

Greystanes GrapevineThe weekly newsletter of Greystanes Uniting Church



20 FEBRUARY 2022

Welcome to online worship

Please join us for online worship via our Facebook page. This week, Hani is leading our service.

Lectionary Readings

This week February 20, 2022:

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38

Next Week February 27, 2022:

Exodus 34:29-35 Psalm 99 2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2 Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

Craft group returns

Craft Group will resume on Wednesday night at 7pm.

Church Council Meeting

Church Councillors will meet on Thursday night at 7.30pm in the chapel.

World Vision Child Sponsorship

You will be aware that our congregation currently sponsors three children with World Vision. They are Stanley, who lives in Kenya, Lojan, who lives in Sri Lanka and Mohammed, who lives in Bangladesh.

Each year we collect donations towards the \$1548 our sponsorship costs us and tax-deductible receipts are available if desired.

If you are able to make a contribution it would be appreciated; you can send us a cheque, drop cash into the office or transfer money direct to our bank account, the details are BSB 112 879, account number 428 172 081, please put your name and WV in the reference if possible.

Our sponsorship helps provide support for child protection and child rights education, educational support and training for teachers, clean drinking water, farming support, increased access to health education and care and business training for communities.



Greystanes Uniting Church

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'A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over' - Luke 6:27-38

Today is the seventh Sunday after Epiphany and we know that epiphany is the manifestation or revelation of Christ to the Gentiles. What is the epiphany in our text today?

Jesus spoke these words in our Scripture reading today during his sermon on the plain after recently visiting the grainfields.

In that time, it was common practice for landowners to leave the grain at the edges of their fields for the poor and needy to come and gather for themselves. The people often had to walk miles to reach the fields. As such, they wanted to carry back as much grain as possible because it wasn't possible to make more than one trip.

After loading some grain into the basket, they would shake it and press it down. This would remove the little spaces of air between grains, allowing them to pack as much grain as possible until it was running over.

Jesus made use of this fact in his teaching. After returning from the mountainside, he began teaching a multitude of people who had come from all over Judea, Jerusalem, and the coastal regions. These were not the rich and powerful who came to hear him, but the sick, the poor, and the needy.

Jesus knew these people would understand him when he said that if they gave to God, God would return blessings that are pressed down, shaken together, and running over.

He used this common, everyday example to show how God would bless those who gave offerings to His cause.

God would bless them with good measure, measure that when pressed down, shaken together, would be running over or overflowing.

Grace and Peace—Hani