



Greystanes Grapevine

The weekly newsletter of Greystanes Uniting Church



26 OCTOBER 2025

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

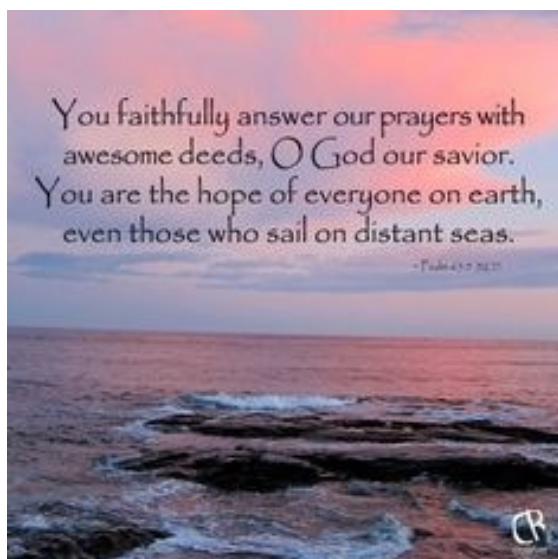
Lectionary Readings

This week 26 October, 2025

Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Next week 2 November, 2025

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4
Psalm 119:137-144
2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
Luke 19:1-10



Appliances available

With the closure of the child care centre and the leasing of the manse, we have two washing machines, three fridges, a microwave, an ipad and 2 desktop computers looking for new homes. They are all in good working order and prices are negotiable. If you are interested, please see Brian or Sue.

Christmas is Coming!

As we have done over the past two years, the Hands and Feet Volunteer Team invite you to spread some Christmas Cheer this year by donating a Christmas treat, such as chocolates, shortbreads, puddings etc. to go into our clients baskets on 16th December.

There will be a box at the back of the church from next week for your donations which we will be collecting until Sunday 14 December.



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

Theological Reflection Part 2

A recap from last week. A luxury catamaran ride to Wineglass Bay Tasmania. An all you can drink bar, 2-3 metre swells and a very tipsy man who thought it was a good idea to sit perched on top of the boat's handrails, one good wave away from being in the icy raging seas. And my friend's reaction:

"I would have laughed if that idiot had fallen off the deck into the ocean. I took an instant dislike to him from the start and it would have served that joker right."

I am not sure why my friend reacted so strongly to the foolish man's behaviour and actions. It would take many sessions with a good therapist to discover all the reasons but I do know that my friend does not believe in God.

My theology, or simply put, what I believe and know about God, influenced my reactions to the drunken man and instead of scorn and ill wishes I felt concern and empathy for him, particularly when the man's mother became terribly seasick. In that instant I did not need to unpack my theology or stop and wonder how I should react, everything I know and understand about God is ingrained within me and in all of us who believe.

However when we are faced with a problems, difficult decisions, or relationship issues, it is useful to intentionally reflect upon what we know and believe about God in relation to Scripture, Tradition (what the church/denomination says about God) Experience (what we have learnt about God) and Reason (God gave us an amazing brain). So in light of the real life incident I have described I will begin first with a few scriptural foundations that form my attitude towards my fellow creatures, including rowdy, difficult humans.

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day. Genesis 1:31. (*All creation is fundamentally good*)

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23 (*who am I to judge and condemn another, when I too am guilty of not living up to God's standard of love and holiness*)

The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made. Psalm 145: 9 (*if God has compassion on all God has made, then I too must be compassionate to all*)

When he (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. (Matthew 9:36). (*Jesus is compassionate*)

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. John 3:16-17 (*Jesus does not condemn*)

Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1 John 4:8 (*God is love*)