

*For the love
of helping people*

ORDER OF SERVICE 2018



Acknowledgement of First Peoples

From river to ocean,
from campfire to hearth,

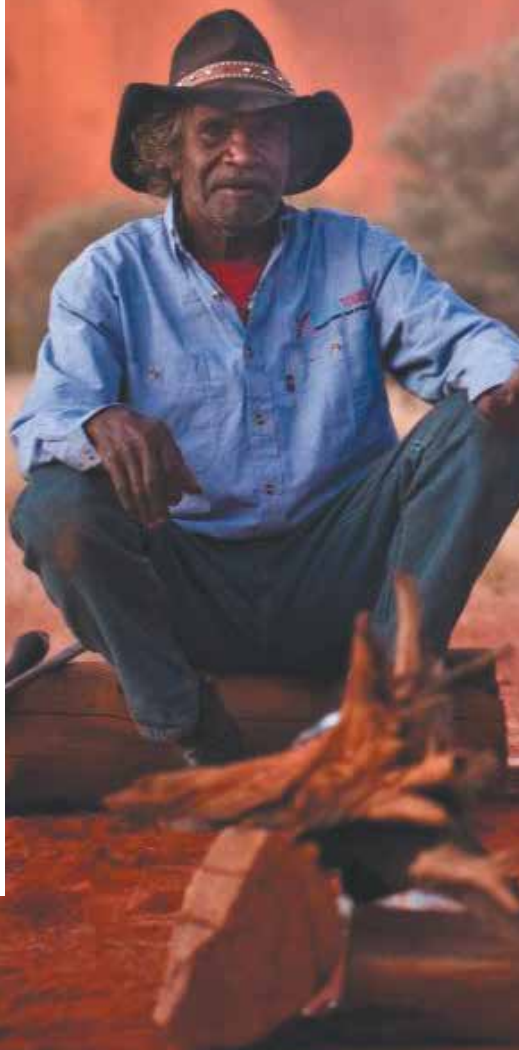
**May the First People who have
cared for this Land be blessed.**

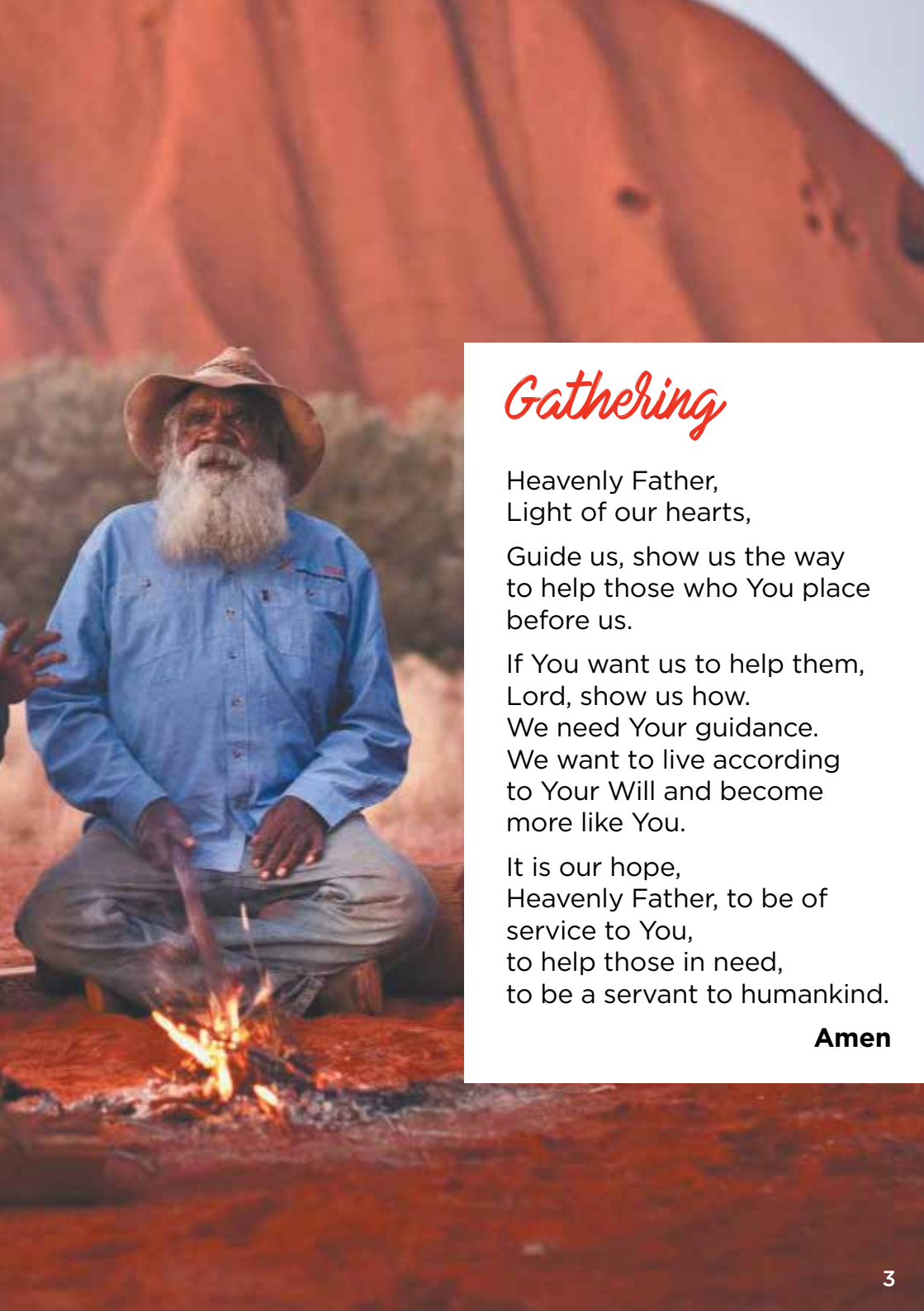
From breath to song,
from step to dance,

**May those who follow Your
Songlines guide us on the
journey of living honourable
in this place.**

From greeting to Amen,
from silence to chorus,

**May our worship join with
the voices of the First Peoples
of this Land.**





Gathering

Heavenly Father,
Light of our hearts,

Guide us, show us the way
to help those who You place
before us.

If You want us to help them,
Lord, show us how.

We need Your guidance.
We want to live according
to Your Will and become
more like You.

It is our hope,
Heavenly Father, to be of
service to You,
to help those in need,
to be a servant to humankind.

Amen



Adoration

Author of all marvels, we praise You.
 Creator of all things heavenly and earthly,
 we praise You.
 Your power and Your wisdom
 are everywhere displayed.
 You have placed the night skies
 to be a roof over our heads,
 and the solid and fruitful earth
 to be the ground under our feet.
 O Father and Guardian of humankind,
 we thank and praise You!

Amen

- *The Sky Above & The Earth Beneath*

Hymn

Where wide sky rolls down and touches red sand

Where wide sky rolls down and touches red sand,
where sun turns to gold the grass of the land,
let spinifex, mulga and waterhole tell their joy in the
One who made everything well.

Where rain-forest calm meets reef, tide and storm,
where green things grow lush and oceans are warm,
let every sea-creature and tropical bird,
exult in the light of the life-giving Word.

Where red gum and creek cross hillside and plain,
where cool tree-ferns rise to welcome the rain,
let bushland, farm, mountain-top, all of their days
delight in the Spirit who formed them for praise.

Now, people of faith, come gather around
with songs to be shared, for blessings abound!
Australians, whatever your culture or race,
come, lift up your heart to the Giver of grace.

"Hymn 188 in *Together in Song*, "Where wide sky rolls down and touches red sand", can be seen as an Australian parallel to Psalm 148. The hymn writer, poet and Anglican priest, Elizabeth J. Smith, beautifully and deftly chooses words to craft verbal images of the diverse landscape in which Australians of different cultures and ethnicity find a visual dimension of their self identity. [Image included] Hymn 188, a gouache stencil painting by Rev. Dr. Geraldine Wheeler, a retired UCA Minister photographed by Rod Buchholz. This stencil painting, Hymn 188, was inspired through the singing of this hymn in a service, led by a member of the staff of Frontier Services, which celebrated the centenary of the formation of the Australian Inland Mission by the Presbyterian Church with Rev. John Flynn at the helm in 1912. The words helped me recall the landscape, the flora and fauna, and the life of communities across this vast country as I have experienced them and then to translate the memories into these images."

Psalm 126:4

Restore our fortunes,
Lord as streams renew the desert.
Those who plant in tears
will harvest with shouts of joy.
They weep as they go to plant their seed,
but they sing as they return with the harvest.

Congregation News & Prayers

Choice of Readings

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-13
1 Corinthians 13

Mark 4: 3-20
1 Peter 1: 3-9

Reflections & Sharing Confession

Forgive us, God who came down to us.
Humble us, that we might be true servants
to the broken and lost.

Split open our frozen hearts that compassion
might flow freely to those who are hurting.

Fill our minds with the presence of Your Spirit,
that we might learn how to follow Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Saviour,
into that kingdom of grace and hope.

We would want to be foundations of hope
for others, God of glory,
but people find only hardened hearts.

We would like to be transformed people,
but our stubborn pride prevents us
from bending a knee to You.

We long to stand with those who are in need,
but our selfishness keeps our backs
rigid in judgment.



Assurance of Forgiveness

This is the good news:

In Christ, God's plan for salvation
was accomplished.

You are forgiven, you are made new.

We will complete God's joy by sharing compassion,
forgiveness, hope, with everyone we meet.

Thanks be to God! Amen



Isaiah 41:17

When the poor and needy search for water
and there is none, and their tongues are parched
from thirst, then I the Lord, will answer them.

I, the God of Israel, will never abandon them.

I will open up rivers for them on the high plateaus.

I will give them fountains of water in the valleys.

I will fill the desert with pools of water.

Rivers fed by springs will flow across
the parched ground.



Hymn & Offering

For you, Deep stillness of the Silent Inland

For you, deep stillness of the silent inland;
For you, deep blue of the desert skies;
For you, flame red of the rocks and stones;
For you, sweet water from hidden springs,
From the edges seek the heartlands,
And when you're burnt by the journey,
May the cool winds of the hovering Spirit
Soothe and replenish you,
In the name of Christ, in the name of Christ.

For you, warm comfort of the flickering firelight;
For you, sweet melting of winter snows;
For you, bright green of the land's emerging;
For you, clouds lifting from darkened skies;
From the cold place, seek the heartlands,
and when you're chilled by the journey,
May the warm breath of the hovering Spirit
Soothe and replenish you,
In the name of Christ, in the name of Christ.

*N.B. Verse two kindly written by
Robin Mann and Julie Perrin, Victoria*

Prayers of the People

Psalm 5:1-3

O Lord, hear me as I pray;

pay attention to my groaning.

Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God,

for I pray to no one but You.

Listen to my voice in the morning, Lord.

Each morning I bring my requests
to You and wait expectantly.

Psalm 118:13

I was pushed back and about to fall,
but the Lord helped me.

Psalm 31:24

Be strong and take heart,
all you who hope in the Lord.



Sending Prayer

Take heart. You do not travel alone.

The Timeless God travels with you
in all your endeavours

an integral part of all your joys
and all your sorrows.

Be comforted by this knowledge.

Praise be to God.



Together, we are making a difference

We are walking alongside people living in remote Australia, including Aboriginal communities, mining sites and isolated properties spanning 86% of the country.

We are a national agency of the Uniting Church that grew out of the pioneering work that started in 1912 by the Rev John Flynn “Flynn of the Inland” – the man on the \$20 note.

We work tirelessly each day to:

- Raise funds to resource our Bush chaplains, aiding in their delivery of Pastoral Care
- Build partnerships that help relieve the isolation of those living in remote communities
- Advocate for people of remote Australia giving them a voice
- Provide drought relief and other forms of practical community support through our volunteer assistance program Outback Links

Our work is made possible with your kind donations. We thank you for your prayers and generosity; we couldn't do the work we do without your help.







**Frontier
Services**

Standing with
people in the bush



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