



# DIVINE SERVICE



**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

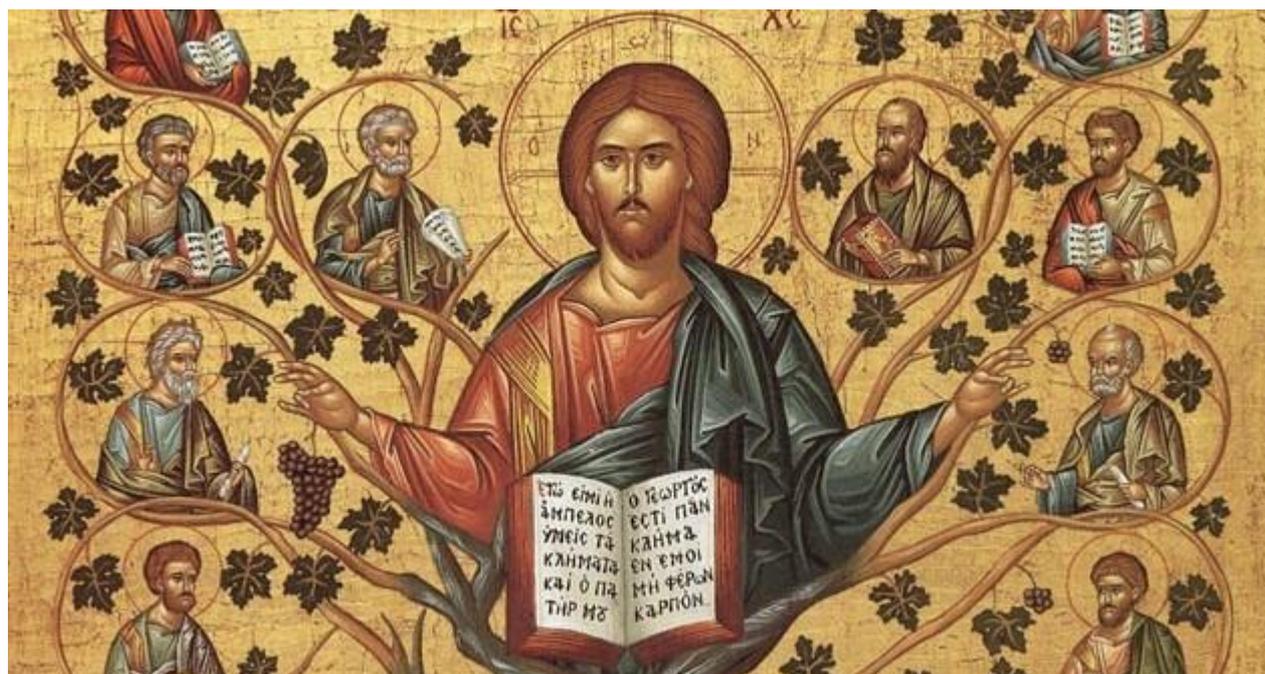
OF AUSTRALIA

*28<sup>th</sup> June, 2020*

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

# Service Order

Online Service available at [www.lvlp.org](http://www.lvlp.org)



**Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me**

LOCKYER VALLEY LUTHERAN PARISH

LAIDLEY, ROPELEY, LOCKROSE AND TABEL MINISTRY AREA

OPENING SONG      AT 2      **This is the Day**

This is the day, this is the day,  
That the Lord has made,  
that the Lord has made.  
We will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord has  
made,  
we will rejoice and be glad in it!  
This is the day, this is the day  
That the Lord has made!

OPENING WORDS

P. Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you.

**C. who walk in the light of your presence, Lord.**

INVOCATION

P. Let us worship our Lord. In the name of the Father and of the Son† and of the Holy Spirit.

**C. Amen.**

WE SING                      AT 232      **He set me free**

1/3 There's a gladness in my heart,  
There's a joy that overflows,  
It's the joy of knowing Jesus;  
He set me free.

*Chorus:*  
*From the mountains and the valleys,*  
*from sea to sea,*  
*I will sing about Jesus,*  
*He set me free.*

2/3 There's a warmness in my heart,  
there's a love that overflows,  
it's the love of knowing Jesus, He  
sets me free.

3/3 When my burdens seem too  
heavy,  
When my fears are closing in,  
Then I kneel before Jesus;  
He sets me free.

CONFESSION of sins

P. Friends in Christ: In our baptism, we received forgiveness for all our sins. Therefore, let us come before God and confess our wrongdoing, and ask him to forgive us. <silent reflection>

**C. Lord God our heavenly Father, I am a sinner and I have sinned against you, not only in my words and actions but also in my secret thoughts and desires which I cannot fully know or understand but which you know completely. I am sorry that I have displeased you and repent of all my evil. For the sake of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, forgive me, and graciously help me in my weakness. Amen.**

P. 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?

**C. I do**

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

**C. I do**

P. Do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as in God's presence, and to strive daily to lead a holy life, even as Christ has made you holy?

**C. I do**

### ABSOLUTION

P. Christ gave the church the authority to forgive the sins of those who repent, and to declare to those who do not repent that their sins are not forgiven. Therefore, upon your confession, as a called and ordained servant of the word, I announce the grace of God to all of you. On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ and by his command, I declare now that your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the Son† and of the Holy Spirit.  
Peace be with you!

**C: Amen.**

### SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

Since we have peace with God through the forgiveness of our sins, let us share that peace with each other -- **The peace of the Lord be with you!**

### WE SING

AT 150

### **Sing a New Song**

#### Chorus

Sing a new song unto the Lord;  
Let your song be sung from mountains high.  
Sing a new song unto the Lord,  
Singing alleluia.

1/3

Yahweh's people dance for joy,  
O come before the Lord.  
And play for Him on glad tambourines,  
And let your trumpet sound:

2/3

Rise, O children from your sleep;  
Your Saviour now has come.  
He has turned your sorrow to joy,  
And filled your soul with song:

3/3

Glad my soul, for I have seen  
The glory of the Lord.  
The trumpet sounds; the dead shall be raised,  
I know my Saviour lives:

## GREETING

P. The Lord be with you

**C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray for the gift of compassion.

*[silence]*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**All: Thank you, loving heavenly Father, for setting us free from sin so that we can willingly serve you.**

**Open our eyes and hearts to see the needs of others and show them compassion.**

**We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

### **Jeremiah 28:5-9**

Jeremiah and the false prophet Hananiah

*After the reading:*

R. This is the word of the Lord.

**C. Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM     **Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18**

*I will sing of the Lord's great love forever;*

**with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.**

*I will declare that your love stands firm forever,*

**that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**

*You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one,*

**I have sworn to David my servant,**

*'I will establish your line forever*

**and make your throne firm through all generations.'**

*"Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,*

**who walk in the light of your presence, Lord.**

*They rejoice in your name all day long;*

**they celebrate your righteousness.**

*For you are their glory and strength,*

**and by your favour you exalt our horn.**

*Indeed, our shield belongs to the Lord,*

**our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

**C: Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forevermore. Amen.**

## SECOND READING

### **Romans 6:12-23**

You have become slaves to righteousness

*After the reading:*

R. This is the word of the Lord

**C. Thanks be to God.**

WE SING

AT 246

**Thy Word**

### Chorus

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
and a light unto my path.

1/2

When I feel afraid,  
I think I've lost my way,  
still you're there right beside me,  
nothing will I fear  
as long as you are near,  
please be near me to the end

2/2

I will not forget  
your love for me, and yet  
I'll forever be wand'ring.  
Jesus, be my guide,  
hold me to your side;  
I will love you to the end.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**C. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

P: Jesus said: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me".

**C. Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL READING

### **Matthew 10:40-42**

Whoever welcomes you welcomes me

"Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward.

And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."

AFTER THE GOSPEL READING

P: This is the gospel of the Lord.

**C. Praise be to you, O Christ.**

GOSPEL PRAYER

P. Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to us from God.

Help us to serve you by serving others.

**C. Amen.**

GOSPEL HYMN

LH 301

**Take Thou My Hand**

1/3...

Take Thou my hand and lead me  
O'er life's rough way,  
With heavenly manna feed me  
From day to day.

2/3...

Take Thou my heart, and hide it  
In folds of grace;  
Through weal or woe e'er guide it  
To seek Thy face.

3/3...

Though oft it seems Thou hidest  
Thy wondrous might,  
Yet me Thou safely guidest  
Through darkest night.

1/3

Without Thy grace and favour  
I go astray;  
Take Thou my hand, O Saviour.  
Choose Thou my way.

2/3

Draw, Lord, of Thy good pleasure  
Thy child to Thee,  
And grant me faith, full measure,  
Though naught I see.

...3/3

Take then my hand and lead me  
Till life is o'er,  
With heavenly manna feed me  
For evermore.

SERMON:

## Be comforted and standing firm by the identities of who we are

(Matthew 10:40-42)

Grace and peace to you from the Father through the Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

During the last four weeks, we have heard God's Word focusing on mission – from the Great Commission covering all nations on the earth to the very specific mission to the people from God's house whom we identified as the "lost sheep" in our congregations and in our families.

Last week we heard that Jesus encourages his disciples boldly stepping into the mission field without fears. He repeatedly says three times: "Do not be afraid." Then we identified where those fears come from and why they cause our concerns and hinder our mission to the people close to us.

Immediately following what we heard last week is the concluding part of Jesus' "mission orientation session." That is the Gospel reading today. We will see how our Lord Jesus Christ sent the disciples with full comfort and love. Let us pray: Lord God, Sanctify us in truth, your Word is the truth. Amen.

Quoting what the Lord said last week, now I say to you: "Don't be afraid," because this time I am not going to check your homework, asking about how you were dealing with the fears from re-evangelizing the "lost sheep" in your family. I acknowledge it is not easy for all of us, otherwise the church will not use three consecutive Sundays focusing on this single speech of Jesus Christ about home mission.

Let us have a quick review. On the first Sunday, from the end of Matthew chapter 9, Jesus God the Son initiated his compassion on the "lost sheep" within God's chosen nation of Israel. Then he called the twelve disciples to be the missionaries, authorizing them, equipping them, instructing them, and reminding them the possible denial and suffering encountered in their mission adventure. That is from the second Sunday which is last week when he repeatedly says three times: "Do not be afraid."

On the third Sunday, which is today, Jesus finalized his sending speech to the twelve disciples. Noticeably, Jesus once again repeated few words many times. Let us hear again what he said:

“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

Which repeated words can we pick up from this passage? “Anyone” and “whoever” – 5 times; welcomes – 6 times; reward – 3 times. Then we can make a simple sentence summarizing the whole passage. That is – “Anyone who welcomes you will get reward.”

This is God’s promise to both us and the people we approach to. This promise is so important for us in understanding and conducting our mission task. If we unpack the Gospel reading furthermore, we see three persons are involving in two actions. The three persons include us, the people we meet with, and the Triune God as One who initiates the compassion, sending us and rewarding the welcomers. The two actions are basically welcoming and rewarding.

If we can use an example to illustrate the role of us or the twelve disciples in the text, “ambassadors” could be the most appropriate one. It also has Biblical reference in 2 Corinthians (5:20) as St Paul says, “Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.”

This reference is the key to understand the Gospel passage today. We are the ambassadors of God, whoever welcomes us, in fact, welcomes the Triune God himself. And because he or she welcomes the ambassador, the sender of the ambassador will definitely reward that person a gift. In this case, we, the ambassadors, are the couriers of God’s gifts for anyone who welcomes the Gospel. As Jesus said in v.40, “Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.”

Can you find the honour and dignity of us in God’s eyes? When we perform God’s mission, we represent the full honour and the full dignity of Jesus Christ – yet, indeed, the honour often is hidden in the denial from whom we proclaim the Gospel to; and the dignity often is hidden in our sufferings imposed by those whom we love especially within our own families - the lost sheep who refuse to return to God’s house. But we suffer “as though God were pleading through us” and suffer with us.

Then, by knowing our honour and dignity is abiding with Jesus on the cross, are you still afraid of talking salvation through Christ to the “lost sheep” among your children, friends and relatives?

If you are still not sure, Jesus has promised that your mission effort will never be in vain. Ambassadors are the highest-ranking representatives of their governments

abroad. We are too the highest-ranking ambassadors of the kingdom of heaven, carrying God's reward to anyone who is called, moved, and invited by the Holy Spirit to repent and reconcile to God.

When you prophesize to the "lost sheep" that God will forgive their sins if they turn to God and repent, God will surely fulfill your prophecy. That is what the Gospel says today: "Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward."

When you present Jesus as the righteous saviour to the "lost sheep," God will also back you up with the gift of salvation to all of them who accept Jesus as their Saviour and Lord. That is to say, "whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward."

God's promise to you as his ambassadors will never fail. If you are still not sure, Jesus further guaranteed you in his very last sentence of the whole sending speech. He said, "if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward."

Are you afraid that you are not gifted with much mission capability, like a little one among the mission activists, and nobody would really listen to you? But Jesus promised that God will back you up with whatsoever you have proclaimed. Even if someone welcomes you with the least hospitality, God will show him or her what you had said is true. That is the reward they are going to receive.

Our mission is God's mission. We are privileged to be called to walk with God in his mission field. But when we focus on our own feeling, our own success or failure, or our own reputations in mission, there are always worries and fears. Whereas when we focus on the identity God gave to us as his co-worker in the field and as fully authorised ambassadors in the world, we are empowered and energized with all God's promise.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, even though you thought you are the least of Jesus' disciples, you are still much loved and honoured by God. For you are the chosen race, the royal priesthood, the holy nation, God's own people who have been called out of darkness into marvellous light (1 Peter 2:9). You are the rivers of living water flowed from Jesus Christ. You are God's compassionate eyes gazing on the world. You are the honourable couriers carrying God's grace to anyone who welcomes you. You are grace itself! Therefore, be comforted and standing firm by these identities of who you are. God loves you forever. Amen.

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

SING OUR FAITH      AT 155      **We believe in God the Father**

We believe in God the Father, we believe, we believe.  
We believe He is the Holy One, we believe, we believe.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Lord, we believe, we believe,  
We believe he is God's only Son, we believe, we believe.  
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit.  
Born of the Virgin Mary;  
For us He died and was buried;  
On the third day He rose again.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, we believe, we believe.  
We believe in the holy Church of God, we believe, we believe.  
We believe in God's forgiveness, the resurrection from the dead:  
We believe in life everlasting, we believe, we believe.  
Amen, we believe.

OFFERING SONG

AT 101

**Jesus, Please Watch Over Us**

1/4

As we step from the edge of morning,  
Feet can't tell where to take us;  
Here's a light that will shine for ever,  
Here's the light that will guide us.

Chorus

*Jesus, please watch over us.  
Jesus, please take care of us*

2/4

Trouble comes, and we search for  
safety,  
We forget that you hold us;  
Fill our minds so that we remember,  
Say once more that you love us.

Chorus

*Jesus, please watch over us.  
Jesus, please take care of us*

3/4

Danger meets us at every moment.  
Death is never in hiding;  
You are stronger than any danger,  
You are stronger than dying.

Chorus

*Jesus, please watch over us.  
Jesus, please take care of us*

4/4

In your life is the Father's welcome,  
In your death there is freedom;  
Be our life and our death for ever,  
Be our new resurrection.

Chorus

*Jesus, please watch over us.  
Jesus, please take care of us*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

C. Thank you, Lord, for making us your people and for letting us hear your word.  
Help us gladly to receive your message and your messengers, and to give of  
ourselves and our possessions for your kingdom.  
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P. We have been set free from sin through baptism, so that we can serve Christ.  
He has invited and commanded us to pray. So, let us ask our heavenly Father  
to have mercy on the church and on the world.

**Response:** Lord have mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we pray for the nations of the world - for an end to war and for peaceful resolutions of conflict; for wise government and for honesty in commerce and industry. Come to those we spend the day with, through our godly work and conversation.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for your church - for obedient leadership, including in our own presidents and pastors, and for faithful discipleship; for unity of teaching and belief among Christians on the basis of your word and for the mission of the church throughout the world. Show us your face in those who speak your word and apply your righteousness to us, and move us to receive them gladly.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our community - for loving nurture of children and for care of the vulnerable; for respect for individuals regardless of status or power; and for the well-being of all. Come to those who need the gospel through our words and actions, and move them to receive you through us.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for all in need or distress - for relief for those suffering from natural disasters; for hope for the despairing. Show us your face in those who suffer, and stay your hand of judgment on the world.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for the children you place in our Cradle Roll, especially for those who were baptized in this month, including Owen Ponting, son of Blake and Samantha and brother to Riley. We ask you to keep them in care and love, nourish their faith with your Word, grant them your peace and joy.

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who are struggling with sickness at this time. Show us your face in those we can help, and meet the needs of those we now name silently in our hearts... *(brief silence)*

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, in your mercy give us all these things and whatever else we need on our journey to our heavenly home; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **CELEBRATION OF THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **PREFACE**

P. The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P. It is indeed right and good, Lord God, holy Father, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. he overcame death by his resurrection and opened up for us the way to eternal life with you. And so, with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name:

## SONG

AT 55

## **His Name is Wonderful**

1/4

His name is Wonderful,  
His name is Wonderful,  
His name is Wonderful,  
Jesus my Lord!

2/4

He is the mighty King,  
Master of everything;  
His name is Wonderful,  
Jesus my Lord!

3/4

He's the great shepherd,  
The rock of all ages,  
Almighty God is he!

4/4

Bow down before him,  
Love and adore him;  
His name is Wonderful,  
Jesus my Lord!

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P. Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take and eat; this is my body†, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me". In the same way He took the cup, after the supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said, "Drink of it, all of you; this is My blood† of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me".

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

C. Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

## LORD'S PRAYER

P. 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.

**C. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.  
Amen.**

### THE PEACE

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C. Amen.**

### COMMUNION ACCLAMATION

P: Jesus says: 'My flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day.'

### COMMUNION INVITATION

P: Come, for everything is ready.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### SONG                      AT 547              **Fill Our Hearts**

1/3

At the table, in his honour,  
Martha served with all her care.  
Mary poured out her devotion,  
and the perfume was her prayer.

*Chorus*

*Fill our hearts with such devotion.  
May our love be strong and true  
like the fragrance of her perfume.  
Make our passion always new,  
make our passion always new.*

2/3

She anointed him for dying,  
she prepared him for the grave.  
While the traitor criticised her,  
Jesus' words were full of praise.

3/3

May our living be our service,  
may our vision be of you,  
and our loving adoration  
shine in all we say and do.

### Chorus

*Fill our hearts with such devotion.  
May our love be strong and true  
like the fragrance of her perfume.  
Make our passion always new,  
make our passion always new.*

(x2)

### COMMUNION DISMISSAL

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen and preserve you in body and soul unto life eternal.

Go in peace†.

**C. AMEN**

### POST- COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and merciful God, your dear Son willingly offered up his body and blood on the cross for our sake. Give us courage and patience to take up our cross and follow him.

For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.

**BLESSING**                      **AT 94   The Benediction**

May the Lord bless us and keep us,  
With His power, be ever beside us,  
May the Lord look with favour upon us,  
And give us His peace.

**CALL FOR PRAISE**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

**C: God be praised for evermore.**

**AARONIC BLESSING**

P: 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.

**C. Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG**                      **AT 200   One More Step**

1/5

One more step along the world I go,  
One more step along the world I go,  
From the old things to the new  
Keep me travelling along with You.

**Chorus**

And it's from the old I travel to the  
new.  
Keep me travelling along with You.

3/5

As I travel through the bad and good,  
Keep me travelling the way I should.  
Where I see no way to go,  
You'll be telling me the way, I know:

**Chorus**

And it's from the old I travel to the new.  
Keep me travelling along with You.

2/5

Round the corners of the world I turn,  
More and more about the world I learn.  
All the new things that I see,  
You'll be looking at along with me:

**Chorus**

And it's from the old I travel to the  
new.  
Keep me travelling along with You.

4/5

Give me courage when the world is rough,  
Keep me loving though the world is tough.  
Leap and sing in all I do,  
Keep me travelling along with You:

**Chorus**

And it's from the old I travel to the new.  
Keep me travelling along with You.

5/5

Chorus

You are older than the world can be,  
You are younger than the life in me.  
Ever old and ever new,

And it's from the old I travel to the new.  
Keep me travelling along with You.

### THE SENDING

P. Go in peace, serve the Lord by being the messengers of the Gospel.

**C. In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. From 12th of July we recommence our "on-site" Sunday Service at each congregation:

Lockrose: 7:30	Pastor Jing leads
Ropeley: 7:30	Live-streaming from Lockrose
Laidley: 9:15	Pastor Jing leads
Tableel: 11:00	Pastor Jing leads

2. Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 17th of July:

Ropeley: 7:30	Pastor Jing leads
Lockros: 7:30	Live-streaming from Ropeley
Laidley: 9:15	Pastor Jing leads
Tableel: 11:00	Lay leading Service

3. New arrangement for attending Sunday Service will apply for the safety concern. Please follow the instructions of ushers and elders.

4. Ropeley Ladie's Guild will resume the Bible Study at church hall on 9am Monday 6th July. Pastor Jing will attend.

### Special prayers for these people in need of good Health

Brooke Kirkwood, Gwen Diете, Joan and Alex Body, Ann Rickuss, Marlene Staatz, Grace Norman, and Pastor Noel Noack.

### Baptism Anniversary

During June we remember the following child on the anniversary of their Baptism in our prayer: Owen Ponting, son of Blake and Samantha and brother to Riley.

# CONTACTS

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Peace Lutheran School Office: 5462 0700

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Ropeley: Robyn Dodt 5462 2062

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5465 6469/ 0438 665 301

**Hall Bookings:**

Redeemer: 0457 610 457

Ropeley: 5462 7184

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Christian Radio Station Vision 87.6FM

Voice 92.9 FM

Anything to be added to the Bulletin by  
9am every Thursday Please contact:

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## **NEXT SUNDAY** (5<sup>th</sup> July 2020)

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Leading: Pastor Jing Luan

Musician: Junnel Dionysius

Text:

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12 The humble king

Psalm: Psalm 145:8-14

Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a The struggle of the sinner-saint

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 Jesus reveals the Father,  
and the weary find rest in him