

ORMOND UNITING CHURCH



14TH NOVEMBER

PENTECOST 25



Hannah Praying – Marc Chagall

Congregational responses are printed in bold type

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

There is no Holy One like the Lord,
no one besides you;
there is no Rock like our God.
He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap,
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honour.
For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
and on them he has set the world.

1 Samuel 2

HYMN: TIS 61

Sing, all creation, sing to God in gladness,
joyously serve him, singing hymns of homage,
chanting his praises, come before his presence:
Praise the Almighty!

Know that our God is Lord of all the ages;
he is our maker: we are all his creatures,
people he fashioned, sheep he leads to pasture:
Praise the Almighty!

Enter his temple, ringing out his praises;
sing in thanksgiving as you come before him;
blessing his bounty, glorify his greatness:
Praise the Almighty!

Great in his goodness is the Lord we worship;
steadfast his kindness, love that knows no ending;
faithful his word is, changeless, everlasting:
Praise the Almighty!

Psalm 100, James Quinn, 1919-

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet;
A light to our path

Hebrew Scriptures: 1 Samuel 1. 1-20, 27-28

PRAYERS OF GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

It does not come easy for us to imagine that you
 Closed the womb of mother Hannah
 And thereby closed the future for a time.
And yet, we can name in your presence
 A myriad of shut-down places around us ...
 Those shut down in poverty and despair,
 Those shut down in fear and rage,
 Those shut down by abuse and violence,
 Too hurt to speak,
 Too frightened to appear,
 Too scared to dance.

And closer, our own shut-downs:
 In anxiety, in pretence,
 Too weary to care,
 Too greedy to share,
 Too much of us for neighbour.

These are not all your doing we confess.
But you are the God who opens all shut-downs:
 By your power you give futures,
 By your goodness, you give hope,
 By your mercy you make new.
So we bid you this day come our shut down places
 And give birth anew.

We pray through the Easter opening of the Friday shut downs.
Amen.

Psalm

1 Samuel 2. 1-10

Hannah prayed and said,
‘My heart exults in the Lord;
my strength is exalted in my God.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in my victory.

‘There is no Holy One like the Lord,
no one besides you;
there is no Rock like our God.

Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;
for the Lord is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.

The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble gird on strength.

Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry are fat with spoil.

The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.

The Lord gives death and gives life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.

The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low, he also exalts.

He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap,
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honour.

For the pillars of the earth are the Lord’s,
and on them he has set the world.

‘He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness;

**for not by might does one prevail.
The Lord! His adversaries shall be shattered;
the Most High will thunder in heaven.
The Lord will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king,
and exalt the power of his anointed.'**

The Letter to the Hebrews 10. 19-25

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel: Mark 13. 1-8

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

HYMN: TIS 251

Lord Christ, we praise your sacrifice,
your life in love so freely given.
For those who took your life away
you prayed: that they might be forgiven;
and there, in helplessness arrayed,
God's power was perfectly displayed.

Once helpless in your mother's arms,
dependent on her mercy then;
at last, by choice, in other hands
you were as helpless once again
and, at their mercy, crucified,
you claimed your victory and died.

Though helpless and rejected then,
you're now as risen Lord acclaimed;
for ever by your sacrifice
is God's eternal love proclaimed:

the love which, dying, brings to birth
new life and hope for all on earth.

So, living Lord, prepare us now
your willing helplessness to share:
to give ourselves in sacrifice
to overcome the world's despair;
in love to give our lives away
and claim your victory today.

Alan Gaunt

1935-

SERMON

HYMN: TIS 203

Fairest Lord Jesus,
Lord of all creation,
Son of God, and Mary's son:
you will I cherish,
you will I honour,
you are my soul's delight and crown.

Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands
robed in the greenness and bloom of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
he makes the saddest heart to sing.

Fair are the flowers,
fairer still the children
in all the freshness of youth arrayed;
yet is their beauty
fading and fleeting;
Lord Jesus, yours will never fade.

Fair is the moonlight,
fairer still the sunshine,

fair is the shimmering starry sky:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines clearer
than all the heavenly host on high.

Jesus, all beauty,
heavenly and earthly,
in you is wondrously found to be;
none can be nearer,
fairer or dearer
than you, my Saviour, are to me.

Anon., Munster 1677
tr. Joseph Augustus Seiss 1823-1904 and others

OFFERING -

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN: TIS 473

Community of Christ,
who make the Cross your own,
live out your creed and risk your life
for God alone:
the God who wears your face,
to whom all worlds belong,
whose children are of every race
and every song.

Community of Christ,
look past the Church's door
and see the refugee, the hungry,
and the poor.
Take hands with the oppressed,
the jobless in your street,
take towel and water, that you wash
your neighbour's feet.

Community of Christ,
through whom the word must sound -
cry out for justice and for peace
the whole world round:
disarm the powers that war
and all that can destroy,
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish
into joy.

When menace melts away,
so shall God's will be done,
the climate of the world be peace
and Christ its Sun;
our currency be love
and kindness our law,
our food and faith be shared as one
for evermore.

Shirley Erena Murray
1931-

BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

God, who is love, fill your hearts.
Christ Jesus, who is the new life, inspire you in hope.
The Holy Spirit, who is life giver,
spur you to deeds of compassion.

May the blessing of the Holy Trinity of love
be upon you:
the fire of the Spirit to ignite you,
the love of God to encircle you,
and the wisdom of Christ to enliven you,
this day and always.
Amen

WORD OF MISSION

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

POSTLUDE

You can find a copy of today's sermon along with other congregational information on the church website.

It does not come easy ... prayer by Walter Brueggemann, Awed to heaven,
Rooted in Earth.

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NEWS AND NOTICES

Reminder of Congregational Meeting – this Sunday, November 14th – 11am

We will be holding a congregational meeting on November 14th after worship. At the meeting we will:

- Be asked to approve the budget for 2022
- Receive a Project Control group report on the progress of the building project
- Be asked to consider a proposal to increase the number of elected church councillors from six to seven.
- Hold an election for church councillors
- At the conclusion of the meeting, we will recognise the life of our halls, removing the plaques from the foyer of the North Rd hall as an act of completion.

DEFERRED - CLEANING OUT THE HALLS - A TAKE-IT-AWAY-FREE GARAGE SALE -

Saturday 20th November – 9am to 1pm.

Before demolition begins the halls need to be emptied of all their contents. Neville Parker has been leading a team of people doing a mammoth job to bring everything into the North Rd hall for sorting and decision – store it, sell it or dump it? There is much that won't go into storage, and these things are better sold or given away than dumped. On Saturday 20th there will be a garage sale where people can collect items for free. If you can help with this project or have your eye on something you would like, then come along between 9am and 1pm. We will invite people to make donations to the ASRC. More details from Neville Parker.

Remembering and Celebrating our Halls.....

Dotted through the latest edition of Pathfinder you'll find people's memories of how our halls have been used. Thank you to everyone who has contributed articles (Warwick, Heather, David, Elizabeth, Dot, Jan) and to Lorraine for several of the photos – we hope you enjoy them. May they inspire you to reflect on your own memories and perhaps send something for next month – written articles and photos welcome. We will also be including material on the website.

If you'd prefer to tell someone your story so we can write it down for you, please contact Dianne Richter (0413 750 089).

We have also set up an online option “Ormond Uniting Video Memories” where you can record your memories so we can create a video record. Here is the link:

<https://app.memento.com/ormond-uniting-video-memories/b05dIK8Ap/record>

If you require assistance to record your memory, please contact Gary (0411116415) or garyrichter@yahoo.com.au. You don't need sophisticated recording equipment, just a smart phone or laptop with camera.

ASRC KILOMETRES OF COMPASSION SAT 20th –SUN 21st NOV

Time is creeping up on us and this event is next weekend!! Team OUC, which includes **anyone** who sets themselves a challenge, will be walking, bike riding, rowing, swimming, knitting etc. A challenge may be very different for each person and every challenge, even if for you it is a walk around the block twice instead of once, is valued. Please refer to Nov Pathfinder for more details.

Last week, Team OUC received some EXCITING NEWS. I was contacted by a member of our Congregation (who wishes to remain anonymous) who has offered to sponsor our team 50c per km up to a max of 400kms – this is a very generous offer for which we thank them most sincerely! It is hoped that this will inspire as many as possible to join in and to set that challenge knowing that they are supporting the ASRC and the amazing work they do.



Just a reminder about our **WALKING TEAM CHALLENGE/ OUT OF LOCKDOWN SOCIAL EVENT**
When: Sat 20th Nov 11.30am – 3.30 pm

Where: ALLNUT PARK McKinnon Melways ref 69 C11. We plan to meet at the Central Rotunda and take it from there.

Join us anytime between 11.30 and 3.30pm. Please BYO chair (we will bring extra chairs) picnic rug, morning/afternoon tea and lunch depending on how long you wish to stay. Brenda Lorraine and Liz Northwood will be there to meet you! We will be clocking up kms mostly by walking around the paths of the park but for those who would like to venture further, is fine! In this way those, who would like to participate, can choose exactly how far they want to walk – every step counts! We are very happy for those who feel they are unable to do a walking challenge, to join us – we need a cheer squad and someone to record kms!

Just 4 more important reminders/information

- Please let Brenda know (as close to the 21st as possible) if you complete an individual challenge and how many kms you have achieved. Probably the best way is a quick call mob. 0433494600 or email.

- The weather could be very variable – we will still be at Allnut Park unless we are washed out. If this is the case you can still set an individual challenge anytime over the weekend – even Monday if weather is kinder.
- Please donate as you are able via <https://run4refugees.asrc.org.au/cms/home> Where it prompts you to enter a friend or team please type in TEAM ORMOND UNITING CHURCH and complete the process. All donations \$2 and over are tax deductible.
- Envelopes will be available in the Church today and next Sunday for cash donations.

Special thank you from your organising team Marg Davis, Liz and David Northwood and Brenda Grootendorst.

BOB'S BOYS – a message from Neville

Can you believe that we are able resume our monthly breakfast after about a couple of years. So our first breakfast for 2021 will be our Christmas breakup.

We will meet at:

Fig Jam
128 Koornang Road
Carnegie.
On Saturday 27th November at 8:30 am

ROSTER for Sunday 21 November 2021

READING	Gary Richter	
PRAYERS	David Baxter	
DOOR DUTY	Graeme Davenport	Dianne Richter
SOUND	Robyn Mulder	
MUSIC	Karen Roberts	
COUNTNG	Marg D Brian Moore	
RESOURCES DELIVERY	Marg Davis	