



**PAYNEHAM ROAD
UNITING CHURCH
24 May 2020**



EASTER 7

Psalm 68: 1103235 *

I am writing these words early in the new year in the middle of the catastrophic bushfires in Australia that have taken too many lives, destroyed so many homes and communities, and devastated millions of acres of bushland, the home of countless species of animals and insects, many of which will never recover. At this time, I couldn't read past the words of Psalm 68: "Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished" (v.9). I was also struck by promises noted by the psalmist, who names God the father of orphans, and declares that God gives the desolate a home and provides for the needy. I'm struck by these words, because they do not paint a picture of God preventing: the words assume that there will be orphans and widows, that there will be those who are desolate, those who are needy. This is not a portrait of God simply making everything good and safe and happy. Rather, it is an image of God becoming involved in caring for those who have been hurt by the vicissitudes and injustices of life the image of God we see most perfectly in Jesus Christ. It's also an image of God that we can meaningfully imitate, for while we cannot always prevent hardship, we can, as God's people, seek to be there for those who face it. *TiS 607 Make me a channel of your peace; Psalm 19; John and Charles Wesley-reformers of the Church In your prayers remember the lands and people of the church.*

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BIBLE READINGS for May 17 2020 Easter 6

Acts 1:6-14

Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

Worship Service via Zoom live

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

Topic: Prospect Road Uniting Church Sunday Worship live online

Date & Time: 24 May, 9:50 am (service starts 10 am) CST



Join Zoom Meeting:

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

Meeting ID: 831 9062 8498

Password: PRUC

You can also click on the invite on the home page of our Website:

<http://paynehamroaduc.org.au/>

Zoom Worship 5th Sunday of May (Pentecost Day)

Rev. Mark Schultz will be preaching Sunday the 31st of May. It was scheduled at Payneham Road before COVID-19 and was happy to change the date. Jessica will organise the worship via Zoom, but you are more than welcome to suggest hymns and prayers. Do Young will be preparing the order of service with Mark.

Zoom Worship Dress Code or Symbols. Please join in and if possible wear **RED** clothing or accessories.



The Zoom link will be available in the next week in the newsletter and on the Payneham Road UC website

Quotes—Submitted by Heather

"Ships don't sink because of the water around them: ships sink because of the water that gets in them. Don't let what's happening around you get inside you and weigh you down." Unknown author"

"The pessimist see difficulty in in every opportunity. The optimist sees an opportunity in every difficulty." *Winston Churchill*

ENTERING THE CHURCH HALL



Please be aware that small groups (i.e. dancing) are slowly starting to return to the hall and you must enter through the side door, sign in and use the hand sanitiser in the side foyer then sign out, again using the sanitiser. If there are other people in the building, please keep safe distancing in mind.

Do not enter in through the kitchen door.

When we return to church we will also do the same in the front foyer of the church.

This is a government requirement .

SUPPORT UNITINGCARE EMERGENCY RELIEF CENTRES

The UnitingCare Emergency Relief Centres (ERCs) are continuing to grow amazing relationships in the communities where they operate. Only two are funded by the State and Federal Governments, with one further receiving support from a generous grant. The rest operate on donations from the church and community.

You can help make a difference by donating food or by making a tax-deductible (over \$2) to the UCSA Relief Fund UnitingCare ERC appeal.

Find out more: sa.uca.org.au/unitingcare-sa/

SMILE

*Smiling is infectious, you can catch it like the 'flu.
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too.
I passed around the corner and someone saw my grin.
When he smiled I realised that I had passed it on to him.
So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected.
Let's start another epidemic quick, and let the world get infected.*



Submitted by Jan C.

Children's Page

Scripture: Acts 1:9

Theme: The Ascension of Christ

Activity: Helium balloons on a string - one per child.

Up, Up and Away!



Dear Parents

Hand each child a helium balloon, tying the string loosely to their wrist. Challenge them to hold their balloon down in their lap until they are given the cue “up, up and away.” Remind them of the importance of holding tightly to the balloon and listening for their cue to release their balloon.

I'm sure you know that when filled with helium, a balloon floats in the air. And it's also quite enjoyable when it does float away from you. It's fun to stand and watch as the balloon floats higher and higher into the heavens until it totally disappears. The only way to experience that is to be willing to let it go.

In today's Bible lesson in the book of Acts, we learn that when Jesus was ready to return to heaven, He took His disciples aside to make sure that they understood everything that had happened to Him. He explained why it was important for Him to be crucified and to be raised from the dead to fulfill what the Scriptures had said about Him. He also told them that he was going to return to His Father in heaven and that the Holy Spirit would come to be with them.

At first, the disciples were sad that Jesus would be leaving them, but then the Bible tells us that Jesus opened their minds so they would understand. Then, an amazing thing happened. The Bible tells us that Jesus lifted his hands and blessed His disciples. While He was blessing them, He lifted up and was taken up into heaven “up, up and away.”

(Remind kids to release their balloon.)

I don't know how all of this looked, but in my imagination I can see the disciples standing and watching as Jesus ascended higher and higher until He disappeared from view. Were the disciples sad? No way! The Bible tells us that when Jesus had gone up into heaven, the disciples worshipped Him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. They stayed continually in the temple, praising God.

Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus, Your only Son, to die for our sin. We know that He has risen from the dead and has returned to heaven. Bless us today as we worship Him with great joy! In Jesus' name, amen.

Source from ; <https://sermons4kids.com/>

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 Cate Watkinson.



...and our international students.

Also please pray for Rev David, Judith Purling and their family. David & Judith's son, Michael was recently killed in road accident while visiting Vietnam.



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

Thank you Meng & Florence

Meng and Florence recently served a delicious noddle dishes for the international students.



Church Council will be meeting, using Zoom, on Tuesday, 26 May at 6.30pm.

Thank you to anyone who has sent in photos and articles for this newsletter. I would love to hear any of your stories of isolation. Ed.

URGENT HELP REQUIRED

We have three international nursing students in our congregation who would benefit from some financial support from us. They pay their way to stay in Australia and study by working in part time jobs. As you know many businesses are either closed or reducing their staff numbers – and these students have lost their jobs and there is considerable uncertainty about when they may again be able to access employment. They do not qualify for Jobkeeper allowances nor any other financial support and are experiencing stress in meeting financial needs. Two other international young people have full time jobs and are OK. Do Young is keeping in regular touch with them all to provide support.

At the last Council meeting it was proposed and accepted that we ask you - our congregational members - for donations towards providing some financial support to assist these three students in the short term. All would like to complete their nursing studies and then remain in Australia. These are important members of our church family and are likely to contribute to the future of our church.

CAN YOU HELP?

Donations can be sent to David Heilbronn and put into the Church bank account – please indicate “for students” when sending so we can clearly identify these amounts from other income. Ring David if you need guidance on how to get money to him. Do Young, Heather and David will administer the donations and determine what amounts will be provided to each student – PLEASE CONSIDER THIS URGENTLY.

Heather Schubert – Chairperson PRUC Council

The following students are Majoring in nursing...

Kevin Lee - Flinders Uni, 1st year student

Sam Hwang – Flinders Uni, 2nd year student

Emma Hwang – Flinders Uni, 3rd year student

Thank you for your generous support and prayers. Our supports not be able to cover all their needs but they will be encouraged by our caring hearts. From Do Young.

To donate through E-give

Account Name: **Payneham Road Uniting Church**

UC Invest BSB: **805 007**

Account: **00701703**

Message: **Students**

News from Synod via UC E-News

Prayer Points

This week we pray for:

- Uniting Aboriginal & Islander Christian Congress youth and young adults across South Australia.
- All those in Australia and beyond who are unemployed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Our global church partners who are offering pastoral support and advocacy in their communities, where there is devastating loss of life, overwhelmed healthcare systems, loss of livelihood and fear for the future.
- People with disability, made in the image of God as we all are, who seek equity and justice.
- Uniting Church members, as we gather in various ways for worship.

Reflection of the week

Late Autumn:

the beauty of leaves turning red and gold,
the sense of nature slowing down,
and preparing to rest.

Let us attend to the invitations of Autumn,
to the moments when God
invites us to live more gently, and to rest.

For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1)
What "season" am I in?
How does the rhythm of creation
find its echo in the rhythm of my life?

What might God be inviting of me?
I pause and listen –
to my mind, my spirit, my body,
to my circumstances,
to the whispers of the Spirit.

Jesus, you knew the time for action,
and the time for rest and prayer.
Grant me the wisdom and the grace
to live at the rhythm You invite of me,
the rhythm of all God's creation.

Amen.

A Time for Everything

There is a time for everything,
and a season for every activity under the heavens:
a time to be born and a time to die,
a time to plant and a time to uproot,
a time to kill and a time to heal,
a time to tear down and a time to build,
a time to weep and a time to laugh,
a time to mourn and a time to dance,
a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them,
a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
a time to search and a time to give up,
a time to keep and a time to throw away,
a time to tear and a time to mend,
a time to be silent and a time to speak,
a time to love and a time to hate,
a time for war and a time for peace.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 New International Version (NIV)

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