



Gladstone Uniting Church

Interface

Epiphany 4

28 January 2024

Welcome

Hello and welcome all to worship this morning. We extend a special welcome to all visitors to our Church today.

May your time of worship be a blessed one.

If you are a visitor, or newcomer, to our Church, please contact us via email gladuca@bigpond.com if you have any queries or we can be of assistance.

The star burned like a flame, pointing the way to God, the King of Kings; the wise men saw the sign and brought their gifts in homage to their great King.



For the most up-to-date information on our church please remember www.gladstoneuniting.org.au

Lectionary Bible Readings

This Week: Epiphany 4

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Psalms 111

1 Corinthians 8: 1-13

Mark 1: 21-28

Next Week: Epiphany 5

Isaiah 40: 21-31

Psalms 147: 1-11, 20c

1 Corinthians 9: 16-23

Mark 1: 29-39

Our Vision is for the Gladstone Region to be a community where everyone experiences the transforming love of Jesus.

Epiphany 4 Year B

Deuteronomy 18:15-20, Mark 1: 21-28 - The pattern of discipleship

After the call of the first disciples, Mark moves to present a picture of Jesus at work. The journey begun by the lake now moves to Capernaum. The ministers of God's saving work must go to the people.

The day begins in the synagogue. This is the place where the word of God is proclaimed, meditated on, and discussed. Jesus offers some teaching. The invitation was often extended to visitors to comment on the Readings. Such a custom provided the community with differing viewpoints.

Jesus' words affected the people deeply. They perceived a different quality in the teaching. They perceived a different kind of authority behind the words, which contrasted with the usual teaching from the Scribes.

The teaching and discussion is interrupted, as into the synagogue breaks a man suffering from a disorder, which caused convulsions. He challenges Jesus by yelling abusively. Jesus addresses the disturbed spirit in the man: "Be muzzled!" This is a strong word and conveys more than the usual rendering of the word as "be silent!".

In the course of a few sentences Mark establishes Jesus in his ministry and sets the scene for the pattern of discipleship.

The reading from Deuteronomy reminds us about the nature of the true Prophet. Moses is the template. The prophet is raised up by God to preach God's word. Authentic prophecy is about the extension of the reign of God. It can never be about the ego of the prophet.

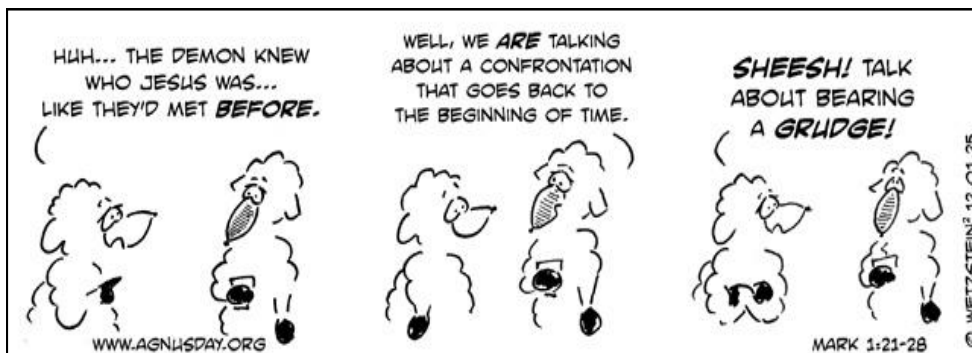
Jesus is established as Prophet through his authority, which is recognised by the people. It is the ordinary people who are able to discern what is authentic.

The healing that concludes the story reminds us that the goal in challenging the "disturbed spirits" in the community is wholeness for everyone. Paul says very hopefully, "I would like you to be free from worries." He suggests that it is our perspective that might be faulty. Reflection on the Word of God will help us, as community, to discern how to bring new creation out of dis-ease.

Grace and peace,

Allan

(From Patricia Stevenson rsj. http://www.sosj.org.au/_uploads/_ckpg/files/4thSundayOrdinary-YearB.pdf)



Next Week's Roster & Church Activities

4 February 2024

Preaching	Gavin Caird
Worship Lead-in	Gavin Caird
Notices & Prayers	Gavin Caird
Vestry Elders	F. Clark, I. McKay
Bible Reader	Helen Evans
Song Selector	Ros Bambrick
Back Up Singer	
Piano	Selena Anderson
Additional Music	
Data Projector	Ian Anderson
Sound System	Wise Kafoa
Church Steward/Valet	Ian Rippingale
Welcome Host	
Count Offering	I. Rippingale, Help Pls
Morning Tea	-NA-

Monday 29 January 2024

9-11am	Little Explorers—In Hall
7.30pm	Church Council Meeting

Tuesday 30 January 2024

9am-1pm Bookshop Closed

Wednesday 31 January 2024

Thursday 1 February 2024

9am-1pm Bookshop Closed

Friday 2 February 2024

Saturday 3 February 2024

9am-1pm Bookshop Closed

Sunday 4 February 2024

9am Worship Service

Dates to Note

*** New Auckland Place**

6 February 1pm

*** Church Council Meeting**

29 January 7:30pm

As most of you will be aware we lost a dear friend in Heather Fryer last week. Heather's funeral will be held at the Gladstone Uniting Church on Friday 2nd February at 10.00, followed by refreshments in the hall. As a tribute to Heather, we the congregation will be catering, so please help if you can. Also wear something bright on the day; it's a celebration of the life of a much loved lady.



Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday January 29

Psalm 35:1-10
Numbers 22:1-21
Acts 21:17-26

Tuesday January 30

Psalm 35:1-10
Numbers 22:22-28
1 Corinthians 7:32-40

Wednesday Jan 31

Psalm 35:1-10
Jeremiah 29:1-14
Mark 5:1-20

Thursday February 1

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Proverbs 12:10-21
Galatians 5:2-15

Friday February 2

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Job 36:1-23
1 Corinthians 9:1-16

Saturday February 3

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Isaiah 46:1-13
Matthew 12:9-14

Roster Sheets

Time to think about what ways you can share your time and talents with your Church Family. Please fill in your Roster Unavailability Sheets and return them by 12 February. Don't forget that if you want to try something new, help is always available—all you have to do is ask. Thank you.

Look for Christ
and you will find Him.
And with Him,
everything else.

— C. S. Lewis



08-27-20

EDDIE WAS NEVER VERY FOND OF DRIVING
OUT EVIL SPIRITS AS THEY ARE AWFUL
TIPPERS

Only God can turn
a **MESS** into a
message, a **TEST** into a
testimony, a **TRIAL** into
a **triumph**, a **VICTIM**
into a **victory**.

Address:

Cnr Uniting Place & Dixon Dr
(07) 4979 3323

Office Details:

Open Tues & Thurs

9.00am—12.00pm

(times subject to change in school holidays)

Email: gladuca@bigpond.com



***Please note that currently the
Gladstone congregation is without a
full-time minister.***

***For all enquiries, please contact the
church office.***

Direct EFT Giving

This is an option for those who like the convenience of setting up a Direct Transfer from your own bank account to the church each week/month for your offering. Please use 'Tithing' as the reference for regular offerings and 'Spec Offering' for a once off.

BSB: 014010 A/C: 192134483

Account Name: UCA Gladstone Congregation

Interface

Back copies of the weekly Interface are available on request. Remember also that these can also be downloaded from the Gladstone UC website at:

www.gladstoneuniting.org.au and are published on our Facebook page.



ALLERGY ALERT

Please be aware when preparing any food for Morning Tea, or possibly bringing snacks for yourself or your children, that the Gladstone Uniting Church is a Nut & Egg Free Church. Please note that Egg as an ingredient in cakes or biscuits is fine. Your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

**EGG & NUT
FREE**