

ON DUTY 25th September

Door Duty:

Western Porch:

Eastern Porch:

Welcomers:

Western Porch:

Eastern Porch:

Bible:

Morning Tea:

Security:

Readings: A compilation of readings from the gospels which mention water, culminating in John 7:37-38

Scots Church Adelaide

Ministers: The Congregation

Minister to the Ministers: The Reverend Judith A Gilliland BA MEd MDiv
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Office hours 9 am to 3.30 pm

Tuesday to Thursday

SCOTS CHURCH ADELAIDE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA 18 September 2005

Welcome to September, the *Season of Creation*, using liturgies originally written by Norman Habel (www.seasonofcreation.com), and modified by Jason John, of the Scots Adelaide Ecoministry Project.



We invite you sit toward the front, to better see and participate, and to enhance our singing experience.



Outback Sunday

We the Uniting Church people of Scots Church on North Terrace are called by God to be a faithful, worshipping community growing in faith, visible and positive, so that we can be channels of God's love through whom others in the community recognise the God who welcomes them.

The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof (Psalm 24:1). The Aboriginal nations lived here with the Creator for millennia before Abraham was even born. And God was here long before that, within and amongst the creatures of the outback.

WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE
THE PRESENCE OF DIVINE MYSTERY

* **An asterisk indicates an invitation to stand as you are able**
'Let the outback lift up its voice'. Isaiah 42:11

Perhaps full of joy and faith, perhaps downcast, perhaps chastened, we come seeking strength for the journey.

*So be still. Enough. God is ready to give to you.
Here in this place in your needs.
the gift of healing for those in pain,
the gift of forgiveness for those in sin,
the gift of assurance for those in doubt,
and the gift of hope for those in tears.*

Start the screensaver slideshow w powerpoint projector

Prelude:

* Introit:

- Opening prayer: [liturgist <play contact video>](#)

God of 70,000, million million million stars and countless planets.
We give thanks for your interest in ours. You are welcome here.
We pray for a sense of your presence here amongst us, and an openness to what you have to say to us this morning.

Give us ears to hear and the courage to respond.

* Greeting: [\(Jason\)](#)

God was in the outback for billions of years before humans arrived
And with humans for millennia before Christians arrived,
Humans who lived immersed in life, daily confronted with the Otherness of life
And the Other who dwells within and amongst all life.
The uncontrollable Spirit who blows where it will
Spirit of the Outback, the coast, and everywhere in between,
thankyou for your presence here amongst us today.
Amen

* Call To Worship: [\(bible reader\)](#)

And the God of the forests, the soils, the outback, go with you.

A warm welcome is extended to all.

Especially those who are worshipping at Scots for the first time or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us, and this time of celebration together.

ANNOUNCEMENTS for week of 18 September

Church of the Trinity Clarence Park- Season of Creation Art Exhibition, involving 30 artists from all over Adelaide, exhibiting over 100 pieces. Open Wednesday to Sunday, 2-4pm and 6-8pm until Friday September 30. Contact Rev Anne Hewitt (8277 9833).

DIARY DATES

STEWARDSHIP at SCOTS week of

Weekly Pledges

Amount Received

Loose Collection

These figures do not include Annual Pledges

Please remember to read the information posted on the bulletin boards in the hall.

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Romans 5:12-19 abridged

Now we engage these words with the
help of Christ, the living Word.
Guide us God so that we find you.

Anthem:
Sermon:

IN FAITH WE RESPOND

A moment of silence

Hymn— Return to Earth, on handout.

Pastoral Prayers
Life and work of the Congregation (Joys and Concerns)

Moment for Ministry—special announcements from a Cluster

Invitation to Offering
Come, let us bring our offering to the living God— our gifts will now
be received. *If you are visiting with us today, and would like to contribute to
this offering you are welcome, but it is not expected.*

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Sending forth
May the Spirit of God, who is above all and in all and
through all,
fill us with the knowledge of God's presence in Earth
this Earth- God's home and our home.
Amen.

Blessing
Go in peace, serving Christ and loving Earth!

The God of the outback be with you.
And also with you.

**God, we gather this morning to worship in this sanctu-
ary called Earth,**
a planet filled with your presence,
quivering in the forests,
vibrating in the land,
pulsating in the outback,
shimmering in the rivers.

**God, reveal yourself to us in this place
and show us your face in all creation.
Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with God's presence.**

Hymn: Where wide Sky rolls down (AHB 188)

Introduction [by Jason](#)

Passing the Peace

Deep peace, as of the predawn desert be with you
And also with you.

Welcome each other, and share the peace of God with each other

Silent worship—We invite you to close your eyes for this guided
prayerful meditation.

We hear our breath.

The breath of those around us

Coughing, shifting in seats

We hear the traffic

<pause>

We listen for what is beyond

<pause>

We hear the Flinders, ghost gums, Spinifex, Uluru.

The bound of wallabies and soft pad of dingos.

The scratching of climbing goannas and the wind whistle
through the wings of soaring eagles.

We hear the Dreaming, ceremonies, secret business.

<pause>

We hear the song of the Outback!

Sing, Outback, sing!

We remember

We remember the outback,
A symbol of fear, desolation and death for the ancestors of
some us
Criss-crossed for millennia by the ancestors of others
Evolutionary melting-pot for those creatures who are ances-
tors of none of us

God of the outback- we remember

We remember the outback, romanticised, glorified, vilified,
mined and pumped and dumped upon. We remember
Uluru, we remember Maralinga. Nuclear test, nuclear mine,
nuclear dump. Feral animals, overgrazing, salinisation. Sa-
cred site. Mine site. Out of sight.

God of the outback- we remember

Of those who forget Earth, and treat this planet as a beast to
be tamed and a place to be ruled.

God of the outback- we lament. We object. We act.

SONG: Ashes to Ashes (DUTNEY)

We sing the parts in bold.

**Ashes to Ashes and dust to dust
people are made of such natural stuff
birth is a miracle, death is its end
a cycle repeated again and again**

siblings parents, ancestors
learning their names and their places because
family's a gift wrapped in every new birth...
but what of the kinship we have with the earth?

**Creatures that creep and that swim and that fly
creatures that love and that talk and that lie
all are embodied, and breathe the same air**

life is essentially something we share

villages, townships, cities & states
modes of community people have shaped
how has it happened, we've let them become...
a cancerous growth threatening creation?

**Ashes to Ashes and dust to dust
ready to take all creation at once
pass me the bottle, I need an escape or
pass the petition before its too late!**

**turn on the TV, I need some peace or
give me a banner, I'll take to the streets!
visions of power cast their spell, and their curse**

now where are the
visions of hope for the earth?

Christ forgives, God forgives.
But how does the Outback forgive?
How does the God of the outback forgive?
<pause>
Turn around, for God's family is at hand.

Christ calls out to us,
Come home to Earth, you are a creature of the Earth.
**Christ, teach us to love Earth
and return to Earth as our home.**

WE LISTEN FOR WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING
TO US TODAY

Song on CD: *Guide me God*, Sinead O'Connor.
"Guide me God and I will find you... I'll always know you're there"

Children's address
A medley of stories of Jesus in the Outback