



TALKING POINT

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

SUNDAY 29th November 2020

Volume 26 Issue 44

Dear Friends, this week the Transition Team discovered a new version of the serenity prayer; “God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, *the curiosity to discover how to do things many claim cannot be done*, and the wisdom to know the difference *and where to begin*.” Curiosity, compassion, and courage are at the heart of transitional ministry. Curiosity opens our minds to hearing and relating to the many differences that we bring together as a community of faith. Compassion opens our hearts to lovingly embracing others with care and thoughtfulness; being *in Christ*, we are more than independent individuals, we are kind-hearted brothers and sisters. I think faithful courage depends on curiosity and compassion. It is only through open minds and open hearts that God’s call to courageous activity may be known. This call is always and only for the sake of the Kingdom. Transitional courage goes beyond what I can change, towards what change is necessary; for the Gospel to continue transforming and enlivening our community into the future.

I pray that all our conversations are energised through enquiring minds, kind hearts and that these conversations lead us to deep knowing of where Christ is calling us to. Then may we all have the courage to faithfully follow God’s call together. Amen.

In Christ, Kerry minister.tuca@gmail.com 0483 803 922

**WORSHIP INSIDE TRARALGON UNITING CHURCH SUNDAY @ 9:30 AM
FROM THIS SUNDAY ONWARDS (COVID REGULATIONS STILL CONTINUE)**



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



Traralgon, Glengarry, and Rosedale Uniting churches Worship at Home

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 29th November 2020

Songs: [Here I am to Worship](#) (Jack Goodman)

[Psalm 80](#) (James Block)

Call to worship:

Watch, wait, hope!

Even now, the tender leaves of peace
May be growing on the trees of life.

Watch, wait, hope!

For the wonder of new love

May be moving towards its birth.

The Christ will come.

The Word of God will not fail us (D.M.M)

As we gather here, we acknowledge this Holy Space, look around, take note of the differences and similarities since the last time you met in this space. Remember this is God's Holy space, others were here celebrating in song and story long before our ancestors arrived. We acknowledge the First Peoples of this land and waters, the GunaiKurnai; Elders, past, present and emerging. As we celebrate in story and song, we watch, wait, and hope for reconciliation of all peoples in this land that we may know the coming of Christ in justice, peace and love.

This year has been like no other, COVID 19 seems to have robbed us from so much, A world filled with suffering and uncertainty.

Take heart,

Advent is here,

The wait has begun.

We light this first candle.

Let it be for us a sign of hope,

Hope amidst the chaos and mess of the world,

Hope that your light will break in through the darkness.

Let your light be the hope for all people

Struggling in a troubled world.

Church Rosters

Now that we are resuming worship under COVID safe requirements, it is necessary to have some church duties rostered for the smooth and efficient conducting of worship. We have been unable to attend the Church to complete the non-availability process but a temporary roster for some duties required at present has been prepared without knowing non-availability.

If you are rostered on for a task and are unavailable on the day, please arrange for a swap with another Church member. Once we have the opportunity to again complete non-availability, the normal roster process will be re-instated. Your roster will be available at our next worship service. Your patience and co-operation during this transition period is greatly appreciated.

Bruce Boucher

Song: TIS 286 [Light One Candle](#) (Dr. Homer A. Ferguson 111)

Prayers of confession:

God in whom we place our hope, the sounds and sights of the season surround us:
carols and bright lights,
cash registers and colourful counters.

We screen from our sight
people starving and armies fighting. (Pause)

And we shut from our hearing
babies crying and guns firing. (Pause)

And yet, the manger story is about
a family wandering,
a baby crying,
a Herod killing.

Are we looking for you in the wrong places again?

Open our eyes and ears Lord to the fullness of your presence. (Pause)
Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness:

We have been found,
Christ loves and forgives us.
Thanks be to God

Song: [To God be the Glory](#) (Babe Damulag)

Scripture Reading: Mark 13: 24-37; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Sermon

Intercessory Meditation: TIS 265 [O come, O come, Emmanuel](#) (Megan Smith)

Offering & Prayer:

Gracious God,
bless and transform all that we offer:
our faltering steps,
our brokenness,
our hope, and our hearts,
that your covenant of love may be written on our lives
and we may be a blessed and transformed people.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Now you are happy
with the inexpressible joy
that comes from heaven itself.

—1 Peter 1:8 (TLB)



Song: [Star Child](#) (singing4hope)

Blessing and Dismissal:

Let us leave this place, looking for God,
in the world and our lives.

Let us be awake to integrity,
awake to justice,
and awake to love.

And may God, our Mother and our Father,
Bless us with hope through these Advent Days.

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"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;
For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)

Transition Team Update

Last week we noted the five focus points that the Transition Team will work through with you over the transition period: Heritage, Mission, Leadership, Connections and Future. We noted that understanding our heritage informs us to help plan for the future. The "Mission" focus point is all about "defining and redefining our sense of purpose and direction", drawing on this heritage as well as looking for new possibilities. The Transition Team is learning about the processes and equipping ourselves to work with the congregations in exploring these focus points.

Whilst we have Kerry here as our Intentional Interim Minister, responsibility for transition remains with the congregations, as guided through the process by the Transition Team, with Kerry's role as a coach to the Transition Team in the first instance. A clear outcome of the transition process is for the congregations to have clarity of mission focus and purpose when, ultimately, we look for new ministry possibilities. For me, this was summarised well in some of the resource material. Put into our context, this process is about all of us, the members of Glengarry, Rosedale and Traralgon congregations, having the opportunity and responsibility to create our future, not waiting for, or needing, a minister, or Presbytery, or Synod, to tell us what to do. At this stage, many of us are uncertain about what all this means. And this is why we, the Transition Team, are making time to develop a process and will progressively work with you all over the next few months to explore what it does mean. Starting next week, the team is to meeting with the Rosedale congregation to begin exploring the focus points together. Please pray for the team and our congregations.

Simon Trebilcock, on behalf of the Transition Team, 25 November 2020

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