



# REACHING OUT

Sunday March 17

9:00 a.m. at Emmanuel Anglican and Uniting Church

Anglican tradition led by Rev Peter McKeague

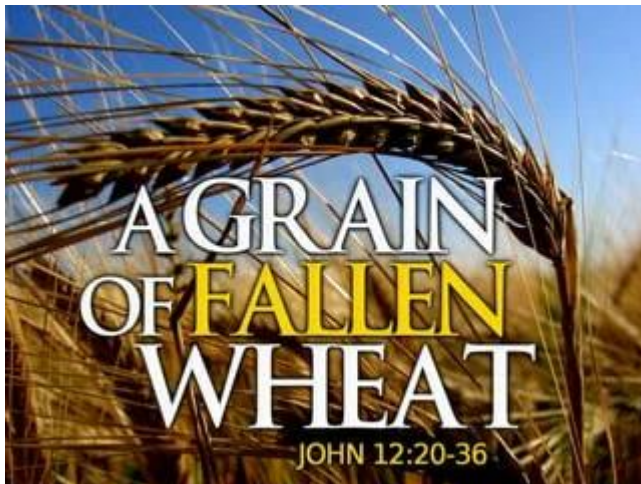
No service at Kergunyah Uniting Church

## Bible Readings for Sunday March 17

Lent 5

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51: 1-12 or Psalm 119: 9-16; Hebrews 5: 5-10; John 12: 20-33

### Some Greeks Wish to See Jesus



Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and

where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

### Jesus Speaks about His Death

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

John 12: 20-33

## Bible Readings for Sunday March 24

Palm Sunday

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16

## Praying For One Another 2024

In the Uniting Church Presbytery of North East Victoria

Congregations in the Presbytery are called to pray for one another each time they meet. By naming each other in prayer we enhance our pastoral support with each other, in God's company. This invitation builds our faith linkages every year. This week we pray for the congregations of **Faith Communities: Strath Creek; Nagambie Connect** commencing Sunday March 17.

# THE LORD IS MEANT FOR THE BODY

Rev Leonie Findlay

## PRAYER

God, you created all things perfectly.

Thank you for creating us as living beings housed in bodies that are wonderfully made. For the beauty, fragility and uniqueness of our bodies we thank you.

As we are blessed by the fact that you took on human flesh becoming human and living among us.

Lord, help us to experience our bodies in all their beauty and complexity.

Forgive us for the times when we resent some of the challenges our bodies may present.

Help us to care for the gift you have given us respecting it as your dwelling place to enjoy and preserve for the tasks to which you may call us.

When our bodies fail, reminding us of the transience of this present life and when it trips us up, warning us of our mortality, may we have the grace and wisdom to give you thanks.

In the name of Christ, we pray.

**AMEN**

## SOME THOUGHTS

One of the great themes of Christian faith is that God himself made his home in the human body. It is tragic and ironic then, that so many of us battle so hard to be at home in our bodies. We are body as well as spirit. To think otherwise is to bring into disrepute the very robe that God himself chose to put on. How much at home are you in your body? This is a very important question to ask yourself. In part the rise of such activities as jogging, aerobics, and health foods represents a concern shared by many to reclaim the body. To give it its rightful place as integral to who we are as people. The less at home we are in our bodies the more possible it is for us to be whole and content.

Because our bodies are subject to decay and wounding of all kinds, they give us our most immediate sense of the end, to which we are all heading. If we fear death, it is unlikely that we can be at home in our fragile flesh. And so we make the mistake of trying to build the body up so that it appears invulnerable.

As one eases oneself into a pool of water the experience of feeling one with the water can create a sense of invigorating pleasure. In a similar way God intends that we, along with the whole of creation, will become one in a new kingdom where our present experiences of fragmentation, separation, and suffering come to an end. Where our bodies will be new, resurrected bodies. Then we will have harmony between our new bodies and our new selves. Between nature and humanity, between humanity and God.

Our bodies provide us right now with a marvellous anticipation of the pleasure and fulfillment that will one day be fully ours.

**"You are not your own, you were bought with at a price.**

**Therefore, honour God with your body."**

**"The body is meant for the Lord and the Lord for the body. (1 Corinthians 6: 15-20)**

**SELAH**



## BENEDICTION

May the Lord's indwelling Spirit bring us the fullness of joy that is ours in this life, And in the life to come.

**AMEN**

## New Church Organ – Johannus ‘ONE’

Many would say that our new instrument is just a keyboard. However, it is an ‘organ keyboard’, which means that it is a portable keyboard, but the sounds available are first and foremost the rich pipe organ sound that is very much like the Johannus ‘Opus 250’ which came to Emmanuel sometime in 1986. An instrument made in Holland, it served us well over those 30 + years and now has gone back to Bernie’s Music Land, from which it came (and also our new instrument) for an ‘ethical disposal’. Bernie’s just may be able to salvage a part or two which is nice to know. Our new instrument, though, has provided music for two services already and eventually will find a settled place within the sanctuary. Currently we are trying various positions to see just where the sound works best. Those of us who play it have much to learn, and much to explore but it will certainly be enjoyable doing so. Most of all we hope that the instrument will enhance the worship for all of us as the ‘Opus 250’ faithfully did for so many years.

## Emmanuel Roster

### March 17

Elder on Duty: Carol Harris  
Reader: Ted Stabb  
Prayers: Carol Harris  
Early Word: Carol Harris

TV Screen: Harold Cover  
Usher: Ted Stabb  
Organist: Betty Bjorksten

### March 24

Elder on Duty: Ted Stabb  
Reader: Ted Stabb  
Prayers: Carol Harris  
Early Word: LouAnne Stabb

TV Screen: Harold Cover  
Usher: Carol Harris  
Organist: LouAnne Stabb

## Coming Events

Tue March 19, 2:30pm	Lenten Studies at Emmanuel
Wed March 20, 8:30 am	Grounds and Maintenance
10:30 am	Morning Tea and Fellowship at Emmanuel
Fri March 22, 9:30am	Craft Group meet at Emmanuel

## Easter Services at Emmanuel

Friday March 29, 9:00am	Good Friday Service in Uniting Tradition
Sunday March 31, 9:00am	Easter Day Service in Anglican Tradition

## Easter Service at Kergunyah Uniting Church

Friday March 29, 11:15am	Good Friday Service in Uniting Tradition
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For other Easter Services such as Maundy Thursday and Saturday Easter Vigil check with St. Stephen’s Uniting Church or St John’s Anglican Church.

## Ministers of the Word & Other Contacts

UCA: Rev. Leonie Findlay  
(currently unavailable)

Anglican: Fr Jacques Jefferies  
02 6024 2129 or 0434 063 069  
[stjohnsw@bigpond.net.au](mailto:stjohnsw@bigpond.net.au)  
[weekly RDO: Friday]

Emmanuel Pastoral Care:	Speak with an Elder or Warden
Emmanuel Prayer Chain:	Give requests to Betty Saggars on 0427 761 044
Address:	PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689
Office Phone:	Emmanuel Meeting Place: (02) 6059 5460
Reaching Out:	Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 <a href="mailto:hcover@bigpond.com">hcover@bigpond.com</a> or LouAnne Stabb 0419 644 769 <a href="mailto:stabb@inet.net.au">stabb@inet.net.au</a> by Wednesday.

## Church Security

If you are appear to be the last person to leave the church building after worship on Sunday, please check:

1. Unless you have keys, check that all external doors have been preset to lock (check the outside handle).
2. All windows have been wound in.
3. Use the remote control for the airconditioner (found on a bracket near the room door), point it at the unit, press OFF and wait to observe the AC blades close.
4. Check that no one is in the toilets or Community Shop.

If completely satisfied that every thing is closed up and turned off, press the ON button on the alarm pad as you leave.

## Prayer of the Week World Council of Churches

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania



*Toad towards Keila Church, the biggest medieval country church in Harju county in Estonia.  
Photo: Albin Hillert/Life on Earth*

### We are thankful for

- preservation of the distinct cultural practices, literature, music and natural resources in these countries.
- the faithful witness of Christians during times of persecution and for those who survived times of occupation.
- how these countries peacefully became independent after 1918 and 1991. new-found freedoms that the people here have experienced, that they might be used for the good of all.

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### We pray for:

- peaceful relations with Russia and among all the ethnic groups in these lands.
- the healing of old wounds remaining from 20th century struggles.
- just economic development that benefits all citizens in these countries, and for those who live and work abroad.
- governmental leaders and all people, that they might together strive for justice, peace and the well-being of all.