



**PAYNEHAM ROAD
UNITING CHURCH
10 May 2020**



EASTER 5



BIBLE READINGS for May 17 2020 Easter 6

Acts 17:22-31

Psalm 66:8-20

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:1-21

The liturgical colour for Easter is WHITE

White symbolizes purity, holiness, and virtue, as well as respect and reverence. White is used for all high Holy Days and festival days of the Church Year, especially the seasons of Christmas and Easter, as well as for baptism, marriage, dedications, and in some traditions for the ordination of ministers. In some church traditions it is also used for funerals as a symbol of the resurrection.

Worship Service via Zoom live



Prospect Road Uniting Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Prospect Road Uniting Church Sunday Worship (EASTER 5) 10 May 2020
Time: 9:50 am Adelaide (service starts 10 am)

Join Zoom Meeting: (updated link & ID)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83190628498?pwd=V2lLVVdxRSsvdGNRUm50L1FyKzVxUT09>

Meeting ID: **831 9062 8498**

Password: **PRUC**

If you need help with this please contact Do Young before Sunday.

Readings for today—Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16*

I suspect that this psalm (praying for deliverance from enemies) is included in this week's readings for two reasons. First, it resonates with the martyrdom of Stephen. Second, it includes a particular line, "into your hand I commit my spirit" (31:5a) that is echoed by Stephen (Acts 7:59), and was also placed on the lips of Jesus as he died (Luke 23:46). Using psalms in this way-to reinforce and underline the New Testament passage set for reading (especially when it is from the Acts) is a valid and helpful enterprise. ²But each psalm has a life of its own, apart from the way that Christian people and New Testament texts perceive them. The psalms provided both the songbook and the prayerbook for ancient Israel. They express the commitments and the hopefulness of people of faith. So each psalm can easily become our prayer, our song, today. This prayer invites us to reflect on the ways that we have experienced rescue, shelter, guidance, and steadfast love the qualities of God which are noted in this psalm.

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About Communion this Sunday (10th of May)

Do Young will be conducting the online communion service this Sunday. The Uniting Church of Australia Standing Committee has given permission for Online Gatherings of Worship with Holy Communion as a temporary pastoral measure for the period of COVID-19 and isolation measures. You are invited to this holy table.



You may prepare one of three options.

Option One - A tissue or napkin covers both the cup/glass and plate containing bread and juice - see below

<Online participants should prepare for themselves and any immediate persons present with them who are also participating during the Service of the Word the following elements: bread and grape juice (or equivalent). In order to show appropriate reverence for the elements, participants should be advised to prepare only what is required and that any leftover after the service might be reverently consumed.

NOTE: It is important to acknowledge that there may be participants who will choose to abstain from taking the elements in this context, and that they too continue to be held in the love of Christ and of this our church community.>

Option Two - An empty cup or glass and an empty plate are placed on a celebratory cloth

Option Three - You are invited in prayer of solidarity God's people without a setting at your places.

PRAYERS DURING COVID-19

We are invited to pray at 7 pm every night in response to Covid-19. We may only pray for a minute, or for 19 minutes or more, but either way, the message is simple: to seek God for his healing, strength and peace across our nation. We are also called to pray at 1pm for 1 minute for health workers every day. Our health workers are doing an incredible job at looking after those with the virus (and other conditions) and we pray for protection and safety over them as they tend to those who are sick. You can organise a virtual prayer meeting with those around you or pray over the phone with a family member, work colleague or friend.

SA COVID-19 MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT LINE

Uniting Communities is operating the South Australian COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line, established by the State Government to help those struggling with the current situation or with feelings of isolation. Counselling is offered over the phone and via video calls, along with referrals to a range of services if needed. The Support Line is open seven days a week from 8:00am to 8:00pm on 1800 632 753.

Children's Page

Dear Parents,

Use this children's message: Give Mum a Hand in the big church or any gathering to celebrate our mums' on this special holiday.

Theme: Mother's Day

Scripture: Proverbs 31:28-31



Preparation: In a box or paper sack, place different kinds of gloves. You'll also need a Bible.

Proverbs 31:28-31 New Living Translation (NLT)

Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her: "There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!" Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the Lord will be greatly praised. Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise.

Ask: What does this verse tell us to do?

Say: God tells us to praise our mothers and say great things about them so everyone will know how terrific they are! Today, we'll give our mums a special hand.

Pull out a pair of gloves and say: Gloves are good for lots of things. Let's see how these gloves help us. Give each child at least one glove.

Say: Hold up your glove and tell how it reminds you of things your mum does. Our mums sure do a lot of different things! Collect the gloves.

Say: Let's pray. Dear God, thanks for our moms who work, play, clean, cook, and love us with their hands. Show us how to honor them every day. Amen. Now, let's use our hands to praise our mums! Lead kids in applauding for their mothers.

Our Church and Church Family

PLEASE PRAY FOR

..... our members & friends struggling with ill health, especially remember in your prayers,: Betty Nunan, Marj Green, Andrew Randall, Ray Williams, Judy Murdoch, Doug Faulkner, Bill & Grace Hancock, Bob & Beth Rankine, Roger Wyatt, Jackie & Ray Gabell, Dennis Henschke, Brenton Taylor, Ross Dawson and Val & Cate Watkinson. Also our international students.



Felicia Ruth (5th), Cynthia Fleming (19th), Bill Hancock (23rd), Dana Lim (26th)

Please share....

In this time of isolation, it would be lovely if you would share, with other members of the congregation, you feelings, experiences, something sad, something funny.

Email your stories to me or give me a call (leave a message if I don't answer). Sharon.

P: 0438 706 957

E: administrator@paynehamroaduc.org.au

Zoom Services

Please encourage others to watch our Zoom service. We have had up to 45 people between Payneham Road UC and Prospect Road UC enjoying our services each week and there's plenty room for more. Please send favourite hymn requests to Do Young.

PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH



Please keep in contact with other congregational members. Try to phone, email or use social media with at least 2 people a week if possible. Refer to your Pastoral Care list or congregational directory.

Do Young would be happy to video your personal message to put on the church website. He will come to your home and video outside from 2 metres away. Please contact him if you would like to do this. This is a special opportunity to share with the community.

GOOD NEWS RE OUR FINANCES

Following our PRUC Council meeting held via Zoom at 6.30pm, Tuesday 28th April there has been some important information to be shared with you. At the meeting we agreed to accept the amended Budget David put forward (2020 v.4). It was stated at the meeting that we may lose about \$50,000 income this year, but have adequate equity at present to remain viable for 2020.

The good news is that -

1. Synod has negotiated with the Australian Govt for a Jobkeeper payment for Do Young of \$1500 /fortnight - to be divided between Prospect & PRUC - eg **we will have \$750 less to pay** towards Do Young's income per fortnight for the next 3 months.
2. The Government has made a **Payment to all churches** to help them cope with the changes required by COVID-19 - we received \$9,438 last week!
3. That UCA SA have agreed to **reduce the amount we are required to pay Synod & Presbytery from 12% of our designated income to 7%** for the April, May & June quarter for our Mission and Services contribution.

4. **Additional reduction in Mission and Services payment.**

Earlier this year we formally requested a reduction in our Mission and Services payment as from January 2020 on the basis of our small congregation and the number of international students. Following a phone call this week David and I have asked Council to approve paying an interim amount of \$1,250 per quarter for the first 6 months of this year. (a decreased amount as paid in 2019).

The following was sent to Ministers and leaders from the Moderator.

Dear Ministers and leaders of congregations,

Contents:

- Update about the Leaders of Christian Churches meeting on Monday, 4 May
- Encouragement to have discussions about future ministry priorities
- At this point, no restrictions have changed in SA. Synod will inform any changes
- Reflect on the most vulnerable across the world

We have now spent over seven weeks doing things very differently as we have managed the changes in our congregational and personal lives. There has not just been one major change but multiple adaptations to make, with many happening at short notice. I am grateful that you as Ministers and leaders of the Uniting Church have been adaptable and creative in ministering in many different and innovative ways.

I am regularly hearing stories of connections being made with people on the fringes of congregations and how God has spoken to people through the online and printed worship resources. I have been surprised at the ways in which people have engaged with a wide diversity of resources to support their worship and devotional life.

As our landscape changes and we continually adapt, it is often difficult to respond to the sometimes conflicting needs of congregations and individuals. Thank you for your flexibility and willingness to listen to the different voices. I recognise the extra workload and challenges of ministering in these uncertain times.

Yesterday the Leaders of Christian Churches in South Australia met to consider a way forward for churches when current restrictions start to be eased. As a follow up to this, a group of us will be meeting with the Premier tomorrow to discuss an ordered process. Some congregations and Ministers are seeking for restrictions on churches to be relaxed as soon as possible while others are uncertain about the benefits and desirability of changing too quickly. This may be a time to evaluate which of the activities that are currently being undertaken are worth continuing, and what might be the priorities when restrictions are relaxed. There are very few congregations that can manage both the ministry of this time and what was happening previously. I encourage Church Councils and Ministry colleagues to have discussions about future ministry priorities in preparation for any changed circumstances. At this stage, nothing has changed in relation to requirements for places of worship, and I am uncertain when there will be any easing of restrictions in South Australia. I am thankful for your perseverance and assure you that the Synod is continuing to actively monitor both state and federal government responses. Synod will inform you when there is any change.

I am aware that for many congregations, the financial future is uncertain, especially when Government assistance concludes. I encourage Church Councils to look at their budgets early and seek advice at the early stages of planning any changes. We recognise it is not only our own churches which are struggling, but across the world many of our partner churches are greatly affected by the impact of COVID-19. I encourage Ministers to reflect theologically on Christ's call to the most vulnerable across the world and to add these reflections to their worship offerings to their congregations.

The church at the end of this pandemic will be different to the church we knew last year and as we move towards Pentecost, we see signs of the Holy Spirit encouraging and sustaining us as we all prepare for something new and wonderful. That is the enduring hope given to us at Easter and the great expectation of what God can do in the world.

Blessings in your ministries.

Bronte Wilson

Moderator
Uniting Church in South Australia

Church Property

In the last two weeks you may have noticed that there has been damage done to corner of the church fence on Lower Portrush Road side, no doubt by a 'hit and run' driver/vehicle and there was also very slight damage done to one of the air conditioner units.

Please don't worry, this is being seen to, thank you to David, Rhonda, Lesley, Jan & Brian.



If you are in the area, please look out for anything out of place.. i.e. damage, doors open, rubbish etc.

CONTACTS:

Minister: Rev. Do Young Kim

P: 0427 673 798 / 83332640 E: minister@paynehamroaduc.org.au

Council Chairperson: Heather Schubert

P: 0427 164 393 E: heather@recc.net.au

Congregation Chairperson: Rhonda Heilbronn

P: 0400 220 035 E: rkheilb@outlook.com

Acting Treasurer: David Heilbronn

P: 0434 053 976 E: djheilb@outlook.com

Administration / Newsletter editor: Sharon Mackenzie

P: 0438 706 957 E: administrator@paynehamroaduc.org.au

PRUC Website address:- paynehamroaduc.org.au