



**21 JUNE 2026**

## Welcome

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

## Lectionary Readings

### This week 21 June 2026

Genesis 21:8-21, Jeremiah 20:7-13  
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17,  
Psalm 69:7-10, (11-15),  
Romans 6:1b-11, 16-18  
Matthew 10:24-39

### Next week 28 June 2026

Genesis 22:1-14  
Jeremiah 28:5-9  
Psalm 13  
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18  
Romans 6:12-23  
Matthew 10:40-42

## Thank you

Thank you to Carol and everyone who helped with the Trivia Night last Saturday. It was a great night and \$162 was raised for the work of Hands & Feet.

## Psalm 86 – selected verses

- <sup>1</sup> Hear me, Lord, and answer me,  
for I am poor and needy.
- <sup>2</sup> You are my God;
- <sup>3</sup> have mercy on me, Lord,  
for I call to you all day long.
- <sup>5</sup> You, Lord, are forgiving and good,  
abounding in love to all who call  
to you.
- <sup>6</sup> Hear my prayer, Lord;  
listen to my cry for mercy.
- <sup>7</sup> When I am in distress, I call to  
you,  
because you answer me.
- <sup>8</sup> Among the gods there is none like  
you, Lord;  
no deeds can compare with  
yours.
- <sup>10</sup> For you are great and do  
marvellous deeds;  
you alone are God.
- <sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, Lord,  
that I may rely on your  
faithfulness;  
give me an undivided heart,  
that I may fear your name.
- <sup>12</sup> I will praise you, Lord my God,  
with all my heart;  
I will glorify your name forever.
- <sup>13</sup> For great is your love toward me;  
you have delivered me from the  
depths,  
from the realm of the dead.
- <sup>15</sup> You, Lord, are a compassionate  
and gracious God,  
slow to anger, abounding in love  
and faithfulness.



## **Greystanes Uniting Church**

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## **Rev Gail's Message**

### **What do we mean we talk about Mission?**

Over the last few weeks I have mentioned the word mission many times. When you hear this word what comes to mind? Do you imagine mission as something missionaries do overseas? Do you think of the word mission as a task or objective for secret agents or the military? Do you think of the church as having a mission and if so what is it? Before we can begin to craft and discern our church's mission statement we need to be clear on what we mean by mission.

The quote below defines the church's mission as being part of God's mission to the world:

Mission is not ours; mission is God's... it is not so much the case that God has a mission for his church in the world but that God has a church for his mission in the world. Mission was not made for the church; the church was made for mission—God's mission. - Christopher J. H. Wright, *The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative*

### **What is God's mission to the world?**

The following extract comes from our Synod's guide to mission planning which can be found online here: <https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/media/vryaezxd/mission-planning-toolkit-discerning-gods-missional-call-2024.pdf>

#### **God's Mission and the Church**

There are many ways we can describe God, but have you ever thought of describing God as missional? God's missional heart is to bring \*shalom, flourishing and wholeness to our world. God's mission is huge, and we see this in Scripture in every story where God is at work in our world to bring about transformation so that our universe and humanity thrive. You could even say that God's ultimate purpose is to see the flourishing of all humanity and our planet.

As you can imagine, this is a much bigger goal than evangelism or church growth, as important as those two things are. God is at work in the world, bringing about a new world order, a restored creation and a world that reflects the reign of God. As we think about discerning God's missional call, we need to consider this bigger picture and be humbled by it. We might even say to ourselves: "How could we ever join with God on such a magnificent and massive vision?" This is a good place to start and a correct posture, since we are dealing with the God who created all things and gave life to every living thing on our planet.

Yet the amazing thing is that this God invites us to join in with his mission of restoration, shalom and the flourishing of humanity. And so, it's not that we have a mission to change the world, but that God has a mission, and God asks us as his people, the church, to join in with him. Again, we can be humbled by this, awed even, and reflect once again on how a God like this would generously welcome us to join with him in his work in the world.

*\*(shalom is a Hebrew word often translated as peace but it goes further, it points to harmonious, wholeness and completeness and restoration)*