

ANNOUNCEMENTS for week of 25 September

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.

ON DUTY

Door Duty:

Western Porch:

Eastern Porch:

Welcomers:

Western Porch:

Eastern Porch:

Bible:

Morning Tea:

Security:

ON DUTY 2 October

Door Duty:

Western Porch:

Eastern Porch:

Welcomers:

Western Porch:

Eastern Porch:

Bible:

Morning Tea:

Security:

Readings:

SCOTS CHURCH ADELAIDE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA 25 September 2005

Welcome to our final week of the *Season of Creation* (www.seasonofcreation.com), using liturgies modified by Jason John, of the Adelaide Ecoministry Project, an initiative of Scots Uniting Church.



NEXT WEEK: we resume our usual format. If you are interested in being part of an ongoing worshipping community which explores our relationship with God as creator, see Jason or visit the website (see address on left)



River Sunday

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,

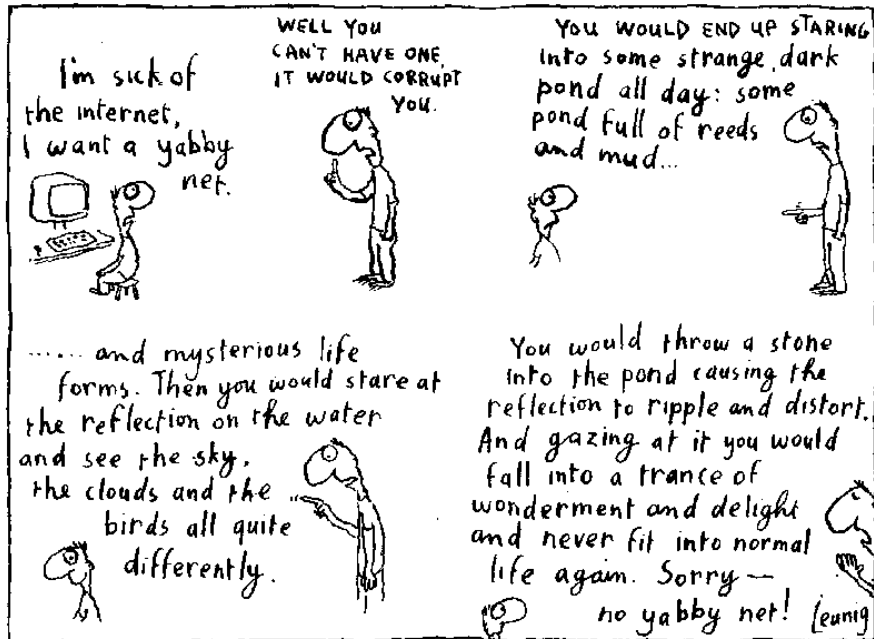
The gift of laughter for those with joy

and the gift of hope for those in tears.

The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof (Psalm 24:1). Humans lived on this land, with the Creator, for tens of thousands of years before Jesus was baptised in the Jordan. And God was here long before that, long before even the Murray existed, within and amongst the creatures of the rivers.

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



Prelude:

* Introit:

• Opening prayer: **Geoff**

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: **Geoff**

God was here before the rivers
Jesus pointed us to the living streams
The Spirit brooded over the waters, and we are baptised
within them

Hymn- As pants the hart (deer) TIS # 25

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 (**Geoff**)

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 (**Jason**)

Go in peace, serving Christ and lov-
ing Earth!

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

A warm welcome is extended to all!

Especially those who are worshipping at
Scots for the first time or who have re-
turned after an absence. Your presence
both enriches us, and this time of celebra-
tion together.



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?

WE LISTEN FOR WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING
 TO US TODAY

A time for personal preparation as we listen to a song on CD:
Guide me God, Sinead O'Connor.

Children's address [John Birmingham– waddyamean?](#)
 NT reading– a compilation of readings from the gospels and Revelation which mention water.

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

Anthem:
 Sermon:
 A moment of silence

IN FAITH WE RESPOND

God of the rivers, and of all who dwell within them and drink
 from them,
 thankyou for your presence here amongst us today.
Amen

- Call To Worship: [Brian](#)
 The God of the rivers be with you.
And also with you.

God, we gather this morning to worship in this sanctuary
 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: Song of the Waters © Norman Habel, Tune TIS 134
 Watch once more the windswept storm clouds;
 Suddenly the sky has wings!
 God has come to rain among us,
 Giving hope to all dry things.
 Sing a song of splashing waters,
 Pulsing through the veins of Earth.

Taste the moisture of the morning,
 Smoother than the best red wine;
 Toast the lifeblood of the planet:
 Here's to God's wild wet design!
 Sing a song of flowing waters,
 Pulsing through the veins of Earth.

View anew the dark blue ocean,
 Whales cavorting, spraying foam;

God at play with deep sea monsters,
 Feeling very much at home.
 Sing a song of laughing waters,
 Pulsing through the veins of Earth.

Feel the breath of God move softly,
 Gentle mists that brush the skin;
 Earth is breathing God's own spirit,
 Life renewed from deep within.
 Sing a song of living waters,
 Pulsing through the veins of Earth.

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.* [Jason](#)

The river of life flows out before us
 It surrounds us, immerses us, upholds us
 It flows through our veins
 Fills our cells.

We now carry the rivers sealed within our skins
 Like all mammals, like the reptiles
 The river no longer oozes from our flesh, like it does for
 frogs
 It no longer surrounds us, like it does for fish

But we hear it, flowing through this land
 Flowing through our veins

We hear the song of the Rivers!
Sing, Rivers, sing!

We remember ([Geoff](#))

We remember the rivers,
 Places we have sailed, played, swum.
 Rich symbol of our tradition
 Restless, never still, always on the way.
 Life blood of this dry continent
God of the rivers- we remember

We remember the rivers. Stagnant, saline, poisoned,
 loaded with nitrogen.
God of the Murray Mouth- we remember

Here at the mouth of the Murray, here in the Adelaide Hills,
 we see the legacy of human ignorance and greed. We see
 the result of ignoring the prophets. We see that many still
 have glistening green lawns and demand all vegetables all
 year round. **Christ, who pointed us to living water, we
 see.**

Yet others have drunk deeply. Springs of hope burble up all
 over this land. **God of the rivers, may their tribe in-
 crease.**

SONG: Ashes to Ashes (DUTNEY)

We sing it all.

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