

WESLEY UNITING CHURCH GEELONG

Sunday 21st April 2024

4th Sunday of Easter



Rev. Denis Tomlins

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.

PRE-SERVICE SONG "There's a love that seeks us" led by Zara White

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER

SONG "You've called us together, O God, by your Grace" Tune 147 TIS

You've called us together, O God, by your grace;
In grateful obedience, we've come to this place.
Our new common mission has only begun;
We're learning the blessings of serving as one.

We are called! We are freed!

We are baptised as one.

In the Church, all we need

Can be found in your Son!

With Christ to unite us, and born from above,

We witness together to your wondrous love.

We're one in the faith, and in creeds that we share,
In worship and sacraments, scripture and prayer,
We're one in our seeking to follow Christ's way,
In Spirit-led ministry, day after day.

There's much to rejoice in, yet much to be done,
While some are excluded, we can't live as one.

May we as your churches uniting now see
That justice is needed for true unity.

Tune William Howard Doane 1875. Text © Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

OPENING PRAYER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

THEME & INTRODUCTION

SONG “Be still for the presence of the Lord”

Be still for the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here.
Come bow before him now
with reverence and fear.
In him no sin is found,
We stand on holy ground.
Be still or the presence of the Lord
The Holy One is here.

Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire,
With splendour he is crowned.
How awesome is the sight —
Our radiant King of light!
Be still for the glory of the Lord
Is shining all around.

Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal,
To minister his grace.
No work too hard for him —
In faith, receive from him.
Be still for the power of the Lord
Is moving in this place.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION and WORDS OF GRACE

BLESSING SONG TIS 780

***May light come into your eyes
may hope spring up in your heart,
may peace guide all of your mind,***

***and keep you in God;
and keep you in God.***

READING 1 Acts 4:5–12

The next morning the leaders, the elders, and the teachers of the Law of Moses met in Jerusalem. The high priest Annas was there, as well as Caiaphas, John, Alexander, and other members of the high priest's family. They brought in Peter and John and made them stand in the middle while they questioned them. They asked, "By what power and in whose name have you done this?" Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and told the nation's leaders and the elders:

You are questioning us today about a kind deed in which a man who could not walk was healed. But there is something we must tell you and everyone else in Israel. This man is standing here completely well because of the power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth. You put Jesus to death on a cross, but God raised him to life. He is the stone you builders thought was worthless, and now he is the most important stone of all. Only Jesus has the power to save! His name is the only one in all the world that can save anyone.

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READING 2 John 10: 11-18

I am the good shepherd, and the good shepherd gives up his life for his sheep. Hired workers are not like the shepherd. They don't own the sheep, and when they see a wolf coming, they run off and leave the sheep. Then the wolf attacks and scatters the flock. Hired workers run away because they don't care about the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep, and they know me. Just as the Father knows me, I know the Father, and I give up my life for my sheep. I have other sheep that are not in this sheep pen. I must also bring them together, when they hear my voice. Then there will be one flock of sheep and one shepherd.

The Father loves me, because I give up my life, so I may receive it back again. No one takes my life from me. I give it up willingly! I have the power to give it up and the power to receive it back again, just as my Father commanded me to do.

REFLECTION

SONG “There’s a love that seeks us”

There’s a love that seeks us,
love that will not leave us,
knows our deepest longing,
drives away our fear.

There’s a God who holds us,
lovingly enfolds us;
we will lack for nothing,
trusting he is near.

Chorus

Our God, you’re wonderful,
your love will never fail,
your goodness follows us for all our days.
Our God, you’re wonderful
your love forever will be with us.

There’s a love that guides us,
walks the road beside us,
comforting, providing,
showing us the way.

Love will light the darkness,
where the valley’s deepest,
lead us through the shadows
to a resting place.

Chorus

CCLI Song No # 7117591 (2 photocopies)

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OFFERTORY

SUNG DEDICATION Tune TiS 465

***Grant now your blessing
upon this offering,
that we are bringing,
with our thanksgiving.
May you bestow, Lord,
on us your children,
Your grace and mercy.
Amen.***

NOTICES

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today day our daily bread, forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil,
for the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours
now and for ever. Amen***

SONG "How shall I call you?"

1.
How shall I call you?
Maker of heaven,
poet of sunset, and painter of sky,
Father almighty
who's running to find us,
giving his Son
who must suffer and die.

Chorus:

*Glory to the Father,
the Son, and the Spirit,
let's sing it again and again.*

*Glory to the Father,
the Son and the Spirit,
forever and ever. Amen.*

2.

How shall I call you?
Lover of children,
shepherd and teacher
and brother and friend;
healer of blind man
and healer of leper,
you are beginning
and middle and end.

Chorus

3.

How shall I call you?
Spirit of comfort,
cloud in the daytime
and fire in the night,
guide as we wander,
protector in danger,
listener and helper
and giver of light.

Chorus

4.

How shall I call you?
Master and servant,
Lord of the seasons,
and Lord of the years,
faithful and constant
in loving and mercy,
giver of laughter

and taker of tears

Chorus

Misc H2 How shall I call you? Maker of heaven Words by Robin Mann ©1977 Robin Mann

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BLESSING

BLESSING SONG “May the feet of God walk with you” Tune 'Aubrey'
TiS 779

May the feet of God walk with you,
and his hand hold you tight.
May the eye of God rest on you,
and his ear hear your cry.
May the smile of God be for you,
and his breath give you life.
May the Child of God grow in you,
and his love bring you home.

TIS 779

May the feet of God walk with you

Words by Aubrey Podlich

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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

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 23rd

Coffee and Chat

10.30 am at the Hub East
Geelong, All Welcome



April 24th

Craft Group

10.30 am



April 27th

Men's Breakfast

8.30 am



May 5th

Sunday Lunch



May 6th

Fellowship and Friendship

1.30 pm



Fellowship and Friendship

Monday 6th May at 12.30pm

At our next fellowship meeting we are delighted to host a very special guest.

Gary Banks is an accomplished singer and songwriter who draws inspiration from Traditional Celtic folk style with a strong emphasis on the rugged coastline of Ireland and Victoria's Great Ocean Road coastline.

He has already recorded four albums combining the talents of other top class musicians. Gary's music is now available on Spotify and other Music providers.

At our gathering Gary will share a couple of his songs and then chat about his great passion "Lighthouses"

His grandfather was a Lighthouse Keeper and had a great influence on Gary's dad who was brought up in the very special environment of lighthouse living.

Gary likes to spend time each year in Ireland immersing himself in singing, writing and the Irish countryside .

He continues to perform at a range of live music venues and music festivals.

All Welcome



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.



AGM – SUNDAY 5TH MAY – AS PART OF LUNCH AFTER WORSHIP IN THE CHURCH

There will be a guest speaker. Reports will be emailed this week and be available in printed form during the week. Elections to Church Council will be part of the meeting. Please endeavour to come along.

Graeme

Daily Diary

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|-----------------|
| Monday | 22nd April | 10.30 am | Gentle Exercise |
| | | | |
| Tuesday | 23rd April | 10.30 am | Coffee and Chat |
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| Wednesday | 24th April | 10.30 am | Craft Group |
| | | | |
| Sunday | 28th 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

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| MINISTER: Rev. Tupe loelu | 0448 415 656 |
| CHURCH COUNCIL CONTACTS: Chairperson: Graeme Harris Secretary: Heather Cooney | 0429 415 613 0477 805 234 |
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