



25 FEBRUARY, 2024



Welcome

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

Lectionary Readings

This week 25 February, 2024

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

Next week 3 March, 2024

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

Lenten Study Group:

Our Lenten Study Group will continue on Monday nights until Easter with the final meeting on Monday 25 March. The group meets from 7.30-9pm on Zoom, please see Rev Gail for more information or to have the link emailed to you.

Congregation Meeting— Sunday 10 March 2024

We will be having a congregation meeting after church on Sunday 10th March.

This will be an Annual General Meeting and will include the election/re-election of elders and church councillors. Nominations for Elder have been received from Adrian, Ayesha, Karen S, Julie T Lola and Yvonne M. Church Council nominations have been received from Brian, Kate, Peter St, Karen S, Adrian and Peter Sch.

Leaders of each program within the congregation are invited to provide a short written report to the meeting, highlighting the activities of the group during the past year. Please have all reports to Sue by Sunday 3rd March.

We will also be considering a proposal from Church Council to make some changes to the structure of our councils to better suit our current membership. Details are included with your newsletter email this week.

World Day of Prayer

The annual World Day of Prayer Service will be at OLQP Catholic Church next Friday 1st March at 10.30am. Morning tea will follow the service which this year is written by Christian women in Palestine, all are invited to attend.



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Gail's Message

This week in worship we will ponder what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. In Mark 8:31-38, we hear Jesus say that "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me". This is a challenging reading, and it opens up to us a whole lot of questions about discipleship, including 'what is it' and 'what does it look like?'

These are big questions and together over the next few weeks we will begin to unpack what it means to be a disciple of Jesus. This morning as we share in worship and a delicious breakfast we will begin our exploration of discipleship by focusing on one of its vital aspects, care and compassion for one another.

In the poem below, Joy Cowley describes pastoral care as a bridge. Just as Jesus bridges the gap between our broken, self-centred, egoic, human natures and God's perfect, all loving, giving self, we too can all be bridges and in humility look to others to be a bridge for us.

The Bridge

There are times in life
when we are called to be bridges,
not a great monument spanning a distance
and carrying great loads of heavy traffic,
but a simple bridge to help one person from here to there
over some difficulty
such as pain, fear, grief, loneliness,
a bridge which opens the way
for on-going journey.

When I become a bridge for another,
I bring upon myself a blessing
for I escape from the small prison of self
and exist for a wider world,
breaking out to be a larger being
who can enter another's pain
and rejoice in another's triumph.
I know of only one greater blessing
in this life, and that is,
to allow someone else
to be a bridge for me.

Joy Cowley