



# REACHING OUT

Weekly Newsletter of Emmanuel and Kergunyah Churches

**Sunday July 6, 2025**



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

*Anglican tradition led by Fr Jacques Jefferies*

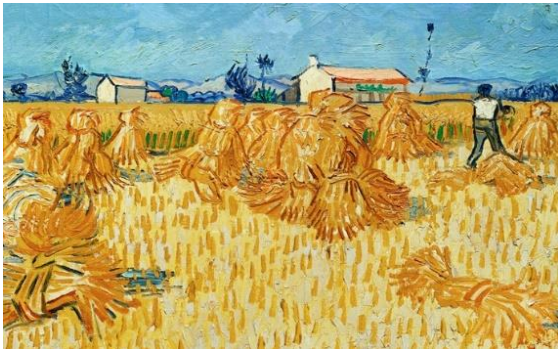
**No service at Kergunyah Uniting Church**

## **Bible Readings for Sunday July 6**

### **Pentecost 4**

2 Kings 5: 1-14; Psalm 30; Galatians 6: (1-6), 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

#### **The Mission of the Seventy**



After this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to come. 2 And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and salute no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this

house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages; do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you; heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off against you; nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'

"He who hears you hears me, and he who rejects you rejects me, and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me."

#### **The Return of the Seventy**

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you; but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

## **Bible Readings for Sunday July 13**

### **Pentecost 5**

Amos 7: 7-17; Psalm 82; Colossians 1: 1-14; Luke 10: 25-37

## **Praying For One Another 2025**

**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 **Albury St David** and **'The Scots' School Albury** beginning Sunday, July 6.

# JESUS AND PRAYER

Rev Leonie Findlay

## PRAYER

Dear Lord, through prayer, we have been given a way to intimately communicate with you, whenever we like. And yet we rarely pray.

We accuse you of being distant, and we struggle to find you.

And yet we rarely take the opportunity to pray.

We call on you when we are in trouble and need some help.

And yet even though you want us to simply talk and communicate with you, we are so often, 'too busy'.

Forgive us Lord.

In **Jesus name we pray**

**AMEN**

## SOME THOUGHTS

Jesus loved to pray. Sometimes praying was his way of resting.

He prayed so much and so often it became his way of life. It was to him like breathing involuntary.

As Christians there is nothing we need so much as to learn how to pray.

There are two ways of instruction.

One by being told. The other by watching someone else.

It would seem that the latter is the simpler and most effective. How better can we learn than by watching and then imitating Jesus. Noting how Jesus prayed when he was on earth among us, surrounded by similar circumstances and temptations.

Jesus prayed at times of blessing. He prayed early in the morning. He prayed all night.

Indeed, prayer was a constant reality in His life.

Jesus prayed during times of temptation. He prayed when the authorities were closing in on him. He prayed alone and with others and above all else he reflected God's glory in prayer.

Jesus prayed at times of Joy. He prayed with power and with faith.

An examination of Jesus' life clearly reveals that all the marvellous power displayed in his short earthly ministry came through prayer.

What an inseparable intimacy between his life of activity and his hidden closet-life, of which only passing glimpses are obtained. Surely, the greatest power entrusted to God's people is prayer power.

But how many of us are casual with the trust given to us while this omnipotent power put into our hands lies so largely unused.

Jesus prayed for others. Even at the end of His earthly existence Jesus interceded for believers.

Even as Jesus saw his work in the world as finished (though his chief work is still to be done) he triumphed in prayer. He who knew no sin began to realise that he was to be made sin for us.

And the awful realisation came upon Him with such intensity that his physical frame seemed not to be able to endure the strain of mental agony. It was such that his physical strength gave way and he died of a broken heart.

Jesus prayed while dying, ***'My God My God why have you forsaken me? Father into your hands I commend my spirit.'***

And His expiring breath was vocalised into prayer.

**SELAH**

## A BENEDICTION

A prayerless Christian will never learn God's truth. A prayerless ministry will never be able to teach God's truth.

**AMEN**



## Coming Events

Wed July 9, 9:00 a.m.	Grounds and Maintenance
10:30 a.m.	Morning Tea and Fellowship
Fri July 11, 9:30 a.m.	Craft Group

## Food Relief Assistance

We have been notified by Felldtimber Community Centre that the preferred food donation is rice. The donated items are passed on to the Centre on Wednesday mornings. Cash donations can be left at the Felldtimber Community Centre.

## Emmanuel Roster

### July 6

Elder on Duty: Rod Clutterbuck  
Reader: Ted Stabb  
Prayers: LouAnne Stabb

Early Word: Carol Clutterbuck  
TV Screen: Harold Cover  
Music: Betty Bjorksten

### July 13

Elder on Duty: Ted Stabb  
Reader: Ted Stabb  
Prayers: Rod Clutterbuck

Early Word: Carol Clutterbuck  
TV Screen: Harold Cover  
Music: TBA

## Ministers of the Word & Other Contacts

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 Sagers on 0427 761 044
Address:	PO Box 435, Wodonga 3689
Reaching Out:	Items to Harold Cover 02 6024 7929 <a href="mailto:hcover@bigpond.com">hcover@bigpond.com</a> by Wednesday.

## From Church Council

### Prayer Box

Some while ago Rev Leonie introduced the Prayer Box to Uniting Church Sundays. Members of the congregation were invited to submit private prayers. The prayer box will be in place on Uniting Sundays and members of the congregation are invited to contribute prayers.

### Directory of Congregation Members

Church Council agreed to requests for a directory of congregation members. The following provisos will apply to maintain confidentiality:

1. Carol Clutterbuck will establish and manage the directory.
2. Members of the congregation wishing to be included in the directory will be invited to give their name and phone number in private to Carol. No lists will be displayed.
3. Copies of the directory will be provided only to congregation members.
4. The directory will be updated each six months
5. Strict confidentiality will be maintained at all times.

### Safe Church Code of Conduct

Church Council adopted the current UCA VicTas Safe Church Code of Conduct document. A copy of the code and commitment will be displayed on the noticeboard so that congregation members will be aware of our obligations in providing a safe environment for children. Leaders and volunteers of the congregation will be further involved in the process.

## Prayer of the Week

Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda



3 April 2022, Palorinya settlement, Obongi district, Uganda: A group of women from the Mother's Union of the Episcopal Diocese of Kajo-Keji sing during Sunday service on the fifth Sunday of Lent at the Macedonia church in Palorinya refugee settlement, West Nile area of northern Uganda. Photo: Albin Hillert/WCC

### ***We are thankful for:***

- how the churches in Sudan and in South Sudan, as well as Ecumenical Network Sudan, have consistently pursued peace processes, healing and reconciliation in these war-ravaged countries
- those who work to bring justice for the victims of genocide and war crimes, including the International Criminal Court
- the many who carry out humanitarian work in these countries and who settle those who are displaced
- the economic progress and peacebuilding that has occurred in Uganda, and for effective measures to curb the spread of HIV and AIDS..

### ***We pray for:***

- a cessation of ethnic animosities and violence, and increased understanding between ethnic and religious groups
- an end to the rape and practices of genital mutilation of girls and women
- governments to respect the will and best interests of their people and the human rights of all
- natural resources to be preserved and the land saved from further desertification.

## THE HORROR OF WAR

By Ian Menzies

Nothing brings home the tragedy of war more than a comparison to home and one's own surroundings.

One such comparison is to contrast the 365 square kilometres that make up the Gaza Strip to Greater Melbourne, which at 9992 square kilometres is almost 28 times Gaza's size.

At the end of 2024, the remaining population of Gaza was estimated at 2.1 million people, compared to Melbourne's approximate 5.3 million.

There are about 5750 people per square kilometre in Gaza, which contrasts to about 3500 per square kilometre in a representative Melbourne suburb such as Hampton.

There are no means for the citizens of Gaza to escape, and they are being continually asked to relocate elsewhere within a zone that is the equivalent of just a few suburbs in Melbourne.

Imagine if everyone in Hampton (that's

about 14,000 people) were told they had to evacuate, immediately, to say, Elsternwick.

Where would they stay? What would they do? And would they even obey knowing that Elsternwick wasn't all that safe either, yet fearing that behind them, most of Hampton would likely be destroyed beyond recognition?

Gaza is not unique. Similar horror stories exist elsewhere.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine, clashes between India and Pakistan, conflicts in Sudan and Myanmar, and ongoing insurgencies in various other regions present a sobering world inflicted with wars.

The first public words from the newly elected Pope Leo were also words from Jesus: Peace be with you.

In our dangerous and seemingly war-filled world, this is a cry that is prayed to be fulfilled by millions.

[www.victasuca.org.au/resources](http://www.victasuca.org.au/resources) | Photo by freepik.com | July 2025