

WESLEY UNITING CHURCH GEELONG

EASTER 3B

14TH OF APRIL 2024



Rev. Tupe loelu

A WARM WELCOME to any who are visiting or worshipping with us for the first time today. Please make yourselves known. We trust you will enjoy this time of fellowship with us. You are invited to join us over a cuppa after the service.

We acknowledge the Traditional owners of the land on which Wesley is built. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

WELCOME

SONG (Singers)

Into my heart

OPENING PRAYER

Miraculous God,
come to us now,
even as your Son came
to those first disciples
on the shores of Galilee.
Speak your peace to our hearts.
Touch us with your Holy Spirit.
Reveal your word,
that we may hear your message this day,
and live as your disciples
in the days and years to come.
In Christ's name, we pray. **AMEN.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather in the name of the living Christ to worship God.
Surely, God is in this place and calls us to worship in spirit and in truth.

God's love is for you and for all people everywhere.
That we may share God's love and life, may we be renewed in the refreshing Spirit of the living Christ.

The living Christ is with us.
Praise the risen Lord! AMEN

SONG TIS 380

Yours be the glory.

1.

Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you've won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes, where your body lay.

Refrain:

*Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you've won;*

2.

See, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord is living, death has lost its sting.

3.

No more we doubt you, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without you: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through your deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to your home above.

PRAYER

Life-giving God, as we continue to celebrate the resurrection of Christ, we pray that we may be bound together in Christian love and that our faith and fellowship may be a witness through which your spirit will bring others into your church. We humbly thank you for your many blessings you have given us. We ask that we may learn how to truly be Easter people and always remember that we are celebrating resurrection day every day.

Gracious God, you give to us your greatest gift, Your Son Jesus Christ, as we still don't understand what is going on. You call us to be people of courage and hope; and yet we run and hide, doubting and fearing. You challenge us to proclaim our faith; but we huddle in darkness whispering our words of discouragement. Shake us up, Lord! Forgive us when we seem to need prodding over and over again.

Help us to see the presence of Jesus in our lives; and remind us of all that He taught us, to help us to live as disciples, serving you by serving others. Change us! Remould us! Make us truly the disciples you have called us to be. **AMEN.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do not be afraid. The Light of God has vanquished the darkness! Christ is risen! Doubts are erased. Rejoice! God's love is poured upon you, now and forever. **AMEN.**

SONG

CHILDREN'S TIME

KID'S SONG

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart to stay

And I'm so happy
So very happy,
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart
And I'm so happy
So very happy,
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart
I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus
Down in my heart (where?)
Down in my heart to stay

And I'm so happy
So very happy,
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart
And I'm so happy
So very happy,
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart

BIBLE READINGS

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? Selah

But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Selah

Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!"

You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

Luke 24:13-49

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and

when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

REFLECTION

OFFERING & NOTICES

SONG TIS 607

Make me a channel of your peace.

1.

Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred

let me bring your love;

where there is injury,

your pardon, Lord;

and where there's doubt,

true faith in you.

*O Master,
grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled
as to console,
to be understood
as to understand,
to be loved,
as to love with all my soul.*

2.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life,
let me bring hope;
where there is darkness,
let me bring your light;
and where there's sadness,
ever joy.

3.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning
that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves
that we receive,
and in dying
that we're born to eternal life.

SHARING

INTERCESSIONS

All-loving God, we bring our broken, unjust
and warring world to You today.
We long to see Your justice and peace on earth as it is in heaven.
We long to see people flourishing wherever they may be.
We long to see Your righteousness flood our world.

We pray for all those who are in positions of power.
We pray for politicians whose decisions affect so many.

Give them wisdom and courage in the issues they choose to tackle.
Give servant hearts we pray; from local councillors to presidents,
from those behind the scenes, to those on our screens each day.
May the wellbeing of all be their goal.

Lord, in Your mercy

May justice and peace reign in our world.

We pray for all who wield economic power over others,
from our smallest companies to the largest multinationals.

May their dealings be fair to all.

Fair wages, fair conditions,
fair ways of making things and disposing of waste,
fair to the environment.

Lord, in Your mercy

May justice and peace reign in our world.

We pray for all those who use physical and emotional power over others.

From our own living rooms to the world arena

We pray for women who live in fear of violence
in their own homes,

For children who experience abuse instead of love.

For youth who live in fear of violence on the streets.

For all for whom war and the threat of war is a constant.

Lord, in Your mercy

May justice and peace reign in our world.

We pray for all who use religious power to shape and control people's
lives.

For those who, like the Pharisees,
limit and bind people rather than freeing them.

Those who act in their own power,
blind to the healing love of Christ.

Open their eyes to Your Spirit at work in the world.

Lord, in Your mercy

May justice and peace reign in our world.

Thank You for all those who use their knowledge and power for good.

For those who are willing to stand up and speak truth to power.

For those who risk their own lives to help others in distress.

For those who quietly come alongside the broken and abused and lost.

Guide us in the ways of justice and courage
every step of our journey.

May Your vision and hope for the world infect all we do.

Lord, in Your mercy

May justice and peace reign in our world.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your Kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours. Now and for ever. Amen

SONG

Christ be our light.

1.

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,

light for the world to see.

Refrain:

Christ be our light!

Shine in our hearts,

shine through the darkness.

Christ be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

2.

Longing for peace,

our world is troubled.

Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone

has power to save us.

Make us your living voice.

3.

Longing for food, many are hungry.

Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread,
broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

4.
Longing for shelter,
many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building,
sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

5.
Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts
that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants, to one another,
making your kingdom come.

BLESSING

As we leave this place,
may we keep in step with You,
walking humbly,
seeking justice,
living faithfully,
bringing Your peace and wholeness
to a broken and unjust world...

AMEN.

SONG TIS 749

Thuma mina

1.
Thuma mina.
Thuma mina Thuma mina
thuma mina Somandla
Thuma mina.
Thuma mina Thuma mina

thuma mina Somandla

1

Send me, Lord.

Send me, Jesus; send me, Jesus;

send me, Jesus; send me, Lord.

Send me, Lord.

Send me, Jesus; send me, Jesus;

send me, Jesus; send me, Lord.

2.

Lead me, Lord.

Lead me, Jesus; lead me, Jesus;

lead me, Jesus; lead me, Lord.

Lead me, Lord.

Lead me, Jesus; lead me, Jesus;

lead me, Jesus; lead me, Lord.

3.

Fill me, Lord.

Fill me, Jesus; fill me, Jesus;

fill me, Jesus; fill me, Lord.

Fill me, Lord.

Fill me, Jesus; fill me, Jesus;

fill me, Jesus; fill me, Lord.

4.

I will go, Lord.

I will go, Lord; fill me, Lord;

fill me, Lord; fill me, Lord.

Fill me, Lord.

Fill me, Lord; fill me, Lord;

fill me, Lord; fill me, Lord.

Food for those in need:

There is a basket just inside the worship space where any non perishable foods can be placed for those who may be in need.

Any donations would be much appreciated.

Coffee and Chat

April 23rd 10.30am At The HUB

285A McKillop Street
East Geelong

All welcome, come along and enjoy friendship and conversation.

Nominations for Church Council

Nominations are now called for and must be submitted by 21st April.

There are 2 retiring members, David Armstrong and Graeme Harris who are both eligible for re-election.

Please find nomination forms in the front foyer.

Elections will be held at the AGM on Sunday 5th May.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 17th

Craft Group
10.30 am



April 17th

Bus Trip
10.30 am



April 21st

Young Families Lunch
12.00 pm
Congregational Hall



April 23rd

Coffee and Chat



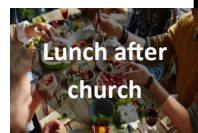
April 27th

Men's Breakfast
8.30 am



May 5th

Sunday Lunch





Petting Zoo



For young families

Sunday 21st April 12-3 pm



ALL WELCOME



Lunch provided





Memorial Gathering

The Geelong refugee and asylum seeker community, along with friends and supporters, are invited to a gathering to remember our dear friend

Cathie Bond

and to honour her life.

Cathie did not want a funeral, but she had told her family that some kind of gathering would be nice.

We will light candles, create some artwork, listen to music, speak about the wonderful person Cathie was, and share a meal together afterwards.

Saturday April 13, 2024

5:00 pm

Wesley Uniting Church Hall

(the church in front of the Welcome Place building)

100 Yarra St, Geelong

Please bring some food to share.

JUSTICE AND MISSION GROUP

For several years Wesley has been lacking a Justice and Mission Group, a working group of Church Council. This group is charged with proposing to Church Council matters such as – mission / outreach projects, advocacy for issues of justice, allocations of budgeted funds. This is a call for people to join the group. Members do not need to be Church Councillors – all are welcome. The group will meet every second month – the even months. If you feel that this is a way you can contribute to the life and mission of Wesley please let me know.

Graeme Harris

Daily Diary

Monday	15th April	10.30 am	Gentle Exercise
Wednesday	17th April	10.30 am	Craft Group
		10.30 am	Bus Trip
Sunday	21st April	10.00 am	Service

Rosters

	Today	Next Sunday
WELCOME	Emily Frost	Jackson Bell
READER	Sue Strong	Don Mackinnon
Camera Operator	Heather Cooney	Lauren Woolnough
Data Projection	David Strong	Scott Barnes
Morning Tea	Merci, Noli, Nora, Jill Shalless	Betty Backwell and Jan Mackinnon
Offering Counters	Lorene and Judy	Graeme and Jenny
Communion		

MINISTER & CHURCH COUNCIL CONTACT

MINISTER: Rev. Tupe loelu	0448 415 656
CHURCH COUNCIL CONTACTS: Chairperson: Graeme Harris Secretary: Heather Cooney	0429 415 613 0477 805 234
Pastoral Concerns: Lauren Woolnough Jan Watson	0428 365 910 0421 320 296

CHURCH OFFICE:

Phone: 5229 8866 email: office@wesleychurchgeelong.net

website: www.wesleychurchgeelong.net