



Ordination of Sue Westhorp

to the public ministry
of word and
sacrament

in the Lutheran
Church
of Australia & New
Zealand

Sunday 27 April 2025
2pm
Luther College Chapel,
Croydon

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: TIS 432 – Christ is made the sure foundation

1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
Chosen by the Lord, and precious,
Binding all the church in one,
Holy Zion's help for ever,
And her confidence alone.

2. All that dedicated city,
Dearly loved by God on high,
In exultant jubilation
Pours perpetual melody.
God the Three in One adoring,
Praising him eternally.

3. Here among us where we call you
Come, O Lord our God, today;
With your gentle lovingkindness
Hear your people as we pray,
And your fullest benediction
Pour upon us here today.

4. Here bestow on all your people
What we ask of you to gain,
What we gain from you for ever
With the blessed to retain,
And hereafter in your glory
Evermore with you to reign.

5. Praise and honour to the Father,
Praise and honour to the Son,
Praise and honour to the Spirit,
Ever Three and ever One,
One in might and one in glory
While eternal ages run.

*From Urbs beata Hierusalem, Latin, c. 7th cent.
Tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt. In the public domain*

WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

OPENING VERSES

Praise the Lord!

Praise God in the sanctuary.

Praise God in the vault of heaven.

Praise God in the earth and skies.

Sing praises to the Lord.

Shout and sing praises to God.

We have witnessed God's mighty acts.

We have seen the Lord's greatness.

Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

Let everything that draws breath praise the Lord! (*Psalm 150*)

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

Friends in Christ: John tells us that Jesus loves us

and has freed us from our sins by his blood.

Therefore, let us confess our sins to God our Father

and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Gracious God

We confess that we are sinful,

and that we have sinned against you

in what we have thought, said and done.

We confess the times we have not lived

in the power of Jesus' resurrection;

when have resisted your unfailing love for us;

when we have turned our backs on your gift of new life,

choosing instead the old way of sin, that leads us back toward death.

Free us from this power of sin,

Guide us by your Spirit, and help us in our weakness,

that we may live as your children. Amen.

Silent Confession

I ask each of you in the presence of God who searches the heart:
Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

I do.

Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins,
and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

I do.

Do you believe that Christ has made you holy,
and do you want to be led by the Holy Spirit to live a holy life?

I do.

ABSOLUTION

Peace be with you. **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

IN PEACE LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the wellbeing of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honour,
blessing, and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honour, glory, and might be to God
and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**The Lord be with you.
And also with you.**

**Let us pray
Almighty God, with joy we celebrate
the festival of our Lord's resurrection.
Graciously help us to show the power of the resurrection
in all that we say and do;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen**

CHILDREN'S ADDRESS - *children are invited to gather on the steps at the front*

FIRST READING – Isaiah 41:8-10 *(read by Jonathon Westhorp)*

⁸But you, Israel, my servant, Jacob, whom I have chosen, the offspring of Abraham, my friend; ⁹you whom I took from the ends of the earth and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are my servant; I have chosen you and not cast you off”; ¹⁰do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you; I will help you; I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 27

Do not be afraid I am with you
I have called you by your name, you are mine.
I have called you by your name, you are mine.

**Do not be afraid I am with you
I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have called you by your name, you are mine.**

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink?
Do not be afraid...

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long:
to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.
Do not be afraid...

I am sure I shall see the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.
Hope in God, hold firm and take heart, hope in the Lord.
Do not be afraid...

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SECOND READING – Romans 10:8b-15 *(read by Elaine Schultz)*

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” ¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

ALLELUIA VERSE *(please stand)*

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Have you believed because you have seen me?

Blest are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

Setting © Sue Collyer

GOSPEL - John 20:19-31 *(read by Tanya Wittwer)*

The Holy Gospel according to John, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you O Christ

SERMON – John 20:10-18 – Bishop Paul Smith

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with
the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has
spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic† and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING SONG – P&W 888 What the Lord has done in me

*Offerings go towards supporting women from the VIC/TAS district who would like
to study theology at ALC*

Let the weak say I'm strong
Let the poor say I'm rich
Let the blind say I can see
It's what the Lord's done in me. (Repeat)

*Hosanna, Hosanna
To the Lamb that was slain
Hosanna, Hosanna
Jesus died and rose again (Repeat)*

Into the river I will wade
There my sins are washed away
From the heaven's mercy stream
Of the Saviour's love for me

I will rise from waters deep
Into the saving arms of God
I will sing salvation songs
Jesus Christ has set me free.

*Hosanna, Hosanna
To the Lamb that was slain
Hosanna, Hosanna
Jesus died and rose again (Repeat)*

Let the weak say I'm strong
Let the poor say I'm rich
Let the blind say I can see
It's what the Lord's done in me.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Living God, let the resurrection of your Son transform our lives. Make us bold in serving you and bringing your good news to other people. Help us to share of ourselves and our possessions with one another and especially with people in need. Amen.

TIS 396 Come Holy Spirit, our souls inspire

*Soloist: 1. Come, Holy Spirit, our souls inspire
and lighten with your heavenly fire;
you the anointing Spirit are,
on us your sevenfold gifts you pour.*

All:

2. Your blessèd unction from above
is comfort, life, and fire of love;
enable with perpetual light
the dullness of our blinded sight;

3. anoint and cheer our mortal face
with the abundance of your grace;
keep far our foes; give peace at home;
where you are guide no ill can come.

4. Teach us to know the Father, Son,
and you with both to be but one,
that through the ages all along
this may be our endless song:

Praise to your eternal merit,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Anon. Latin 9th cent.
attrib. Rabanus Maurus c.
776-856*

RITE OF ORDINATION

PRESENTATION – Brett Hausler, Executive Director of Church Operations

I present Sue Westhorp for ordination into the public ministry of word and sacrament. She has been prepared, examined, and approved for this work, and has been called to be a pastor of the Lutheran Church of Australia & New Zealand.

WORD OF GOD

According to the mandate of our Lord and apostolic practice you are now to be ordained to the office of the public ministry with the laying on of hands and prayer.

Our Lord Jesus Christ says: Peace be with you! As the Father sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit! If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you pronounce them unforgiven, unforgiven they remain. And our Lord says: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

St Paul writes: I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said: 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

CONFESSIOAL ASSENT

Before our Lord God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this congregation/assembly, I ask: Sue, do you believe that the Lord has called you through his church to the ministry of word and sacrament?

Yes, I do.

Do you believe and accept without reservation the holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as a whole and in all their parts, as the divinely inspired, written, and inerrant word of God, and as the only infallible source and norm for all matters of faith, doctrine, and life?

Yes, I do.

Do you acknowledge and accept as true expositions of the word of God and as your own confession of faith all the symbolical writings of the evangelical Lutheran church contained in the Book of Concord of 1580?

Yes, I do.

VOWS

Do you promise, with the help of God, to carry out faithfully the ministry about to be entrusted to you in accordance with the holy Scriptures and the confessions of the Lutheran church?

Yes, I do.

Do you promise to exercise the Office of the Keys in accordance with the word and command of Christ?

Yes, I do.

Do you promise to be diligent in the study of the Scriptures and in the use of the sacraments; to pray for God's people; to nourish them with the gospel; and to lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

Yes, I do.

Do you promise to uphold the public teaching and practice of the Lutheran Church of Australia & New Zealand and to accept the pastoral and doctrinal oversight of your bishop?

Yes, I do.

May almighty God graciously give you the wisdom, strength, and compassion to do what you have promised. **Amen.**

ORDINATION

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, pour out your Holy Spirit on Sue and fill her with the gifts of grace for her ministry to your people.

Amen.

By the authority which our Lord Jesus Christ has given to his church, I ordain and consecrate you, Sue, to the holy office of the public ministry, in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Receive this stole as a mark of the ministry which you have by the mercy of God.

I declare you to be a pastor of the Lutheran Church of Australia & New Zealand.

PRAYER

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, bless Sue in her ministry of the gospel. Make Sue a faithful pastor, a patient teacher, and a wise counsellor, so that your people may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GREETINGS

ADMONITION

Since you have this ministry by the mercy of God, care for God's people, bear their burdens, and do not betray their confidence. Give and receive comfort as you serve within the church. So, discipline yourself in life and teaching that you give no offence. And be confident, for God has called you, and your labour in the Lord will not be in vain.

BLESSING

The God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, equip you by the blood of the eternal covenant with everything good, so that you may do his will, working in you what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ +; to whom be glory now and forever. **Amen.**

RECEPTION

As God's people, receive Sue as an ambassador of Jesus Christ. She has Christ's authority to serve her people by proclaiming the word and administering the sacraments.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Jenni and Gordon Wegener)*

Response:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

COMMUNION LITURGY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

God of power, God of might. **God of power, God of might.**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. **Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed, blessed is he, **Blessed, blessed is he,**

he who comes in the Lord's name. **he who comes in the Lord's name.**

Hosanna in the highest, **hosanna in the highest,**

hosanna in the highest, **hosanna in the highest,**

hosanna, **hosanna.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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 forever. Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, **Lamb of God,**

You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us,

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, **Lamb of God,**

You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us,

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, **Lamb of God,**

You take away the sin of the world: grant us peace,

grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS/SONGS

Choir: The Deer's Cry – Shaun Davey

AT 494 - For you, deep stillness

For you, deep stillness of the silent inland
For you, deep blue of the desert skies
For you, flame red of the rocks and stones
For you, sweet water from hidden springs.
From the edges seek the heartlands
and when you're burnt by the journey
may the cool winds of the hovering Spirit soothe and replenish you.
In the name of Christ. In the name of Christ.

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TIS 137 For the beauty of the earth

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,
*Christ, our God, to you we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light.

3. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild.

4. For the church that evermore,
lifting holy hands above,
offers up on every shore
the pure sacrifice of love.

Words: Folliot Sandford Pierpoint 1835 -1917 alt.

Music: David Evans ('E. Arthur') 1874-1948 In the public domain

AT 235 In your hand, my Saviour

1. In your hand, my Saviour, there's a home for me.
It's the safest place on earth to be.
There you make me welcome, give me a new start,
for your peace has healed my wounded heart.

When I'm near my Saviour, he gives joy to me.

God alone, he is my sword and shield.

When I'm near my Saviour, he gives peace to me.

God shines on each flower in his field.

2. In your hand, my Saviour, joyful I can be,
for you offer precious gifts to me:
Mercy and forgiveness, even though I stray.
Life is now worth living, come what may.

3. In your hand, my Saviour, I can freely cry,
speak my fears, and ask my questions why.
Viciousness and evil nailed you to a tree.
'Pardon' cries your cross, and sets me free.

4. In your hand, my Saviour, finally I rest,
where my life has been so richly blessed.
By your hand you bring me to a future bright,
filled with endless peace and joy and light.

Author: Anna-Marie Kaskinen

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DISMISSAL

The body of our risen Lord Jesus Christ and his holy and precious blood
strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life eternal.
Go in peace. † **Amen.**

SONG OF SIMEON

**Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace,
your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen
the salvation which you have prepared
in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal you to the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Setting © Timothy Arnold-Moore

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**Living God,
as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord,
we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ.
Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word
and to proclaim the power of your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

BLESSING

**The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favour,+ and give you peace.
Amen.**

COMMISSION

**Go now to love and forgive,
for as God sent Christ, so now Christ is sending you.
Obey God above any other authority
and bear witness to Christ's resurrection life.
We go in the name of Christ. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETINGS – Ben Gargett, Chair, St Paul’s

RECESSIONAL HYMN – TIS 106 Now thank we all our God

1. Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom the world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us.
Lord, keep us in your grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world in the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son
and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore,
who ever was, is now,
and shall be ever more.

Please join us for refreshments – the welcoming team will direct you

*With thanks to all from the St Paul's Box Hill community
who have served us today.*

*Particular thanks to Luther College,
Principal Jacqui Layfield and Chaplain Anita Foster
for their generous hosting of this service.*

Liturgist: Pastor Neville Otto

Preacher: Bishop Paul Smith

Assisting ministers: Pastor John Henderson
Pastor Brett Kennett
Pastor Basil Schild

Crucifer: Anita Foster

Musicians: Alan Collyer, Hannah Pietsch, Melissa Doecke,
Catherine Leslie, Meredith Kolosov, Phoebe Green
Andrew Leslie, Peter Neville, Ed Manderson, Jane
Wiebusch, Taya Collyer, Andy Collyer, St Paul's Choir