



REACHING OUT

Sunday March 16, 2025

9:00 am at Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

Anglican tradition led by Fr. David Holloway

No service at Kergunyah Uniting Church

Bible Readings for Sunday March 16

Lent 2

Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3: 17 - 4: 1; Luke 13: 31-35, or Luke 9: 28-36 (37-43a)

The Lament over Jerusalem



Luke 13,31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem."

Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."

Luke 13: 31-35

Bible Readings for Sunday March 23

Lent 3

Isaiah 55:1-9, Psalm 63:1-8, 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke 13:1-9

Praying For One Another 2025

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 congregation of **Kyabram** beginning Sunday, March 16.

Emmanuel Roster

March 16

Elder on Duty: Carol Harris

Reader: Jenny Mathieson

Prayers: Carol Harris

Early Word: Carol Harris

TV Screen: Carolyn Renfrey

Usher: Carolyn Renfrey

Organist: TBA

March 23

Elder on Duty: Carol Harris

Reader: Necia Searle

Prayers: Carol Harris

Early Word: LouAnne Stabb

TV Screen: Harold Cover

Usher: Harold Cover

Organist: LouAnne Stabb

A GOD WHO CARES and JOY THAT SURPRISES

Rev Leonie Findlay

PRAYER

Loving God,

Thank you for being with us in the ordinariness of life.

A day that begins with toast, coffee and a few exercises on a good day.

A day that while seeming ordinary, may be filled with surprises, even joy.

Lord, whether we wake to a day of sunshine, blue skies and gentle breezes or dark skies and driving rain, you are with us.

Christ, thank you for reminding us that no matter what the day may hold, you are right there with us, always ready to direct our paths.

Thankyou God for the gift of joy. A gift that only you can give.

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN

SOME THOUGHTS

When our daily needs have been amply supplied, our relationships with family and friends are sweet, and we have seen God working in and through us, we with the psalmist can declare, ***“you have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with the joy of your presence.” (Psalm 16: 11)***

However, there are times when the experience of joy is sorely tested.

When the challenges of life weigh heavily, and in our weariness, we easily mistake the ever present gift of joy for the feelings of happiness.

Perhaps that is because we focus on the joys in life rather than the joy of life.

Maybe we are looking for joy in the wrong places.

Maybe we have forgotten that in God’s way of doing things, the path to joy is often through suffering and obedience.

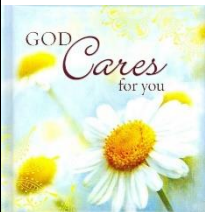
So sometimes we are surprised by joy!

For joy often appears when we are not expecting it.

Often times when our hearts are broken by sorrow and disappointment, when our faith is stretched to the limits, when our cross is more than we can bear, then we are offered pure joy.

SELAH

BENEDICTION



May we know and believe that God is are always with us.

That the gift of joy is a gift of the Spirit given to refresh and enable us to live a life dedicated to the purposes of God.

For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord

AMEN.

Food Relief Assistance

Congregation members are invited to assist in supporting the Felldimber Community Centre food relief program by donating nonperishable food items such as pasta, rice, tinned tomatoes, any type of soup or past sauce. These items can be placed in the basket at the rear of the church on Sunday and will be collected each Wednesday with vegetable garden produce. This will help in some small way to assist those needing food relief.

Coming Events

Wed March 19, 8:30am
10:30am

Fri March 21, 9:30am

Sun March 23, 2:30pm

Grounds and Maintenance
Morning Tea and Fellowship

Craft group meets at Emmanuel

Songs of Praise at Cookinburra Church. All Welcome.

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 Saggars on 0427 761 044
Address: PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689
Reaching Out: Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 hcover@bigpond.com
or LouAnne Stabb 0419 644 769 stabb@iinet.net.au by Wednesday.

Prayer of the Week

World Council of Churches

Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden



Zion Church in Ilulissat is Greenlands oldest. Photo: Claus Grue/WCC

We are thankful for:

- the spectacular beauty of the changing landscape of forests, lakes, mountains and glaciers
- churches that are advocating and implementing measures to redress climate change that is dramatic here and throughout the world
- those who have opened their doors and hearts to people migrating to these lands
- the support for justice, peace and interfaith work that comes from these countries.

We pray for:

- the poor and marginalized who struggle in these rich countries
- personal and investment practices that support environmental sustainability
- growing openness to becoming more multi-ethnic, multi-faith societies
- those who are affluent that they will contribute to making the world and their societies more just for all.
- a Church that is prepared to be a voice in the struggle for indigenous people rights.

Lenten Studies

Presbytery North East Victoria Lent Studies - Live Lent together

We thought it would be good to have some Lent studies this year. We are only doing four studies so it is not too heavy a commitment. The studies will be run on Zoom as in the past. You can join from home, or get a group together. We will break into groups (either virtual or the groups who have gathered) and look at the Lent readings from the following Sunday. The attached pamphlet gives more information. Please promote to your congregations, and we look forward to seeing you.

Tanya Walker and Scott Leslie will host a study each, and others will take some studies as well.
See poster on page 4.



Presbytery of North East Victoria
The Body of Christ from across the region, meeting to worship, pray, study, learn and do business.

Bible studies based on Lent readings
Studies offered by Zoom
Join from home or gather with others

Tuesday afternoons at 2pm
or
Wednesday evenings at 7:30
(the same study offered twice at different times)

Being Fruitful - Tuesday 18th March 2pm or Wednesday 19th March 7:30pm
Being Found - Tuesday 25th March 2pm or Wednesday 26th March 7:30pm
Being Faithful - Tuesday 1st April 2pm or Wednesday 2nd April 7:30pm
Being Fulfilled - Tuesday 8th April 2pm or Wednesday 9th April 7:30pm

Questions to Scott Leslie scottuniting@gmail.com or 0403 756 724



We are uniquely different to and from each other, with strengths and weaknesses to be dealt with during our lives.

Love the differences in our spouses, neighbours, and friends rather than wasting time trying to change each other.

Reflection:

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples. If you love one another."

John 13:34

Carl Rogers said: "When I walk on the beach to watch the sunset, I do not call out, 'A little more orange over to the right please', or 'Would you mind giving us less purple in the back?' No, enjoy the always different sunsets as they are. We do well to do the same with people we love."