



REACHING OUT

Sunday August 4, 2024

9:00 am at Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

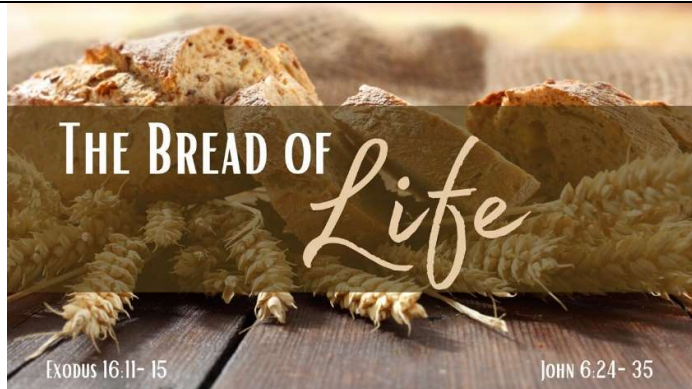
Anglican tradition led by Fr. Jacques Jeffries

No service at Kergunyah Uniting Church

Bible Readings for Sunday August 4

Pentecost 10

2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:13 and Psalm 51:1-12; Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 and Psalm 78:23-29; Ephesians 4:1-16;
John 6:24-35



So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the

loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat."' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

John 6:24-35

Bible Readings for Sunday August 11

Pentecost 11

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33 and Psalm 130; 1 Kings 19:4-8 and Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25-5:2;
John 6:35, 41-51

Praying For One Another 2024

In the Uniting Church Presbytery of North East Victoria.

Congregations in the Presbytery are called to pray for one another each time they meet. By naming each other in prayer we enhance our pastoral support with each other, in God's company. This invitation builds our faith linkages every year. This week we pray for the congregations of **All Lay Preachers, Accredited or Recognised, in this Presbytery** commencing Sunday August 4

REFLECTION ON MERCY

Rev Leonie Findlay

PRAYER

We rarely hear people speak of mercy, Lord.

But, as we reflect on the grace of Mercy, we realise that it is a subtle, exquisite grace, which we experience daily.

Lord, as we dwell on this grace, we realise that we must give mercy to receive it. We cannot be given something that we do not give freely and openly to others. Lord, as we pray, we might wonder what circumstances in our lives call for mercy. As we consider this the list becomes endless. Often, we ask for graces of different names but to pray for patience, fortitude, compassion is to ask for mercy.

Father, forgive us?

In the name of a merciful God

AMEN

SOME THOUGHTS

Mercy is a grace we need in massive supply. Do not think of mercy as the decision to grant a more benevolent judgement upon someone, though that is certainly an expression of Mercy.

This grace weaves through our lives in ways we cannot imagine.

Consider the merciful act of the Divine not allowing something to or for us that we thought was so right for us. It is a merciful God who prevents our foolish decisions from incarnating into our lives – lest we do more harm to ourselves and others than we could in our reckless innocence have imagined. Emphasis on *reckless innocence!* *Mercy is extraordinary. Yet, highly underrated grace.*

For all the many ways people have described themselves – loving, strong, compassionate, energetic, kind, faithful - rarely do they refer to themselves as a 'merciful human being,'

The grace of mercy is perhaps that obscure. Or the word itself feels too old world to us.

Having said that, consider how often we may need God to be merciful towards us and us to others. We often judge each other, especially those whose behaviour seems extreme.

But what do we know of the many experiences that created such behaviour in a person's life?

Our judgements have consequences... that much we know. May we always remember truth, nurture and a merciful heart are necessary for healing the human heart.

Self-examination often gets tedious and seemingly unnecessary.

At the risk of suggesting the need for further and perhaps urgent consideration of the need for the mercy of God to be poured out upon us liberating us to do so on others.

Lord, maybe we are to be. the engines of mercy here in this life. As we do to others, so you return to us.

SELAH

A BLESSING



Lord, grant us the grace of Mercy as a living presence in our hearts. And may the Mercy we show to others, be bestowed upon us in times of need.

AMEN

Coming Events

Wed August 7, 9:00 am
10:30 am
Fri August 9, 9:30am

Grounds and Maintenance
Morning Tea and Fellowship
Craft Group

Emmanuel Roster

August 4

Elder on Duty: TBA
Reader: Carol Clutterbuck
Prayers: Harold Cover
Early Word: Carol Clutterbuck

TV Screen: Harold Cover
Usher: Harold Cover
Organist:

August 11

Elder on Duty: Rod Clutterbuck
Reader: Carol Clutterbuck
Prayers: Rod Clutterbuck
Early Word: Carol Clutterbuck

TV Screen: Harold Cover
Usher: Harold Cover
Organist:

Ministers of the Word & Other Contacts

UCA: Rev. Leonie Findlay
0419 990 358
lfindlay03@bigpond.com

Anglican: Fr Jacques Jefferies
02 6024 2129 or 0434 063 069
stjohnsw@bigpond.net.au
[weekly RDO: Friday]

Emmanuel Pastoral Care: speak with an Elder or Warden
Emmanuel Prayer Chain: give requests to Betty Siggers on 0427 761 044
Address: PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689
Office Phone: Emmanuel Meeting Place: (02) 6059 5460
Reaching Out: Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 hcover@bigpond.com
or LouAnne Stabb 0419 644 769 stabb@inet.net.au by Wednesday.

A Big Thank You to Birallee Park Neighbourhood House



What a fantastic afternoon with the 23rd Platoon - Vehicle Technology Wing from ASEME, volunteering their time to help Emmanuel Church with removing unwanted items in the grounds, removing dead shrubs and stumps, weeding, and cleaning up around paths at the front of the church buildings. The Grounds and Maintenance Team appreciated the work carried out by the team. Many thanks to Edwina and Birallee Park Neighbourhood House for providing this opportunity. See <https://www.facebook.com/Birhouse/> to see other volunteering work carried out here and at Felltimber Community Centre.

🙏 Thanks so much!

Prayer of the Week

World Council of Churches

Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea



CAR refugee Moussa Inoussa helps to dismantle a building in the Ngam refugee camp. Deemed unsafe for use after days of strong wind, the building must be torn down and rebuilt in order to serve again as a distribution for food and other materials to the refugees. Supported by the Lutheran World Federation, the Ngam refugee camp, located in the Meiganga municipality, Adamaoua region of Cameroon, hosts 7,228 refugees from the Central African Republic

Photo: Albin Hillert/LWF

We are thankful for

- the natural resources and diverse gifts that come from these countries, such as the distinctive music and dance of Cameroon
- those who minister to victims of sexual violence, trafficking and other human rights abuses
- Christians and people of other faiths who courageously have pursued reconciliation and peace among those in conflict
- individuals and organizations who have provided for health clinics and schools in Cameroon and the Central African Republic.

We pray for:

- just resolutions to the conflicts and violence among diverse groups and their leaders
- refugees who flee to other countries, and for those who host them
- economic developments that make it possible for all to rise out of poverty
- stable democratic governments that effectively serve the common good.



Two tiny country churches were up against it.

Their congregations contained many widows and pensioners.

Could they keep a Minister of the Word, not to mention meet their mission commitment?

The one Minister in the town, an asset to the community, may have to leave.

A letter was sent out to the community.

One farmer gave a paddock of wheat to the appeal.

It was a good year and it made all the difference.

Lord thank you for the seed, rain and sun, bringing an abundant yield, so that labourers can be sent into your fields of mission. Amen.

www.victas.ca.org.au/resources | Photo by freepik.com | August 2024