



BENEDICTUS
contemplative church

LENT 2
27 FEBRUARY 2021
THE GROUND OF IDENTITY

BLESSING

The blessing of the Maker,
who knows you, be yours;
the blessing of the Son,
who journeys with us, be yours;
the blessing of the Spirit,
who encourages, be yours;
the love of God,
reconciling,
vitalising,
transforming,
be yours now and always.

Amen

*We invite contributions to the ministry of
Benedictus through the retiring collection
or direct debit to the Benedictus account
BSB: 633 000, Account No: 153841135*

KALEIDOSCOPE

a quiet afternoon for children

When: Sunday February 28, 2:00 – 4:30pm

For more info: www.benedictus.com.au

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WELCOME – Sarah Bachelard

OPENING RESPONSES

Marked by a cross,
cherished and forgiven
we are journeying to you.

Called to be holy,
called to be happy
we are journeying to you.

Across wastelands,
over mountains
we are journeying to you.

God in our hearts,
God in our lives
we are journeying in you.

ACKNOWLEDGING COUNTRY

GATHERING PRAYER

Merciful God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen

THE WORD OF GOD

Let us listen for the Word of God

Mark 8. 31-38

REFLECTION

MEDITATION

To meditate, sit still and upright. Close your eyes lightly. Sit relaxed but alert. Silently, interiorly begin to say a single word. We recommend the prayer-phrase, 'Maranatha'. Say it as four syllables of equal length. Listen to it as you say it, gently but continuously. Do not think or imagine anything – spiritual or otherwise. If thoughts and images come, these are distractions at the time of meditation, so keep returning simply to saying the word.

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PRAYERS

We give thanks for our friends.
Our dear friends.
We anger each other.
We fail each other.
We share this sad earth, this tender life,
 this precious time.
Such richness. Such wildness.
Together we are blown about.
Together we are dragged along.
All this delight.
All this suffering.
All this forgiving life.
We hold it together. **Amen**

Love of all, love in all,
you call us your friends.
Help us befriend each other.

Those who repel or unsettle us ...

Those who are foreign and seemingly
worlds apart ...

Those who are closest to us and
sometimes most difficult of all ...

Love of all, love in all,
we pray for those who feel themselves
alone in hostile contexts and far from
home. We remember especially refugees
and migrants living in poverty and
uncertainty, suffering racism and punitive
treatment, threatened by our
threatenedness. We pray for advocates,
relief agencies and ordinary folk who
stand in solidarity and act kindly.

Love of all, love in all,
draw us deeper into you,
that our world may reflect
your love, justice and joy. **Amen**

CLOSING RESPONSES

Creator of all,
Saviour of all,
Spirit in all,
One God in perfect community,
go with us now.

Where there is apathy,
kindle the flame of your love.

Where there is deceit,
confront every lie with your truth.

Where there is defendedness,
open our hearts to encounter.

Where we hesitate to serve,
make us restless until we are changed.

SONG

I'm gonna look twice at you
Until I see the Christ in you
When I'm lookin through
the eyes of love ...

Words and music by Mike Scott.