***THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT – February 26, 2023 Eastwood Uniting Church***



Closure of Ministry of Rev Dr Amelia Koh-Butler

**Creating Community with the Creator**

*Eastwood Uniting Church is situated on Wallemettegal Country of the Darug-speaking peoples. We acknowledge and pay our respects to Elders (past and present) and all Indigenous people.*

**call to worship and candle** 예배로 부르심 宣召崇拜

Listen! **God calls you by name here.**

Listen! **There is love that abides here.**

In a world of noise, we do our best to listen. **God is speaking. Amen.**

**welcome and acknowledgement G’day and Welcome** Warami mittigar! [Darug]

# **song Christ, be our light** 求主作我光 | 基督是光 | 中文字幕

**prayer of confession** 고백의 기도对忏悔的祈祷

Holy God, we treat your Word like the radio—we tune in and out when we choose.

Our minds are full of ads, emails, news updates, and notifications.

In the clutter, we gravitate toward the voices we know—

ignoring the voices being silenced, ignoring your voice.

Forgive us for failing to listen. Forgive us for getting caught in distractions.

Forgive us for forgetting what your voice sounds like.

Drain the distractions from our minds. Help us turn once again toward you. Amen.

**words of forgiveness**

… So with joy, we say: I am loved! **I am loved!**

I am held in grace! **I am held in grace!**

I belong to God. **I belong to God.**  **Amen.**

**song God is so good [x3] - God’s so good to me!**

좋으신 하나님 **[x3]**

# 神真美好 [x3]

**readings** Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 **and** Matthew 4:1-11

For the words showing us truth, **Thanks be to God. 하나님께 감사** 感谢上帝

**sermon: the eve of misunderstanding – the battle of faith and knowledge**

**offering and affirmation of faith**

In a world of noise, **we believe God speaks.**

In a world of chaos, **we believe God sings.**

In a world of temptation, **we believe God is heals.**

Church, who will you listen to? **We listen to God—Creator, Friend, and Guide.**

Church, what will you listen for? **We listen for water in the desert,**

**for the wind of the Spirit, for the laughter of children,
for the sound of open doors, and for God’s loving voice. Amen.**

**song TiS 687 God gives us a future** [Camberwell]

**closure of ministry** Presbytery Chairperson Ian Lawrence

*[by Rev Peter Gador-Whyte, for the Assembly Worship Working Group]*

**prayers** Presbytery Minister Rev Graham Perry

 Minister-in-Association Rev Marion Gledhill

 Community Minister Rev Tennyson Chan

 UME Mission Enabler Rev Ann Perrin

 President-Elect Rev Charissa Suli

**blessing** Rev Amelia

… Let us go to serve God, apart, yet ever connected, for the sake of the Gospel of Christ.

***As you have been a blessing to us, go to be a blessing to others*.**

As you have been a blessing to me, so also may you be a blessing to others.

***Continue faithfully in word and deed in all to which God has called you***

May you live a vital faith and offer God’s generous hospitality

***Give and receive comfort as you serve within the Church.***

Give and receive comfort as you serve within the world.

***May God bless your ministry with the Council for World Mission.***

May God bless you in your ministry in Eastwood Uniting Church.

***May God, the Son, be ever with you and guide you.***

As you continue to be God’s people in this place, may God bless you with seeking.
Seek out the hungry. Seek the weary. Seek the good in every person you pass.

Seek out the hopeful. Seek the faithful. Seek God in each of us.
As you seek and wonder, may you find what you are looking for.
Peace of God be with you. **Peace of God be with you.**

**Song A Tasmanian Blessing**