

Actions & Intentions



St Aidan's Uniting Church
28th July 2024

Call to Worship

We gather to come before our God,
whose love encompasses all;
we come with the hope
to walk more firmly
in the footsteps of Christ.

**Let us join our intentions and actions together
as we come to worship God.**

Acknowledgement of country

We are not the first people to walk this land. We
acknowledge the Wadjuk people of the Nyungar Nation
who have cared for this place since time immemorial.

**We give thanks for and pray for their Elders past and
present.**

Prayers

Rob Andrew

Now I invite you into a world of reality and imagination.

We know that God does not use a scale to score us, but it
is helpful for us in our reflection. Imagine a scale from 1
with increasing severity up to 10, where human actions do
not match God's standards

Now as you reflect on David's actions what is his score on
his actions towards Bathsheba?

What is his score on his machinations with Uriah to cover
over his misdemeanour?

Now in our own hearts let's take a few moments to give
our own scores to action that does not meet God's
standards

Words of Assurance

God, we offer you our scores

**where we did not meet your standards,
knowing that you are a forgiving God
and that we can go from this place
cleansed of our sins in order to start again**

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Intercession

Loving God,
when we pray for the needs of our world,
all too frequently we only pray
for the victims,
the oppressed,
and those who are suffering.

Today, help us to pray
for the people whose actions and intentions
are two different things
as well as for the people they hurt
because of this discrepancy.

We pray for the people
who only know
a selfish use of power and control
and think that this is how to show love,
especially when it is because
that is what they have seen
in their families of origin.

We pray for the people
who affected by selfish power
and have experienced
violence, threats, and fear
coming from a person
who should be keeping them safe.

Help us also, loving God,
to pray for those few people
whose intention really is

about inflicting pain on others –
soften their hearts
and teach them a new way of being.

Help us to be part of a new movement
where the intention is love
and the actions of all
match this
so all your people have a fresh start
and a new hope
for a better world.
Amen.

Benediction & Blessing

We go out from here
seeking to live the life
to which God has called us
knowing we are supported each day
by the love of God,
the companionship of Christ,
and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.