



# REACHING OUT

Sunday March 2, 2025

**9:00 am at Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church**

*Anglican tradition led by Fr Jacques Jefferies*

**No service at Kergunyah Uniting Church**

## Bible Readings for Sunday March 2

### Transfiguration of Jesus

Exodus 34: 29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians 3: 12 - 4: 2; Luke 9: 28-36, (37-43a)

#### The Transfiguration



Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

**Luke 9: 28-36**

## Bible Readings for Sunday March 9

### Lent 1

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11; Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-16; Romans 10: 8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

## 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 congregations of **Euroa and Terip-Ruffy** beginning Sunday, March 2.

## Emmanuel Roster

### March 2

Elder on Duty: Ted Stabb

Reader: Betty Siggers

Prayers: LouAnne Stabb

Early Word: Carol Harris

TV Screen: Harold Cover

Usher: Harold Cover

Organist: LouAnne Stabb

### March 9

Elder on Duty: Ted Stabb

Reader: Betty Bjorksten

Prayers: Jenny Mathieson

Early Word: LouAnne Stabb

TV Screen: Harold Cover

Usher: Harold Cover

Organist: LouAnne Stabb

## REAL QUESTIONS

### Rev Leonie Findlay

#### PRAYER

Lord, may your transforming spirit cleanse us from our own selfish responses and draw us closer to yourself. May we walk humbly before you. May our conversation be open, honest and without pretence.

Lord may our response to suffering and difficulty draw us closer to you.

May we seek your will and follow after you.

Free us Lord, to show you our real feelings.

Then free us to let go of them and let them be transformed by you.

In Jesus Name

#### AMEN

#### SOME THOUGHTS

When we pray, we are most often complaining about the situations in which we find ourselves.

'We are not happy with you God,' is often a more honest prayer than, 'your will be done.'

Just as it is in human relationships; we often quarrel with someone we are close to knowing that they will not reject us.

The problem with some Christian testimonies is that they answer too many questions. Yes!

There are few questions left unanswered. The book of Job is there in the bible as a constant reminder that if there are easy answers, we are probably asking the wrong questions.

Job's friends are full of suitably pious answers to his inexplicable sufferings.

Yet it is Job who, God says, has '**spoken of me what is right.**'

Discovery begins, not with hunting for answers, but with asking the right questions.

If we do not know the questions, the answers will be meaningless. We must also learn to hear the question behind the question. Most cries of perplexity, anger despair, though they take the form of a question, are not a request for an answer. They are simply requests to be, 'truly heard'.

Job asks 'Why?' but he is answered with a 'who' and that is enough.

Jesus in Gethsemane and on the cross, questioned God's actions, but his real need was to know that God was still there.

The basic question in the book of Job is not why does suffering come?

But what is the origin and meaning of the suffering? Why me and how can I suffer rightly?

The answer of the book of Job is clear: the undeserving sufferer must protest to God, must hold him responsible and must never desist from demanding satisfaction from God.

Job speaks directly to God almost every time he opens his mouth. He is single minded in insisting that God answer him. God does not answer his question but rather reveals himself to Job

#### SELAH

#### A BENEDICTION



And now unto him who can keep us from falling and lift us from the dark valley of despair to the bright mountain of hope, from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy, to him be power and authority, for ever and ever. (Martin Luther King)

**AMEN.**

#### Coming Events

Tue February Mar 4, 7:30pm  
Wed March 5, 8:30am  
10:30am  
Fri March 7, 9:30am  
10:00am

Emmanuel Council meets on Zoom  
Grounds and Maintenance  
Morning Tea and Fellowship  
Craft group meets at Emmanuel  
World Day of Prayer at Victory Lutheran Church

## Ministers of the Word & Other Contacts

UCA: Rev. Leonie Findlay  
0419 990 358  
[lfindlay03@bigpond.com](mailto:lfindlay03@bigpond.com)

Anglican: Fr Jacques Jefferies  
02 6024 2129 or 0434 063 069  
[stjohnsw@bigpond.net.au](mailto: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](mailto:hcover@bigpond.com)  
or LouAnne Stabb 0419 644 769 [stabb@iinet.net.au](mailto:stabb@iinet.net.au) by Wednesday.

## Prayer of the Week

### World Council of Churches

Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands



*23 August 2018, Amsterdam, Netherlands: Hundreds of people gather from across the world for an ecumenical prayer service at the Nieuwe Kerk, a 15th-century church in Amsterdam, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the World Council of Churches at the very spot in which the organization was founded. Under the theme "Walking, Praying and Working Together," pilgrims from all over the world attend the service. Photo: Albin Hillert/WCC*

#### **We give thanks for:**

- the important roles political leaders here have played in European integration.
- how people here have led in creative solutions to environmental, economic, and cultural challenges.
- how churches here have overcome barriers and reached out to assure a good life for all.
- the ecumenical contributions that have come from this area, and their continuing support.

#### **Pray for:**

- overcoming cultural, linguistic and political barriers and suspicions that remain divisive.
- the haunting legacies of colonization and quests for economic gain.
- immigrants who are alienated or marginalized in these societies.
- greater tolerance and solidarity with all in these societies and around the world.

**Do have a look at the latest Frontier Services autumn news on the Foyer table.**

***For further information check the website***



<https://frontierservices.org/>

# WORLD DAY of PRAYER 2025

Focus Country: the Cook Islands



Join your local one-hour prayer service

Location of Service	Wodonga Lutheran Church Victory School, Drages Road, Wodonga
Date and Time	10:00am, Friday 7 March 2025
Contact Number	Carol Harris 6020 8582