

# SENDING

## CLOSING PRAYER and BLESSING

**Watch now, dear Lord, with those  
who wake or watch or weep tonight, and  
give your angels charge over those who sleep.  
Tend your sick ones, O Lord Christ,  
rest your weary ones,  
bless your dying ones, soothe your suffering ones,  
pity your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones,  
and all for your love's sake.  
Amen.**

St Augustine

May God bless us, may God keep us always,  
And lead our lives with love.  
**Amen.**

## FINAL SONG

**NAMBUCCA VALLEY ANGLICANS**  
St James' Bowraville Holy Trinity Macksville St John's Nambucca Heads All Saints Stuarts Point

**2 June**  
PENTECOST 2

**GOD'S LOVE IN ACTION**

**GOD'S SABBATH**

**9 am @ St John's NH**  
**9 am @ Holy Trinity MV**  
**10 am @ St James' BV**

**FAITH HOPE JUSTICE LOVE**

# GATHERING

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## MUSIC BEFORE

## WELCOME

From the service leader, introducing the theme and the activities for the day and how everything should go ...

## GREETING

One another around the table.

## CENTRING on GOD

**Holy One of Israel,  
in a culture characterized by restless anxiety,  
we are indeed weary and heavy laden.  
Teach us about Sabbath rest.  
Give us a new understanding of how that gift  
can free us from our commodity-driven existence  
into life of neighbourly relationship.  
In the name of the One who calls us to  
take his yoke upon us, wherein we can find rest,  
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Walter Brueggemann "Sabbath as Resistance" (p. 92)

*A time of silence as we acknowledge God's presence*

## SONG

## 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.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## SONG during COMMUNION

Because You have made us for Yourself,  
And our hearts are restless  
Till they find their rest in thee

St Augustine, Confessions, I.I.I.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,  
he gave you thanks, and said:  
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,  
send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine  
may be to us the body and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these holy gifts  
make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole Church throughout the world  
we offer you this sacrifice of praise  
and lift our voice to join the eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## CONFESSION

Before God, with the people of God,  
I confess to my brokenness:  
To the ways I wound my life,  
the lives of others and the life of the world

**May God forgive you, Christ renew you,  
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.**

Amen.

**Before God, with the people of God,  
we confess to our brokenness:  
To the ways we wound our lives,  
the lives of others and the life of the world.**

May God forgive you, Christ renew you,  
and the spirit enable you to grow in love.

**Amen.**

Hear and believe these words of Jesus:

Your sins are forgiven.

Go in peace.

Come and follow me.

**Glory to the Creator who gives us life,  
Glory to Jesus whose love remakes us,  
Glory to the Spirit, companion on our journey.  
Glory be to God. Amen.**

## BACKGROUND READING 1 & 2

### Genesis 2:1-3

Heaven and Earth were finished,  
down to the last detail.

By the seventh day

God had finished his work.

On the seventh day

he rested from all his work.

God blessed the seventh day.

He made it a Holy Day

Because on that day he rested from his work,  
all the creating God had done.

### Exodus 20:8-11

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.

For six days you shall labour and do all your work.

But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God;

you shall not do any work - you, your son or your daughter,

your male or female slave, your livestock,

or the alien resident in your towns.

For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and  
all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore  
the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

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 thanks and praise.**

It is right to praise you, Father, Lord of all creation;  
in your love you made us for yourself.

When we turned away

you did not reject us,

but came to meet us in your Son.

**You embraced us as your children  
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life

that we might live in him and he in us.

**He opened his arms of love upon the cross  
and made for all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,

at supper with his friends

he took bread, and gave you thanks;

he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in remembrance of him:  
his body is the bread of life.**

## WE BELIEVE

**I believe in God,  
who is love and  
who has given the earth  
to all people.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
who came to heal us,  
and to free us from all  
forms of oppression.**

**I believe in the spirit of God,  
who works in and  
through all who are  
turned towards the truth.**

**I believe in the community of faith,  
which is called to be  
at the service of  
all people.**

**I believe in God's power  
to transform and transfigure,  
fulfilling the promise of a  
new heaven and a new earth  
where justice and peace  
will flourish. Amen.**

## OFFERING SONG

## READING I

Listen for God's word coming to us in Scripture.  
**Our hearts and minds are open.**

### **Deuteronomy 5:12-15**

No working on the Sabbath;  
keep it holy just as God, your God, commanded you.  
Work six days, doing everything you have to do,  
but the seventh day is a Sabbath, a Rest Day - no work:  
not you, your son, your daughter, your servant, your maid,  
your ox, your donkey (or any of your animals), and not  
even the foreigner visiting your town.

That way your servants and maids will get the  
same rest as you.

Don't ever forget that you were slaves in Egypt and  
God, your God, got you out of there in a powerful  
show of strength.

That's why God, your God, commands you to  
observe the day of Sabbath rest.

God be in our listening,

**God in our understanding. Amen**

## GOSPEL

We greet the Gospel of Jesus the Christ  
**Alleluia.**

### Mark 2:23-28

One Sabbath day Jesus was walking through a field of ripe grain. As his disciples made a path, they pulled off heads of grain. The Pharisees told on them to Jesus:

“Look, your disciples are breaking Sabbath rules!”

Jesus said,

“Really? Haven’t you ever read what David did when he was hungry, along with those who were with him?

How he entered the sanctuary and ate fresh bread off the altar, with the Chief Priest Abiathar right there watching - holy bread that no one but priests were allowed to eat - and handed it out to his companions?”

Then Jesus said,

“The Sabbath was made to serve us;  
we weren’t made to serve the Sabbath.

The Son of Man is no yes-man to the Sabbath.  
He’s in charge!”

This is the Gospel of Christ.

**Amen! Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSE

From around the table

## QUESTIONS and CONVERSATION

As a group or in twos and threes

## SHARING

From around the table

## PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

From around the table