



6 NOVEMBER 2022

Welcome to worship this morning, we hope you enjoy being with us.

Lectionary Readings

This week 6 November, 2022

Haggai 1:15b-2:9
Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

Next week 13 November, 2022

Isaiah 65:17-25
Isaiah 12
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies Bible Study will next meet on Tuesday 15 November at 3pm in the chapel and the study will be "Nurturing Contentment" - 1 Timothy 6:2-10.

Service at Allity Aged Care

Gail is leading a short service plus communion at Allity Pemulwuy on the first Tuesday of each month at 10.30am. It would be great to have an extra pair of hands for this service so if you are interested in volunteering please speak to Gail. No experience required, just some of your time and your loving heart.

Gail's Message

When I look back at my younger self I realise that I was always thinking ahead to a perfect day, a day when the house was spotless, my children were adorable all day long, I looked amazing, and those pants definitely did not make me look fat. Worse still, I was always thinking ahead, what did I need to get done, what was next on my list, what should I be doing in this present moment. Much, much, worse still, this 'looking ahead' created a sense of anxiety within me and the smallest problem, like the pimple on my chin, the stain on the carpet after a child had spewed everywhere, the burnt dinner or the tissue that had gone through with the wash, marked that day as a disaster. I was thinking of each day in incredibly narrow terms, either as a good day or a bad day and living in hope for that impossible perfect day of rainbows, unicorns, and chocolate cake with no calories.

My Christian faith should have been drawing me to a very different conclusion, after all, we follow a master who both laughed and cried. There was no perfect day for Jesus, he lived a precarious life subject to joy and sadness just like us, furthermore, in order to reach glory, he suffered an incredibly shameful and painful death. Why did I think that as his follower I would have some other kind of life?

For those of us who forget to enjoy life as a gift, for those of us who are anxious about tomorrow, for those of us too busy thinking ahead to appreciate the wonder and joy right in front our faces, Jesus says, "do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. The Apostle Paul who suffered much for his faith writes that despite all the bad things life brought his way he experienced great joy; he did not seem to worry at all!

Like Paul if we seek the Kingdom of God first and foremost, and believe in that 'eternal perfect day' we can relax in the present. The vision of the day 'with no more tears' and this life with its ups and downs, its joys and sorrows is like a novel with a truly happy ending. In and through Christ you have been given the opportunity to read the glorious last page and rest at ease in the pages in between.