



**Services – Sunday 11 June, 2023**

***Pentecost 2***

**9.30am** Five Dock

*Preacher:* Rev Wattson Pualilo

*Reading:* J Matthew 9: 9-13, 16-28

*Theme:* "The calling, the healing and the resurrected"

*We are glad to have you with us today in worship. It is our hope that you will not only learn more about God, but that you will encounter Him and experience His presence, love and grace for you.*

**DIARY DATES**

***Monday Afternoon Lenten Bible Study***

will not meet due to the public holiday.

***Uniting in Prayer***

Following last week's information that the Assembly is inviting the whole Uniting Church to be part of 26 Days of Prayer, across the national Uniting Church, commencing on Pentecost Sunday. this week contact was made with the two congregations given to us for prayer.

- We have received a reply from Samford Valley congregation in Queensland asking for prayer for
- spiritual health and growth in our congregation
  - our outreach programs to families – Mainly music/345
  - members suffering from physical and mental illness
  - future visioning.

From contact with the Mount Dromedary we learn a community chaplain has been appointed, part time with them and also to minister within the South Coast region, for three years, especially for people still suffering from fires, floods and the effects of COVID restrictions since then.

Prayer points:

- to build a positive and trustworthy presence in the wider community, leading to meaningful outreach amongst people in recovery from disasters.
- at Cobargo Outreach Centre – prayers for opportunities to serve this community meaningfully.
- God's wisdom to perceive what is most useful to begin, when and where (in this extensive area).

(Further prayer points next week)

***Rosters*** for Church duties and Meals on Wheels are now available.



1. Today I awake and **God** is before me.  
At night, as I dreamt, God summoned the day; for God never sleeps but patterns the morning with slithers of gold or glory in grey.
2. Today I arise and **Christ** is beside me.  
He walked through the dark to scatter new light; yes, Christ is alive, and beckons his people to hope and to heal, resist and invite.
3. Today I affirm the **Spirit** within me  
at worship and work, in struggle and rest.  
The Spirit inspires all life which is changing from fearing to faith, from broken to blest.
4. Today I enjoy the **Trinity** round me,  
above and beneath, before and behind;  
The Maker, the Son, the Spirit together:  
they called me to life and call me their friend.

*"I discovered that seldom did our hymns represent the plight of poor people to God. There was nothing that dealt with unemployment, nothing that dealt with living in a multicultural society and feeling disenfranchised. There was nothing about child abuse..., that reflected concern for the developing world, nothing that helped see ourselves as brothers and sisters to those who are suffering from poverty or persecution."* [Reformed Worship (March 1993)]

**John Lambertson Bell** was born in the Scottish town of Kilmarnock in Ayrshire, intending to be a music teacher when he felt the call to the ministry. He did volunteer work in a deprived neighbourhood in London for a time and also served for two years as an associate pastor at the English Reformed Church in Amsterdam. After graduating he worked for five years as a youth pastor for the Church of Scotland, serving a large region that included about 500 churches. He then took a similar position with the Iona Community, and with his colleague Graham Maule, began to broaden the youth ministry to focus on renewal of the church's worship. His approach soon turned to composing songs within the identifiable traditions of hymnody that found began to address concerns missing from the current Scottish hymnal.

That concern not only led to writing many songs, but increasingly to introducing them internationally in many conferences, while also gathering songs from around the world. He was convener for the fourth edition of the Church of Scotland's *Church Hymnary* (2005), a very different collection from the previous 1973 edition. He wrote *The Singing Thing* and *The Singing Thing Too*, as well as the many collections of songs and worship resources – some together with other members of the Iona Community's *Wild Goose Resource Group*.