

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

This liturgy is a gift from the Uniting Church

Canberra
Hospital Chaplaincy
Uniting Church bedside
communion

Liturgy

Summer 2013

Jean Shannon Pastor

Presbytery Hospital Chaplaincy Leader
The Uniting Church in Australia
Presbytery of the Canberra Region



Gathering Prayer

Gracious God – we gather to be close to you and to remind us of your presence in each other and ourselves.

This is our time

In Your Holy company

To celebrate, to mourn,

To forgive and to love.

Make this room your chapel and give us your grace

As we worship together.

Amen

J Shannon



Readings from our Biblical tradition:

Psalm 71:1-6

Corinthians 13:1-13

Invitation & Thanksgiving

O God, true source of humanity, mother and father of us all.

You renew us so we may grow like you.

All: We gather together.

May God be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to You.

Let us give thanks

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

God of the summer's day and the holiday season,

1 Corinthians 13

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised (NRSVA)

The Gift of Love

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast,¹ but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways.



Words of Mission

Let us start the new year renewed, refreshed, forgiven, forgiving and awash with the Spirit of possibilities. We have shared a communion with each other and the Holy spirit – and now we make our way back into a greater communion and the larger community.

Blessing — **At the Turn of the Year**

The blessing of God the creator,
There from the beginning;
The blessing of Christ the Saviour,
God-with-us in history and humanity;
The blessing of the Holy spirit,

Calling us into a future of hope:

Be with each of us,
Our communities,
Our world,

Now and for ever more. J S Pickard

Psalm 71

In you, LORD, I have taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame.

In your righteousness, rescue me and deliver me;
turn your ear to me and save me.

Be my rock of refuge,
to which I can always go;

give the command to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.

Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of those who are evil and cruel.

All: Praise and wonder be.

God of the lingering sunset and early dawn,

All: Praise and wonder be.

God of the hot north wind and the refreshing shower,

God of the shady tree and the cool water bag,

God of the ripening harvest and sparkling sea,

All: Praise and wonder be.



All: creation blesses the Source of Energy and Life.

For all things bright and beautiful.

For all things dark and mysterious and lovely.

For all things green and growing and strong.

For all things weak and struggling to push life up through rocky earth.

For all human faces, hearts, minds, and hands which surround us.

And for all non human minds and hearts, paws and claws, fins and wings...

G A Ricciuti/bb

All: Praise and wonder be.

So we join our praise with all your people across the generations,
saying

**All: Holy, holy, holy, Celebrating God,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.

All: Hosanna in the highest.

In our praise and thanksgiving we also remember the ways of Jesus who walked the dusty roads of Galilee,

who taught from seashore and mountainside,
who told stories of the sower and the seed,
the lilies of the field, and the birds of the air.

May we, too, know your presence in the beauty of creation.

We also remember, Creating God,
that your care for this earth and your people can be denied;
for your goodness was abused
and the Human One betrayed.

On the night of his arrest, so our tradition reminds us,
Jesus shared a meal with his disciples.
Bread taken, blessed, broken in silence
Wine taken, poured out in silence

Through grain and grape, bread and wine,
he spoke of his coming death and new life,
asking his disciples to remember him.

Blessing

Be present with us now, Enfolding God, as we share this sacrament.
Let your Holy Spirit brood among us
and upon and through this bread and wine.

Bless us with a desire to praise in song and story and poetry.
Bless us with a sharpened awareness of your presence.
Bless us with deep compassion.



Bless us with the patience and daring of the mystics.

All: **Abide with us always.**

Abide with us in our daily work.

Abide with us when we rest.

Abide with us in our journeying.

Abide with us at all times and through eternity.



Communion

After communion

Generous Giver of life, you supply us with all good things.

May this bread and wine be the nourishment we seek, and may it
transform us

into disciples who serve in your creation. R Hunt

Pastoral 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 forever. Amen.**