
but because Christ is enough.
Come and receive the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

Prayer After Communion

**God of Living Water,
thank you for feeding and renewing us.
Help us now to go out
and let your love flow through us.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We are sent

As we have received God's grace, let us offer what we have received back to God.

**Hymn of Sending: [Megan McLaughlin](#)
TIS 164 "The Great Love of God"
[Selected by Anne Forrest](#)**

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God,
receive these gifts and use them for your purposes. May they bring life, hope and care to our community and to your creation.
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Commissioning and Blessing

Go now as people who have received God's grace.
Let that grace flow through you into the lives of others and into all creation.
May the God of all creation bless you.
May Christ give you peace.
And may the Holy Spirit guide you in love and care for all living things.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy spirit,
be upon us and remain with us always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

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

**Sung Blessing: [Megan McLaughlin](#)
"Turn your eyes upon Jesus"**

(Refrain: sung twice)

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: Glenys Borland
Prayers: Mary Casey
Narthex/Count Leader: Maree Silver
Door, Greeting, Offering: Grame Silver
Organist: Colin Prohasky
Pianist: Anne Forrest
Song Leader: Megan McLaughlin
Readers: Fran Willmott, Patsy Donnelly
Computer/Sound: Angus Borland
Power Point: Angus Borland
Youtube Link: Richard Hedding
Flowers: Maree Silver & Lindley Webb
Communion Stewards: Glen & Lance
Schlipalius, Dawn Sullivan, Fran Willmott
Morning Tea/Clean Up: Howard Hamlyn, Lynn McKie, Miff Schlipalius
Online Communications: Christine Chappell/
Dawn Sullivan