



10 MARCH, 2024



Welcome

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

Lectionary Readings

This week 10 March, 2024

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

Next week 17 March, 2024

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

Lenten Study Group:

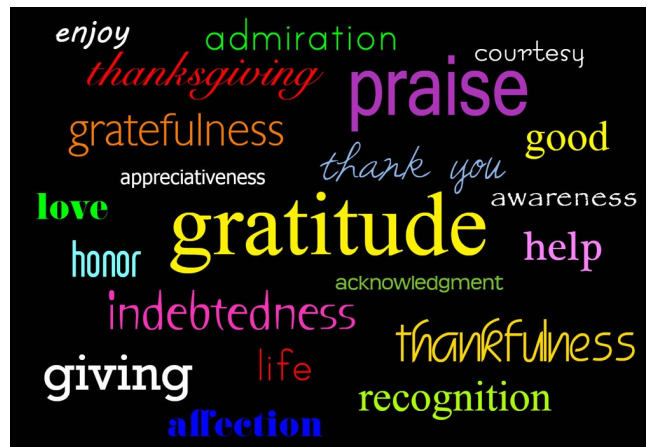
Our Lenten Study Group will continue on Monday nights until Easter with the final meeting on Monday 25 March. The group meets from 7.30-9pm on Zoom, please see Rev Gail for more information or to have the link emailed to you.

**Congregation Meeting—
Sunday 10 March 2024**

We will be having a congregation meeting after church this morning.

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.

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 have been circulated with the newsletter emails over the last two weeks, and copies are also on the back table.





Greystanes Uniting Church

Cnr Cumberland & Eldridge Roads (P O Box 5064)

Greystanes NSW 2145

Minister: Rev Gail Hinton 0407 269 162

revgail@greystanesuniting.org.au

Office Phone: 9636 3245

Email: office@greystanesuniting.org.au

Website: www.greystanesuniting.org.au

Gail's Message

After worship today we will gather for our Congregational Annual General Meeting. Have you been looking forward to this day, eager with anticipation, or do you hear the words 'meeting after worship' and sigh, wondering how long it will be before you can get home and unwind? I am guessing most of us approach these meetings a mix bag of sentiments and we may wonder if we really need to be present.

Congregations by definition according to the Uniting Church's understanding, are the "embodiment in one place of the One Holy **Catholic** (*this just means 'universal' in this context, not Roman Catholic as in the denomination*) and Apostolic Church, worshipping, witnessing and serving as a fellowship of the Spirit in Christ. Its members meet regularly to hear God's Word, to celebrate the sacraments, to build one another up in love, to share in the wider responsibilities of the Church, and to serve the world." In the Uniting Church we also recognise that all members are gifted and that "every member of the Church is engaged to confess the faith of Christ crucified and to be his faithful servant. It acknowledges with thanksgiving that the one Spirit has endowed the members of Christ's Church with a diversity of gifts, and that there is no gift without its corresponding service: all ministries have a part in the ministry of Christ." This means we are all ministers, in that we are called to serve, (minister by definition means servant, or to serve).

I believe we are living in a very exciting yet challenging moment in church history. What has gone before is dying and what is yet to be born is still unclear. If you have ever been pregnant you will know how this in between time feels, its full of uncertainties and odd changes to the body. So too the church may feel uncomfortable and unsure about how to continue being the Body of Christ in the 21st Century. At this moment in time, what do we as the people of Greystanes Uniting Church want to become, what could we give birth too? Can we grow and expand? Will God be gracious to us? Can we be like Abraham's wife Sarah, who joyfully proclaims, "God has brought me laughter, and everyone who hears about this will laugh with me" and "who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age." Genesis 21:7-8.