Welcome

Holy Hermits Online Worship

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Today, we welcome Rev'd Steve as our Guest Preacher and remember Holy Hermit St Hildegard of Bingen

We begin with a little cello piece to help bring us to worship:
https://youtu.be/yGGDWdXOF-E

Preacher: Rev'd Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Broadcaster: Kieron

Cantor: Jeremy

Service prep: Leonie

Welcomer: Chris

Reader 1: Vanessa

Proofer: Viki

Leader: LA: Julie

Reader 2: Bob

Prayer prep: Roots

Fellowship: Leonie

Tech Support: Kristine

Prepped 17 July 23 Proofed 17/7/23

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We will be led by our Leader with our Cantor as the voice of all
Leader and Cantor unmute

The Greeting
Leader:

The Grace of the lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

All: And also with you.

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Gathering Invitation and Prayer

Leader:
God has been with us through the week just gone,
in all the joys and all the sorrows.
Let us come together and worship God
as creator and sustainer of all things,
and our constant companion in all things.

All:
Almighty God, thank you for all the times and places
where we have seen you at work this week.
Come and reveal yourself to us again now,
that we might be strengthened in our faith
and renewed in our trust of you. Amen.

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Sentence

Leader: I now invite our cantor to proclaim the sentence for today.

Cantor:

You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Psalm 86:15

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Leader: We pray the prayer of approach.

Lord God, we picture ourselves as a field of strong wheat reaching up to the sun, the giver of life. Yet the sun also gives life to weeds; and there are weeds among us and within us, people and personality traits that hinder the growth of your kingdom. So, we come before you in humility to learn of your wisdom. Are we more weeds than wheat today? As individuals and as a community, challenge our attitudes and renew our perspective, we pray.

All:

We come to learn of God's love
and the life Jesus offers,
so that we may live and love better day by day,
following Him, living his way.
Amen.

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Prayer of Adoration

All:

Almighty God, all-seeing and all-knowing, with confidence we accept your power and authority, knowing that we can always trust in your judgement; for your loving nature pervades creation, and all shall be well – all shall be well.

Amen.

HOLY HERMITS ONLINE

Our first hymn is
Father, Lord of All Creation

https://youtu.be/P5fqJaLg3ug

We will stay on mute to sing together
or allow the music to nourish us.

Leader mutes

Preparation for Confession

Lord, we confess that we are quick to decide who are the weeds among us;
mostly, we think they are whoever may be outside of this Zoom space, and maybe one or two here with whom we disagree in some way.
We, of course, are wheat; so, we raise ourselves high, while casting our brothers and sisters down in our harsh judgement.
But you, Lord, see the wheat and the weeds within each one of us, the good and the bad battling for space to grow.
Forgive us, Father, for the less-than-Christian thoughts and attitudes we allow to take hold of our souls, smothering the good growth you have nurtured within us. Help us to accept that we all have our failings, and so it is right that we should all be given a chance, for you are the only one who sees everything and is fit to judge.
We humbly ask your mercy, O Lord.
Amen.

We pray the Assurance of Forgiveness prayer together,

All:
God the creator and re-creator,
constant in your care for your creatures and creation,
you forgive us time and time again
when the thoughts and attitudes that choke our faith
spring up to darken the light and love of your grace within us.
We thank you that we can trust your judgement
and rely on your forgiveness in all circumstances.
Amen.

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Collect prayer

Leader:

Saving God, in Jesus Christ you opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

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We pause for a moment

Reflect and Breathe

The first reader unmutes

The 1st Reading is from Genesis 28:10-19a

10 Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. 11 He came
to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the
sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it
under his head and lay down in that place. 12 And he dreamed
that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it
reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending
and descending on it. 13 And the Lord stood beside him and
said, 'I am the Lord , the God of Abraham your father and the
God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and
to your offspring; 14 and your offspring shall be like the dust of
the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the
east and to the north and to the south;

Continues….

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and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. 15 Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' 16 Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' 17 And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.' 18 So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. 19 He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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Leader: We now say the psalm antiphonally, I invite the first reader to lead and we will all respond along with our cantor as our voice.

Psalm 139:1-11; 139:23-24

1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:
you know when I sit or when I stand, you comprehend my thoughts long before.
2 **You discern my path and the places where I rest:**
you are acquainted with all my ways.
3 For there is not a word on my tongue:
but you, Lord, know it altogether.
4 **You have encompassed me behind and before:**
and have laid your hand upon me.
5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:
so high that I cannot endure it.
6 **Where shall I go from your spirit:**
or where shall I flee from your presence?

Continues….

7 If I ascend into heaven you are there:
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.
8 **If I spread out my wings towards the morning:**
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
9 Even there your hand shall lead me:
and your right hand shall hold me.
10 **If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me:**
and the night will enclose me',
11 The darkness is no darkness with you,
but the night is as clear as the day:
the darkness and the light are both alike.

23 **Search me out, O God, and know my heart:**
put me to the proof and know my thoughts.
24 Look well lest there be any way of wickedness in me:
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

Leader: Thanks 1st reader, I now invite the 2nd reader to unmute and offer the 2nd lesson when ready.

The 2nd Reading is from Romans 8:12-25

12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the
flesh, to live according to the flesh— 13 for if you live according
to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death
the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by
the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive
a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a
spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' 16 it is that very
Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of
God, 17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs
with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also
be glorified with him. 18 I consider that the sufferings of this
present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to
be revealed to us.

Continues….

19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing
of the children of God; **20** for the creation was subjected to
futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who
subjected it, in hope **21** that the creation itself will be set free
from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the
glory of the children of God. **22** We know that the whole
creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; **23** and
not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first
fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption,
the redemption of our bodies. **24** For in hope we were saved.
Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is
seen? **25** But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it
with patience.

For the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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Leader: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 13:24-30; 13:36-41

All: **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

24 He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may
be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; 25 but
while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds
among the wheat, and then went away. 26 So when the plants came
up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27 And the
slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not
sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come
from?" 28 He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to
him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" 29 But he
replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat
along with them. 30 Let both of them grow together until the harvest;
and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and
bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my
barn."

Continues….

’ **36** Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ **37** He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; **38** the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, **39** and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. **40** Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. **41** The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, **42** and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. **43** Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

Here ends the Gospel reading. All: ***Thanks be to God.***

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The Leader and Cantor mute.

Sermon

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Leader unmutes

Our next Hymn:
Weeds and Wheat

https://youtu.be/tFmRtkU8DRE

We will stay on mute to sing together
or allow the music to nourish us.

Leader and Cantor mute

The Leader and Cantor unmute

The Greeting of Peace

We are the body of Christ
All: His Spirit is with us

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All: And also with you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving before Intercessions

Leader: As we now enter into prayer, I invite the 2nd reader to unmute to lead our intercessions on the next slide.
If you need to change your body posture to come into prayer,
then please feel free to do that now, as we offer this thanksgiving prayer.

Loving God, who permits wheat and weeds to grow together,
allowing light and nurture to both,
we thank you for your patience and forbearance
with your fallen and faltering children.
We do not notice the things within us that
choke our spiritual growth, shutting out your light,
yet we are quick to spot them in others.
We thank you for your slowness to condemn us,
praising you for your unmerited mercy and grace,
for all are sinners and have fallen short.
Amen.

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Intercessions

Lord God, we pray for our world and its people.
So many different cultures, colours, languages
– but we are all your children, all special in our own right.
Whatever our gender, race, colour or creed,

We all belong to you.
We all need your love.

We pray that we might learn to live in harmony with each other,
to recognise that even someone halfway around the world is still
our neighbour in your sight. Far or near,

We all belong to you.
We all need your love.

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We prayer for those who are sick, suffering, recovering and all those known to us who have special need for our prayers: Especially,

Kerry and Les, Mark, Jake,
Dr Julie and Jasmine,
Dilys and Tony,
Marcia and Family.
Liz and Leese(y),
Julie and Ray, Tracey, Shane,
Paul and Darhon,
Alecia, Martin and Aidan,
Lynette,
Anna, Tony, their daughters and family
Judy and Mary
Jess and Leah
Bill and Vanessa

We all belong to you.
We all need your love.

HOLY HERMITS ONLINE

With today's technology we have access to news from afar,
almost before it happens. Help us not to become blasé about
the situations we see, but to pray and care faithfully for all concerned.
In war or peace,

We all belong to you.
We all need your love.

We pray for those near and dear to us: protect them, wrap them
in your loving arms, and in sorrow and in joy, be with them.
Near or far,

We all belong to you.
We all need your love.
Amen.

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Pray Daily Cycle of Prayer

Leader: Loving God, joining with the Church in our cycle of prayer, we ask your blessings on:

- The Church of the Province of Central Africa
- The Diocese of Sydney: †Kanishka Raffel; Assistant Bishops - †Peter Hayward, †Christopher Edwards, †Peter
- Lin, †Michael Stead, †Malcolm Richards, †Gary Siew Leong Koo; Clergy and People
- The Parish of Oakey: David Snape – Missioner Locum
- Ministry with Young Adults
- St Francis Theological College, Milton: Principal – Ruth Mathieson; Academic Dean - Peter Kline; staff,
- sessional lecturers & students

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Commitment prayer for the week
Deliverance

Come Holy Spirit and make the hearts of your servants, Reverend Claye and the deliverance ministry team, your dwelling place and home. May darkness be dispelled by your light, and troubles calmed by your peace.

Lord Jesus, we ask that you protect, guide and strengthen them, and all whom they encounter. Give them courage, ability, wisdom and discernment.
Surround them with sound advice and support, that they may have insight and discretion. Drawing on the Holy Spirit may they be strong in vocation and trust in you.

We pray for those in need of healing and their ongoing relationship with you, as they journey towards the fullness and freedom of eternal life. May all evil and pain be transformed through the suffering of Christ and all dying glorified by your risen life.
Amen.

Leader: Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus gave us saying:

All:
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 for ever.
Amen.

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Devotions

Holy Hermit St Hildegard of Bingen

Leader:

St. Hildegard was a Benedictine abbess, writer, poet, and composer who lived in 12th-century Germany. She had numerous prophetic and mystical visions during her life and is said to have been a miracle worker. Her earliest biographer proclaimed her a saint, and miracles were reported during her life and at her tomb. However, she was not formally canonised until 2012, when Pope Benedict XVI declared her to be a saint. Later that year Benedict proclaimed Hildegard a doctor of the church, one of only four women to have been so named. She is considered a patron saint of musicians and writers. Hildegard is one of the few prominent women in medieval church history.

Saying

"Glance at the sun. See the moon and the stars. Gaze at the beauty of earth's greenings. Now, think. What delight God gives to humankind with all these things. All nature is at the disposal of humankind. We are to work with it. For without it we cannot survive."

Leader: We now enter 4 minutes of silence.
Let us be still together. (Leader mutes)

Lord, we sometimes struggle, but we will trust in you. Others may succeed by taking short-cuts, but we will trust in you. We live with problems without easy solutions, but we will trust in you. We are often tired and frustrated, but we will trust in you. We don't know when you are coming again, but we will trust in you. Lord, remind us of your love for us, and your power, so that we can always trust you, whatever happens.
Amen.

Everyone mutes

The broadcaster moves onto the next slide after 2 mins

Making a Spiritual Communion

O my Lord Jesus,
I turn to you present on the Altar and in the Tabernacle.
I believe that you are present in the holy Sacrament of your most sacred Body and Blood.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul.
I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally in Holy Communion.
Come, spiritually, into my heart.
Purify it, sanctify it.
Render my heart like your own heart.
I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly with you.
Never permit me to be separated from you.
Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.
Amen

Leader unmutes

Our final song is
Bloom, Bloom where you're planted

https://youtu.be/TzWHchYzM-I

We will stay on mute to sing together
or allow the music to nourish us.
Leader mutes

Leader and cantor unmute

Sending Prayer

All:

Almighty God,
you are the creator and sustainer of all things
and we put our trust in you.
Be with us in the days ahead,
in all our joys and challenges.
Help us to remember that all things are yours
and nothing can take us out of your hands.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

The Grace

Leader:

The Grace of the lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all evermore.
Amen.

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Notices

A special thank you to our Guest Preacher Rev'd Steve Garnaas-Holmes,

- Today Prayer Vigil 4-4:30pm, gather and uphold each other and the community in prayer
- Study continues Wednesday evenings at 6 – all welcome
- 30th July: Open Space 11-12noon to reflect on ministry and serving together-all are most welcome.
- 6th August: Contemplative Service Team meeting 2-3pm-all are most welcome.

You can offer your gifts online: https://holyhermits.com.au/give
Thank you for your regular gifts to this ministry.

Serving next week: 30th July

Preacher: Jamee	Broadcaster: Kieron	Cantor: Dr Julie
Service prep: Leonie	Welcomer: Julie	Reader 1: Mark
Music prep: Steph	Leader: LA: Jeremy	Reader 2: Rose
Proofer: Chris	Fellowship: Julie	Tech Support: Paul
Prayer prep: Roots		

Leader: I invite everyone to unmute for the Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: In the name of Christ,

Amen.

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Image credit: Bloom where you are planted.
Jess Crawford
https://jesscrawford.com.au/product/bloom-where-you-are-planted-original-artwork/

Extra Resources Roots on the Web
https://www.rootsontheweb.com/lectionary/2023/126-july-august-2023-a/proper-11