



# ALKING POINT

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

SUNDAY 1st November 2020

Volume 26 Issue 40

Dear Friends,

Someone asked a very good question this week, what is this transition? The follow up questions to that might be: 1. from what to what are we transitioning? and 2. why do we need to transition? A simple answer to the first question would be, from who we have been in Christ (pre 2020) to who God is calling us to be (post 2020). Theologically this is a question of following Christ and of listening for Gods' transforming love. This process is not new to any member of the body of Christ. Whenever change happens, we are called to draw on our faith and our hope to discern where God might be leading us. Change has happened here, and this is a time set apart for discerning God's call anew.

A simple answer to the second question might be, the Church Council and the Gippsland Presbytery invited an Intentional Interim Minister (IIM) to guide the process of transition as; a) a ministry agent did not complete a full five year placement; b) clarity of mission purpose is needed to guide selection of new ministry possibilities; c) the current funding structure of the district no longer provides adequately for a full time ministry agent. As your IIM I consider this time, and the Transition Team who will lead us through it, is a gift.

The newly formed Transition Team (TT), Geoff Aitken, Kerry Conabere, Bev Palmer, Cheryl Rhimes, Sue Scarlett, Jan Smart, and Simon Trebilcock, are preparing themselves for the journey. Please pray for the team as they will be committing a significant amount of time and energy to this process.

In Christ, Kerry

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God, give us grace to accept with serenity  
the things that cannot be changed,  
Courage to change the things  
which should be changed,  
and the Wisdom to distinguish  
the one from the other...  
*Reinhold Neibuhr*



**Traralgon District Uniting Church**  
Incorporating: Traralgon, Glengarry & Rosedale.



**Traralgon, Glengarry, and Rosedale Uniting churches Worship at Home  
ORDER OF SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 1st November 2020**

**This is the day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it**  
*(Psalm 118:24)*

**Call to Worship:**

Let us indeed be thankful for this day, and for the freedom we have to worship Almighty God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Hymn:**

TiS 216 [Rejoice the Lord is King, your Lord and King adore](#)

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Confession:**

Lord, we have so much to thank you for. We again thank you that we live in a land where we have freedom to gather and worship you. We pray that that freedom will never be taken away from us. We thank you for all your wonderful promises, including the promise that you will never forsake us. May we always be mindful of that promise each day as we go about our normal lives. We ask your forgiveness for times when we fail you - including times when we fail to do and say the things you would have wanted us to do or say.

**Affirmation of Forgiveness:**

We are so thankful for the promise that if we confess our sins, you are faithful and just to forgive us our sins. So we thank you that our sins are forgiven.

**Bible Readings:**

Matthew 5:1-12; 1 John 3:1-3; Rev. 7:9-17

**Sermon**

**NOTICE Traralgon UCA Worship Outdoors:**

**Sunday November 15th at 9:30am Weather Permitting.**

We look forward to meeting you on the Western side of the church, between the carpark and the church building (grassed and concrete area). The Transition Team will be commissioned for their work at this service. You are invited to **bring your own outdoor chairs**. Chairs can be provided if needed.

The Talking Point will go out with Worship included, as per our current pattern, for any person who feels vulnerable and/or prefers to stay home. Please advise the church office if your plan to attend, as currently only 50 people are permitted to attend outdoor worship.

*Government requires:* **Masks must be worn at all times. Social distancing must be maintained. If you have any cold or flu type symptoms please stay home. No food or drink may be served, you may like to bring your own tea/coffee or bring a water bottle.**

This outdoor worship is a trial and will inform our next step towards a new normal.

Hopefully see you then,

Kerry

## **Prayers of the People**

**Loving heavenly Father,**

**You have gifted the Church, through the goodness of your Grace  
to be your hands and do your work, to be your voice and share your words,  
to bring healing to a fallen world and make broken lives whole.**

**You have gifted your people with the blessings of your Spirit,  
the power to transform lives and make all things new.**

**Now may our hearts receive, our mouths proclaim, our hands prepare for service,  
that the love that we have known might overflow the lives we live and pour into the hearts  
of others, that all might receive your Grace, your renewing Spirit and your love.**

**We confess our need for you today as we do our best to cope with the world wide Covid 19  
pandemic. We need your healing and your grace. We need hope restored.**

**We need to be reminded that you often work through others, on behalf of those you love,  
constantly, powerfully, completely and we pray for those suffering illness, injury and  
homelessness, the loss of jobs and livelihood, of good health. Help us to find the strength  
and Grace to gently support those in need of your loving touch.**

**Forgive us for trying to fix our situations all on our own. Forgive us for running all different  
directions to find help, when true help and healing must be found first in you.**

**We come to you and bring you the places where we are hurting. You see where no one else  
is able to fully see or understand. We ask for your healing and grace to cover every broken  
place. Every wound. Every heartache. Thank you that you are able to do far more than we  
could ever imagine. We love you. We need you today.**

**May your spirit fill us with a sense of joy in the wonders of creation that we are inspired to  
celebrate and preserve our precious earth.**

**A Prayer for Peace: We pray for our troubled world, we ask that Your Spirit will strive  
mightily with the leaders of the nations as they seek a formula by which the peoples of the  
earth can live at peace with one another.**

**Impress upon their minds and hearts that until we are at peace with you, we can be at peace  
with no one else; that freedom can exist nowhere, unless it exists everywhere, that the  
strength of this nation does not lie in armies or navies, but in the integrity of her people, that  
peace is born out of righteousness – and nothing else. That the trouble with our world is still  
– people; that peace is not possible until people's hearts – our hearts – and the direction of  
our wills are changed.**

**Make us willing to be changed, whatever the cost to our self-sufficiency, whatever the price  
to our insistence on having our own way.**

**Grant that the promised day may soon come when culture and learning, education and  
compassion, shall again light all lamps that wars have extinguished; when all wanderers can  
return to their homes and their gardens; when all of us may be united in the high adventure  
of building a better world.**

**In Your name, the Father of us all, we make this prayer.**

***Amen.***

***Parts of this prayer including the Prayer for Peace, were written by Peter Marshall, Chaplain to the  
U.S. Senate in the years following the 2<sup>nd</sup> world war.***

**Offering Hymn:**

TiS 562 [I'm not ashamed to own my Lord](#)

**Blessing:**

Go out into a new week, midful of God's faithfulness, and that He will never leave you or forsake you.

**Hymn:**

TiS 560 [All my hope on God is founded](#)

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# Blessed are

Gospel of St. Matthew 5:3-10

THE POOR IN SPIRIT,  
FOR THEIRS IS THE  
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

THEY WHO MOURN,  
FOR THEY SHALL  
BE COMFORTED.

THE MEEK  
FOR THEY SHALL  
INHERIT THE EARTH.

THEY WHO HUNGER AND  
THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS  
FOR THEY SHALL BE SATISFIED.

THE MERCIFUL,  
FOR THEY SHALL  
OBTAIN MERCY.

THE PURE OF HEART,  
FOR THEY SHALL  
SEE GOD.

THE PEACEMAKERS.  
FOR THEY SHALL BE  
CALLED CHILDREN.  
OF GOD.

THEY WHO ARE PERSECUTED  
FOR THE SAKE OF  
RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR THEIRS  
IS THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.



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