

# Confession of faith



St Aidan's Uniting Church  
9<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
Lent 1

## Call to Worship

"The word is near you,  
in your mouth and in your heart."

Come,  
open your heart, mind, and soul  
to the Word of God  
in this time and place:  
**we come to worship God.**

## Prayers

Creator God,  
often we confess our faith with our mouths  
and fail to let it change our hearts;  
we make our statements of faith  
and then go back  
to our old ways of living.

Forgive us,  
God of compassion,  
when we do what is comfortable  
and not what is right.

Forgive us,  
Christ, the Human One,  
when we are sucked back  
into being an exclusivist club  
rather than being your body in our world.

Forgive us,  
Spirit of the Holy One,  
when feel your breath in us  
and yet we dig our heels in  
and look to keeping everything the same  
as we had before.

Holy God, three in One,  
we experience you in community

and yet fail to be community  
for those outside our circles:  
forgive us when we fail to share your love,  
forgive us when we fail to share our grace,  
help us to not just hear your word  
but also to put it into action in our lives.  
Amen.

### Words of Assurance

Jesus the Christ who walked this earth  
experienced all that it is to be human  
and knows what it is to struggle  
with what God calls us to  
at this time  
and in this place.

Know that Christ not only strengthens you  
and leads you.

Know that God loves you  
and forgives you:

**Thanks be to God.**

### Prayer of Intercession

Loving God  
who calls us to be in unity  
and reminds us  
there is neither Greek nor Jew,  
we pray for the peoples  
who are divided in modern ways  
in this world.

We pray for the rich and the poor:  
for those who are buying power,  
political influence,  
or even nations  
with their money,

and for those  
who wish they could buy  
enough food  
for their children to eat.

We pray for the near and the far:  
for those who are our neighbours,  
in our streets  
or communities  
and those who live  
the other side of the world.

We pray for those whom we understand  
and those whom we don't:  
for the people  
whose language and culture is like ours  
and those whose words and ways  
are so very different.

We pray for those who know you  
and those who don't,  
and those who know you by another name;  
Amen.

## Benediction & Blessing

"The word is near you,  
in your mouth and in your heart."

Wherever you go,  
the word is near you  
if you will be open  
to experiencing God in the world.

May you always know God's blessing;  
and may you always be God's blessing  
to all the people you encounter  
on the journey of life.