

OFFERING / OFFERTORY PRAYER

**HYMN 666: *We are marching in the light of God***

BENEDICTION

That you may go out into the world, happy as those who have been given a remarkable treasure.  
I bless you in the name of the living God.

**Amen!**

That holding this treasure which is far too much for you, you may share this wealth by many gracious deeds and words.  
I bless you in the name of the living Christ.

**Amen!**

That in your enthusiasm you may display tact and sensitivity, and when bruised or weary you may exhibit patience and fortitude. I bless you in the name of the living Spirit.

**Amen!**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:  
**in the name of Christ. Amen.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE:

*(Please remain seated until the end of the postlude)*

Flowers Today: Heather Suriano  
Reader Today: Alan Chuck  
Readings: next week

Genesis 1: 1-5;  
Acts 19: 1-7

Next week: Fay Hatton  
Next week: Warren Clarnette

PSALM 29  
Mark 1: 4-11

Happy New Year! Thank you to Bruce Macrae, the pianist.

Church messages: 9818 2119  
Organist: Margaret Pettitt. 9077 0467  
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# The Auburn Newsletter

## Hawthorn Uniting Parish

Sunday 3rd January 2020

**Service Today**  
10am Worship Service  
Rev Steve Crump

**Next Sunday**  
10am Worship Service  
Rev Steve Crump

Welcome to all who worship at Auburn today.  
Responses by the congregation are in bold type.

CHRISTMAS 2

ORGAN PRELUDE:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

We are here in the name of Christ Jesus.  
**We are here to worship God.**  
No one has ever seen God.  
**Yet the only true Son,**  
**who lives in the heart of the Father,**  
**this Jesus has made God known.**

The light of Christ Jesus be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**HYMN 301: *The first nowell the angel did say***

OPENING PRAYER

Most holy Friend, hidden from our eyes yet made knowable in Mary's holy Son. Through him we approach you with confidence. Let us begin this service with eagerness, continue it with open hearts, and end it with renewed courage. In the name Christ Jesus, who with you and the Holy Spirit are worthy of our utmost love and praise and service.

**Amen!**

**Sunday Service**  
10 am weekly

**Holy Communion:**  
**monthly:**  
10 am: 3rd Sunday

**Church Lunch:**  
12 noon in the Hall  
monthly 3rd Sunday  
(when permitted under Covid19 restrictions)

**Morning Coffee**  
10.15am monthly  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, March to November, in the Eileen Pawsey Room

**Church Council:**  
7.45 pm monthly  
2nd Thursday in the Pawsey Room

*NB: Dates and times may occasionally change documented in the pew sheet notices*

**HYMN 181: *Come, O God of all the earth***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most loving and most lovely God, we yearn for you and adore you, as we have done on frequent occasions, we commit ourselves to your mercy, knowing that you are here waiting for us.

If, like sleep walkers, we wander from you without realising what we are doing, lead us back to where we truly belong, we pray.

Faithful and most liberal God, please help us to let go of excuses and fears; to release ourselves into the abundance of your saving grace in Christ Jesus; to humbly accept forgiveness; and to allow your Word to point our minds to noble goals and direct our feet in the paths of love. Through Jesus our Lord  
***Amen!***

Friends we are the shareholders of a great fortune. Out of the storehouse of God's loving, we have received grace upon grace, and are granted the right to become children of God.  
***Thanks be to God.***

READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT: Jeremiah 31:7-14

PSALM 147:12-20: (*UiW page 354*)

EPISTLE: Ephesians 1: 3-14

GOSPEL: John 1: 10-18

SERMON

**HYMN 156: *Morning has broken***

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/ LORD'S PRAYER

Holy Friend, help us in these prayers to let go of our self-importance, to align ourselves with your will; and to co-operate with all that you are doing for the liberation and healing of humankind.

We hand over to you our loved ones and friends, near or far away; May they, whether strong or weak in faith, co-operate with your purposes and fulfil their lives in ways beyond their anticipation.

We hand over to you our church, its members and its leaders. May we, in concert with your universal church on earth in its many branches, participate in the mission of Christ with humble zeal and untiring love.

We hand over to you the individuals within the church family for whom today seems like an uneven battle with adversity. May they know that around them are the "everlasting arms" which never weary or faint.

We hand over to you our brave but gravely flawed systems of democratic government. May the better intentions of our politicians survive the cynical pressures of powerful lobby groups and become legislation that will better the lives of the least powerful among our citizens.

We hand over to you systems of government in other nations that seem even more flawed than ours. Just as you are prepared to work within our limitations, may your Spirit also work within theirs, and bring the world closer to peace and goodwill for all.

We hand over to you the coming week. Whatever pleasure, pain, uplift or downfall, may come our way, please give us the grace to entrust all things to you, that both good and bad may be woven into a tapestry of greater purpose, and our daily lives declare your praise. Through Christ Jesus our Friend and Redeemer  
***Amen!***

THE LORD'S PRAYER