

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
PARRAMATTA-NEPEAN PRESBYTERY



Order of Service

The Induction of

the Reverend Myung Hwa Park

as

Minister of the Word

at

Leura Uniting Church
Sunday 14th February 2021

*Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched off or to silent.
You are not allowed to under Covid Safe rules to sing.
The lyrics will be displayed on screens.*

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Welcome

Rev Dr John Cox
Chairperson of the Leura Congregation

Friends and guests,
The Leura Congregation of the Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery welcome you all to this wonderful occasion.

We gather to worship and honour God as the Presbytery inducts The Reverend Myung Hwa Park as the Minister of the Word in the Leura Congregation.

*Please remain seated as we hear the song: **Please no singing***

“Here in this place.....” TIS 474

1. Here in this place a new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see, in this space,
our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery;
we are the old, who yearn for your face;
we have been sung through-out all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3. Here we will take of the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt of the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in, and hold us forever;
gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Marty Haugen 1950 –
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Acknowledgement of Country, Welcome

*Chairperson of Parramatta Nepean
Presbytery -- Rev Geoff Stevenson*

With respect, we acknowledge the original custodians of the land on which we gather: the people of the Gundungurra. We pay our respects to their elders, past and present, and pray that we might together be faithful stewards of the land, striving for reconciliation between all who share it.

Call to Worship

Rev Geoff Stevenson, Chairperson of Parramatta Nepean Presbytery

With people from all times and places,

God calls us to worship and share together this mystery of life, and faith, and love!

In the company of those well-known and little known.

God invites us to journey together along this way of mystery.

Greeting

The Parramatta Nepean Presbytery has resolved to induct the Reverend Myung Hwa Park to serve as Minister of the Word at Leura Uniting Church.

Myung Hwa, we rejoice that God has called you by the voice of the church to serve Jesus Christ in this congregation.

On this occasion of joyous celebration,

I greet you in the name of God:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayers of Adoration, Praise and Confession Declaration of Forgiveness

Rev Dr John Cox

“God was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself, not counting our trespasses against us, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.”

Hear then, Christ’s word of grace to us: Our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

“Joyful, joyful, we adore you” TIS 152

1. Joyful, joyful we adore you,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

2. All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
singing bird and flowing fountain
call to praise you joyfully.

3. You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest.
You our Father, Christ our brother,
all are yours who live in love;
teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to your joy above.

CCLI Song # 3788400

Henry Van Dyke | Lani Smith | Ludwig van Beethoven

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Readings
2 Kings 2: 1-12
Mark 9: 2-9

Dennis Christie
Kate Prowse

Preaching of the Word:

Rev Dr Clive Pearson
Taking time to get the big picture

<u>THE SERVICE OF INDUCTION</u>
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Please stand – Chairperson of Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery

Statement of Faith: God Is With Us

From the United Church of Canada, General Council 1968

***We are not alone,
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
Who works in us and others
by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God***

Presentation Chairperson of the JNC or Presbytery Secretary

Chairperson, I present the Reverend Myung Hwa Park to be inducted as Minister of the Word in the Leura Uniting Church Congregation.

Questions to the Minister Chairperson

Myung Hwa, my sister in Christ, you are called to be a servant and shepherd in the Leura Uniting Church Congregation.

It is your work to proclaim Christ's gospel, to share in the conduct of worship, to encourage God's people in their ministry, to care for those in need, to stand with those who suffer, and to pray and act for justice.

You will take Christ the Servant as your example, ministering to his people and serving with them in their witness to the world.

In view of this solemn trust, we ask you to reaffirm the declaration of faith and obedience that you made at your ordination, and to show that you desire, by God's Grace, to begin your ministry in Leura Uniting Church.

And so I ask you: do you confess anew Jesus Christ as Lord?

I do so confess.

Do you receive the witness to Christ in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

I do.

Do you accept the discipline of the Uniting Church in Australia, and the oversight of the Parramatta Nepean Presbytery?

I do.

Do you affirm and commit yourself to the covenant made between the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress and the Uniting Church and accept the obligation to serve both First and Second peoples?

I do.

Will you take part in the work of this Presbytery and other councils of the Uniting Church, and will you share in the life and witness of the wider Church?

I will.

*[A group of people representing the Leura Congregation comes forward.
They bring a Bible, water, bread and wine and say together:]*

***We are the people of God.
We bring the Holy Bible, water, bread and wine,
as signs of the ministry
to which you were ordained.***

The Chairperson says:

Will you study the Scriptures,
proclaim the Gospel and
preside at the Sacraments
within the discipline of the Church?

I will, by the grace of God.

Myung Hwa takes the Bible, opens it and places it on the pulpit; takes the jug and pours water into the font; and takes the bread and wine and places them on the Communion table.

*[A second group comes forward, representing the diversity of the congregation.
They bring the Pastoral Care Roll and symbols of the Congregation. They say together:]*

***We have come representing the people of Leura Uniting Church. It is your duty to
care for the people entrusted to you and to exercise appropriate spiritual leadership.***

The Chairperson says:

Will you exercise your duties for the family of God in Leura Uniting Church?

I will, by the grace of God.

Myung Hwa takes the Pastoral Care Roll, symbols of the Congregation and places them on the table. The group then returns to their places.

The Chairperson says:

Myung Hwa, will you follow the example of Christ, and give yourself in humble service?
I will, by the grace of God.

Induction Prayer

Myung Hwa kneels, and the Chairperson says:

Let us pray: Almighty God, in every age you have chosen servants to speak your word and lead your people. We thank you for Myung Hwa who you have called to serve you. Fill her with the Holy Spirit and give her gifts for this ministry. May he have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, and be a faithful disciple, being an example to the people of God and witnessing before the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Aaronic Blessing *(spoken)*

***The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.***

Declaration of Induction

Myung Hwa stands and faces the people. The Chairperson says:

In the name of Jesus Christ, the sovereign Head of the Church, and by the authority of the Parramatta Nepean Presbytery, we now declare the Reverend Myung Hwa Park to be inducted to serve as Minister of the Word in Leura Uniting Church.

The people applaud!

The Responses

Chairperson

My brothers and sisters in Christ, the Church declares that its members shall acknowledge Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, confess the Christian faith, accept the discipline of the Church, and share in its ministry.

The Chairperson requests members of Parramatta Nepean Presbytery to stand, and says:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, will you support Myung Hwa in the discharge of her responsibilities within this Presbytery?

We will, in the love of Christ.

The Chairperson invites members of the Presbytery to greet Myung Hwa.

Rev Paul Cameron, Chairperson of Leura Church Council comes forward, and invites the members of Leura Uniting Church to stand, and says:

Myung Hwa, I greet you as our new minister.

*I present to you the people of God in this congregation, ministers with you in the gospel,
and I commend them to your prayers.*

On their behalf, I greet you in the name of Christ.

The Chairperson of Presbytery says:

Brothers and sisters, will you take part in the public worship of God, and contribute to the work of God as you are able; will you endeavour to make a Christian witness in the community, by word and action?

We will, the Lord being our helper.

Will you honour Myung Hwa as your pastor and leader; will you listen for God's word in her preaching; will you welcome her into your homes; will you provide for her that which is necessary for her physical welfare; and will you at all times support her with your love and prayers?

We will, the Lord being our helper.

The Chairperson of Presbytery welcomes clergy or representatives of other churches or the community who are present to greet Myung Hwa.

Rev Myung Hwa makes a brief response.

Offering:

In accordance with Leura Covid19 Safety plan.

Offering Prayer: Rev Geoff Stevenson

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Rev Dr Mel Macarthur

Introduction: Leunig. Prayer of a Pilgrim, from 'When I talk to you: a cartoonist talks to God'.

We pray for another way of being; another way of knowing.

Across the difficult terrain of our existence we have attempted to build a highway and in so doing have lost our footpath. God lead us to our footpath:

lead us there where in simplicity we may move at the speed of natural creatures and feel the earth's love beneath our feet. Lead us there where step-by-step we may feel the movement of creation in our hearts. And lead us to where we may feel the embrace of the common soul. Nothing can be loved at speed.

God lead us to the slow path; the joyous

Insights of the pilgrim: another way of knowing

Another way of being.

Amen

Bidding. Lord in your mercy.

Response. *Hear our Prayer.*

Loving and Eternal God,

Our congregation has arrived at a great point in its history with the induction of the Reverend Myung Hwa Park. We look forward to ministering with her and exploring the possibilities for ministry in this area of the Blue Mountains...and beyond. We pray that we will have a commitment to match our excitement. We pray that we will make our talents and resources available to Myung Hwa as together, we seek to meet the challenges and realise the possibilities of ministry in the Blue Mountains. In this process of discerning our way, we pray that we be alert to Your still small voice and that we make the time to be still and listen and that the directions we discern may be reached from a stillness of mind and calmness of spirit.

Lord in Your Mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

We pray also for the people affected by the ongoing pandemic. We are encouraged by the possibilities of the vaccines, but we are concerned about their distribution. The pandemic has harmed the poor and marginalized people in societies much more than the well off. We pray that we will not see a repeat of this class-based injustice in the distribution of the vaccines, where the poor once again bear the brunt of the discriminatory practices of the well-off. We pray that those making decisions may act ethically and not from self interest, or class interest, or parochial national interest.

Lord in Your Mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

Lord, we think of the issues that the pandemic has made so much more intense. We have seen the eroding of trust in authority, particularly in government. There is much doubt in the community about information that is being released. There is much distrust in society about the motives of those in power. Lord, it is difficult to know how to respond to this issue, because the distrust is not wholly without reason or merit. We want to live in a society where we can place trust in those who govern, who exert authority. We simply pray for ourselves as a society, we who live amidst distrust. We pray that we may make our contribution to the restoration of trust in society by listening as closely and impartially as we can to alternate points of view to our own, and by being willing to change where there is merit in alternative points of view, tall task though that is.

Lord in your Mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

We pray for those people known to us who are struggling with issues of poverty, physical and mental health and simply getting older. Often the scale of need challenges our discernment about how to respond. Lord give us clarity of thought and perspective as we deliberate on how best to be your disciple in this, which is decidedly not, the best of all possible worlds.

Lord in your Mercy.

Hear our Prayer.

We conclude our prayers with the prayer that Jesus taught us:

***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.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.***

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

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

“Christ is made the sure foundation” TIS 432

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 loving kindness
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.

J M Neale 1818 – 1866

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Blessing

Go forth into the world in peace;
be of good courage;
hold fast that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the faint-hearted;
support the weak;
help the afflicted;
honour all people;
love and serve the Lord,
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.



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