



ALKING POINT

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

SUNDAY 12th July 2020

Volume 26 Issue 24

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This week we farewelled another of our beloved members Nance Allcorn, just a month after the death of her younger sister Laurel Davey. Nance was 95, a very good age by any reckoning, a real country girl raised in Buln Buln (north of Warragul) and living all of her life in Gippsland except for time spent working in Melbourne during the Second World War where she volunteered at Wesley Church in the city. Nance and her husband John have lived in Traralgon and been members of the Traralgon congregation since 1973. Nance taught Sunday School whilst they lived at Warragul, and was a very willing helper with church catering at Traralgon for many years and in the Life Line shop. It is a pity that, because of COVID 19 restrictions that we could not cater for morning tea after her funeral. Our sympathy is extended to John and all the Allcorn family.

Unfortunately, it seems that it is going to be quite a time before there will be any end to current restrictions imposed as a result of the COVID virus threat. Thankfully, we are currently not facing the reimposition of Stage 3 restrictions like Melbourne, but obviously we can't be complacent as we don't want to see outbreaks of infection in our region. Please continue to follow the advice of 1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing." Please particularly watch out for those without family nearby to support them.

If I can help in any way please contact me.
Blessings, Sandra

Contact details for Rev. Sandra Houghton are:

sandrah@vic.australis.com.au

ph 0428 649 243



Traralgon District Uniting Church

Incorporating: Traralgon, Glengarry & Rosedale.



Traralgon, Glengarry, and Rosedale Uniting churches Worship at Home

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 12th July 2020 *ORDINARY 15A*

SONGS: [What a beautiful name it is](#) – Hillsong
[Great are you Lord](#) – Casting Crowns

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Summer or winter, seedtime or harvest,
my life is continually in your hand, and I never forget your law of love.

In success or failure, health or sickness,
your word is a lamp for my feet and a light upon my path.

By day or by night, at dawn or at dusk,
please accept, loving God, the vows my mouth freely makes; and teach me, Holy One, your ways.

HYMN: TIS 245; [We have a gospel to proclaim](#)

OPENING PRAYER:

God of Love, Truly, this is holy time.

In a moment of quiet and stillness, we come before you in prayer
and become aware of your presence with us.

You, Creator, who – in the beginning spoke – and brought forth galaxies and stardust
You, Son of the Most high, whose very breath is life, and peace, and healing and wholeness,
You, Spirit amongst us, who, even in deepest darkness,
sparks joy, creativity, and love – like fireworks in the night.

God, we are in Your presence now.

As, in fact we have been every day of our lives,

You are the one in whom we live and move and have our being, nearer than our next breath.

And You are the one who has called us from eternity,
and calls us forward now always to be Your beloved people.

So we pray, that as Your community in this place, our praise and worship
might be joined with our brothers and sisters throughout all times and all
places and take our part in the eternal chorus:

You are Good,

You are Holy

You are Love

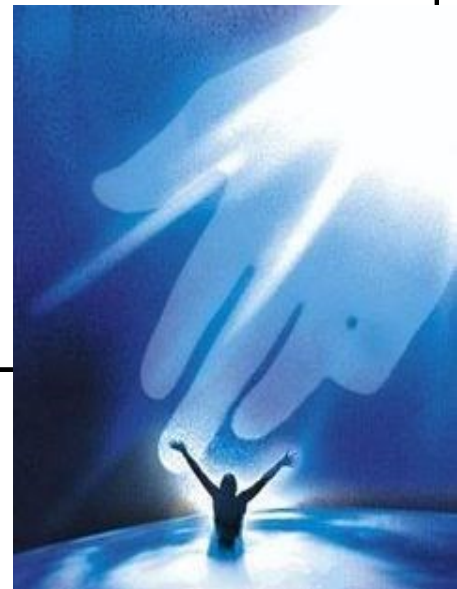
BEFORE BIBLE READING:

Your word is a lamp to my feet **And a light to my path.**

These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace.

In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer;

I have overcome the world –John 16:33



Update on when Rev. Kerry Pierce will be beginning her Ministry with us.

Although still not confirmed, it is anticipated that Rev. Kerry Pierce will be moving down from Queensland early in August and will start her ministry with us at the end of August.

Rev. Sandra Houghton is happy to continue with supply ministry for the time being

When will we start worshipping in Church again?

When the State Government relaxes the restrictions and makes the decision that we can meet in larger groups, Church council will decide on a date to resume worship in the Church.

You will be given at least 2 weeks notice before we start to worship in the Church again.

Sue Scarlett Church Council Chairperson

PSALM: Psalm 119:105-112 paraphrased (Ó B D Prewer 2001)

Your Living Word, loving God, is a lamp for my feet,
a light on the path where I must go.

In my confirmation I have made my vows to you,
to trust Christ and try always do your will.

When I'm under pressure and feeling ragged,
give me new life, loving God, as you have promised.
Accept the songs of praise which I offer, my God,
and teach me to fulfil your loving purposes.

You hold my life in your hands continually,
and I do not forget the love you have commanded.
On a side path, evil schemers have set a trap for me
but I have not strayed outside your guidelines.

It is the way of my Lord that is my eternal heritage,
it is the very joy of my heart's desiring.
My heart yearns to fulfil all your wishes,
to follow nothing but you for ever.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

HYMN: TIS 130; [We plough the fields, and scatter](#)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

The Divine Gardener cannot sow seeds of justice and peace
where there is nothing but hearts of dry, hard rocks.

We confess that our hearts may need tilling and the digging out of the deeply rooted sins
that crowd out seedlings planted with divine compassion.

God of steadfast love, you change bitter tears of remorseful hearts with raindrops of mercy.
Now let us germinate a new life, growing with integrity!

God of steadfast love, you change the cold shame of contrite hearts with sunrays of mercy
Now let us sprout a new life, growing with honesty!

God of steadfast love, you change the stony edges of repentant hearts into landscapes of mercy,
Now let us branch out into new life, growing with generosity!

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:

Divine Gardener, you tend us in steadfast love, Unending mercies, and eternal faithfulness;
you cultivate true friendship with you through boundless forgiveness.

In Christ, this faithful love is planted in our hearts.

Gathered as your community of believers, our family of faith, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us,
we can now produce forgiveness for each other as we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Romans 8:1-11

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SONG: [The Lord is my Salvation](#) – Keith and Kristyn Getty

Read the [Sermon](#) now

SONG: [God is for us](#) – City Alight

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving generous God, you provide for all our needs abundantly.

So we offer you our gifts of money and our lives and we dedicate them to being fruitful with our lives, in Jesus' name.

Amen



OFFERING PRAYER

Loving generous God, you provide for all our needs abundantly.

So we offer you our gifts of money and our lives and we dedicate them to being fruitful with our lives, in Jesus' name. Amen

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS AND OURSELVES

All powerful God, Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

So we pray for the building of your kingdom, God,

And pray that the seeds of your kingdom might grow and bear fruit in this world of ours.

We pray for those sowing new seeds: those at the beginning of a new life journey; we pray for those embarking on new relationships, for new friendships forming, and for new lives: babies and their parents, especially we pray for all the little ones who have been baptised here, that they may grow in faith in you. We pray for those beginning new employment, taking a new educational course; and the newly retired God of Strength and courage: grant open hearts, and nurture these seeds of new life to strength.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We pray for those entrusted with the maintenance of that which was sown long ago:

We pray for leaders of nations and institutions of goodwill. We pray for the Church – here and elsewhere, In gratitude for your faithfulness in years past, and seeking your renewing Spirit in the years to come. We pray for the work of Frontier Services, Uniting World, the Bible Society and Uniting Gippsland. We also pray for all the activities of our parish that are presently suspended. We pray that they may soon be able to be recommenced, and that new initiatives in mission might be able to start. God of sustenance and ever-renewing creativity; we pray that in caring for what has been planted before, visions of purpose and potential might flourish above those of preservation for preservation's sake; and that in the busyness of our lives, we might not forget our rootedness in you, nourishing us unseen.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

God of Glory in all things: Your love heals and binds up the broken hearted, Your Son suffered even as His kingdom was established and earth tastes death, even as the promise of new life is strongest. We pray for those who are suffering that they might find healing, and for those who are bereaved, that they may be comforted, especially John and all the Allcorn family as they grieve for Nance. And we pray for those isolated due to COVID restrictions, for those supporting them, for those charged with enforcing restrictions, for those having to make difficult decisions, and all health workers.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven God of all, these prayers we offer, the sacrifices of our concern for the world, together with the prayers each of us bears in our own hearts, and we trust them to You, in the sure and certain hope of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

HYMN: TIS 217; [Love Divine](#)

BENEDICTION

Go out now to sow seeds of God's love! Go blessed by the God of Seed and Harvest!

Go to be a blessing to others in Jesus' name! And may the beauty of this world and the love of God that created it be expressed through our lives, now and always. Amen.

DOXOLOGY: John Rutter - [Deep Peace a Gaelic Blessing](#) sung by Libera

*Call to Worship from Bruce Prewer; Opening Prayer and Prayers for Others and Ourselves by Andrew Kimmitt, Church of Scotland; Prayer of Confession by James E. Janecek, in Seeds of Faith. Posted on the United Church of Christ's **Worship Ways** archive; Benediction from Brian Cole; Hymns copied under CCLI Licence no 206729*

Uniting Church in Australia - Traralgon District

19-29 Park Lane (PO Box 1136) TRARALGON 3844 ph: **5176 1029**

Administrative Assistant: Theresa Steyn **Office Hours:** Wednesday and Thursday 9am-1pm

Email Address: mail@traralgon.unitingchurch.org.au **Web Address:** <http://traralgonuc.blogspot.com/>