



ALKING POINT

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST AND MAKING HIM KNOWN

SUNDAY 13th December 2020

Volume 26 Issue 46

Dear Friends,

Your transition team has recently been focusing on 'Conversations Worth Having'. That's the title of a book which explores the importance of appreciative conversations. These conversations are widely used to foster positive change and to expand creativity and unleash potential. For us, these conversations will help us discern who we are as church today, and also to discern who God is calling us to be as church for tomorrow.

The energy and enthusiasm of the transition team is very encouraging. They are thoughtful in their preparations and they are hopeful in their outlook for this church. They are also very hardworking and have not yet complained about the amount of work that lies before them. I encourage you to keep them in your prayers, as I'm sure you keep the congregation and those connected through children's and outreach ministries.

In Christ, Kerry

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



Joy-filled Giver of Life,
Let the anticipation of your birth
Fill us with overflowing joy.
May our excitement and anticipation
Be a sign to the world
That you are always near.
Amen



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



Traralgon, Glengarry, and Rosedale Uniting churches Worship at Home

ORDER OF SERVICE FOR SUNDAY 13th December 2020

Songs: [Psalm 126](#) (Sojourn Music)

[Joy to the world](#) (Emu Music)

Call to Worship:

Sing songs of hope into the waiting air
And begin the dance of joy,
For the life of faith is before us.

Christ is coming!

**Let us sing praises to God
And watch for the Christ,
For in the longing of Advent
Lies the promise of the good to come.**

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

Prayers:

Be known to us now, Holy Spirit.
Come and enlarge our faith that we may watch and wait
In hope.

Show us your life, present in the silences.
Show us your mind and speak into the emptiness.
Show us your presence in the joy of our celebration.

**Come, Gracious Spirit, come
We rejoice at your Holy Presence. Amen.**

Hymn: TiS 188 [Where wide sky rolls](#) (VideoscapelnOz)

Prayers of confession:

As the season of celebration is growing around us,
Hope, Peace and Joy are at the forefront of our minds.

We remember in the silence that we have not
been able to love as God has loved us.

(Silent reflection)

We remember that in our humanity
God loves and forgives
Faithfully calling us forward into the divine life
Receive the forgiveness of God.
Rejoice and live in freedom!

**We are forgiven
Thanks be to God**

Peace:

Christ loves and forgives. Bringing joy and peace into our hearts.
May the Peace of the Coming One be with you all.
And also with you.



Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon

Hymn: TiS 526: [Lord Jesus Christ](#) (mkariobangi)

Intercessory Prayers:

Hear our prayer, O God of joy,
take the tears of the world and transform our weeping into loving acts of kindness.
Lift our hearts with your encouragement and strength
so that we enter this week
filled with your inspiration for a different future.
For you are the source of our hope, peace and joy.
You are the wonder at the end of our waiting.
And you are joy that fills our lives as we strive to be your people in a struggling world.
This we pray in the name of Christ our Lord, Amen.

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 joy filled and transformed people.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal:

Go now.
The Christ is near and soon we will hear the sounds of joy.
Go in peace.
And may the whole earth be renewed in God,
the universe sound with Christ's promise of coming life
and the Spirit abound with grace and joy for all.
Amen.

Hymn: TiS 276 [There's a light upon the mountain](#) (Grapeview Church)

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Transition Team Update

In the "Leadership" focus point for transition, we will be "reviewing the congregation's needs and its ways of organising, and developing new and effective leadership." This sounds a little challenging, and perhaps it is, as it involves us all in the exercise of our own ministries in our congregation, and in the congregation's efforts in revealing Jesus Christ to the community. It makes sense, though, to be well organised to be effective in our mission.

The Transition Team continues to learn about the transition journey, and we thank the Rosedale members for being the first ones we have met with, and whom, as a result, have helped us refine the process. We look forward to meeting with Rosedale again soon, before we pause this work for Christmas and January. Please thank God for the blessings of the transition period and continue to pray for the work of the Transition Team and our church. *Simon Trebilcock, on behalf of the Transition Team, 9 December 2020*



NOTICE

Due to the crazy COVID year the Christmas dinner will not be on this year. *However*, hampers will be made up including drinks, plum puddings, biscuits, word searches books, Christmas treats etc. These will actually be delivered on Christmas Day to folk who may be alone on this day. This will give them the opportunity to have a visitor, some conversation and some goodies to brighten their day. If you would like to donate money to support this please see Ian or Kerry Conabere or leave money with Theresa in the office.

Thankyou.



CHRISTMAS SERVICE TIMES 2020

TRARALGON UNITING CHURCH (Park Lane)

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|
| Blue Christmas 20th December | 5.00pm | Contemplative Service of Solace |
| Thursday 24th December | 5.00pm | Crib Service |
| Friday 25th December | 9.00am | Christmas Day Celebration |

GLENGARRY (Cairnbrook Road)

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| Friday 25th December | 9.30am | Christmas Day Celebration |
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ROSEDALE (Queen Street)

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| Sunday 20th December | 11:00 am | Christmas Day Celebration |
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Uniting Church in Australia - Traralgon District

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