



Gladstone Uniting Church

Interface

Lent 4

10 March 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.

God, help me love the life I live right now. Show me the good things I often overlook and help me be content with what I have. Forgive me when I compare myself to others, forgive me for longing for things outside of you and your kingdom. Thank you for loving me right where I am, right as I am. Help me keep my eyes on you.

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

Lectionary Bible Readings

This Week: Lent 4

Numbers 21: 4-9

Psalms 107: 1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2: 1-10

John 3: 14-21



Next Week: Lent 5

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Psalms 119: 9-16

Hebrews 5: 5-10

John 12: 20-33



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

Lent 4 Year B

John 3:14-21 – Gift of light in the darkness

As you look around you today, it is not all that hard to see that the world is in pretty bad shape. It would seem that humankind, on its own, is completely incapable of creating a just, free, humane and peaceful society. We should not be surprised at that. The Scriptures teach us that it is like this because humankind is itself fundamentally flawed—not because God made a mistake, but because of the human propensity to sin. No matter how hard we try, we just can't get away from it. And when you think about it, the darkness doesn't only inhabit the world around us—it very often inhabits the world within us.

Every week during our worship, and especially as we continue our reflections during this period of Lent, we set aside time to think about our lives and how far short we fall of what God wants for us. We think of the ways in which we sin—through temptation, through our attitudes, through the negative ways in which we respond to the needs or demands of others.

As we recall those hard things, we realize that it's the Lord who saves us from the consequences of our sin. In spite of the darkness that seems to cover much of the world—in spite of the darkness that indwells us a lot of the time, we know that God is always faithful to us, always loving us, always forgiving us. Even when we reject and deny him, his love for us is constant.

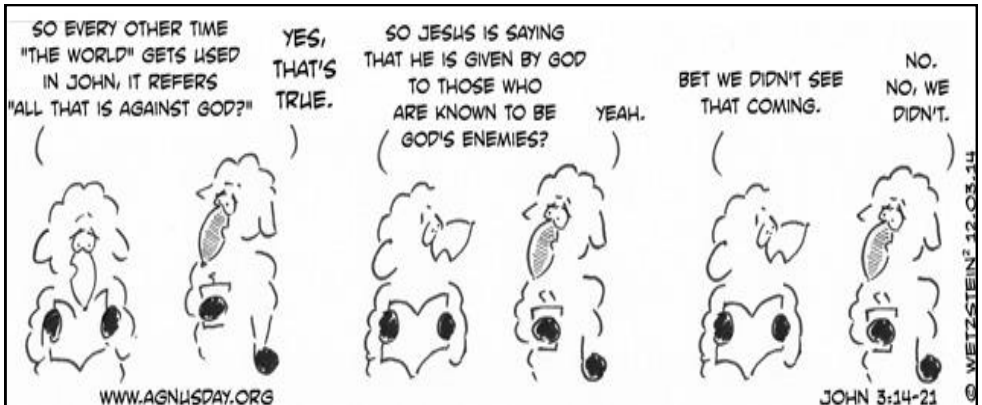
In this light, taking the time to reflect on our sins becomes an important way to get more in touch with God's great love. Where our sins are great, the love of Christ is even greater. There is no better proof of Christ's love than his death on the cross. That's why we take this time to think about our sins. If we bring a heightened awareness of our sinfulness to the foot of the cross, we cannot help but be amazed at the strength of Christ's love for us.

Grace and peace.

Allan



Lent Event is 40 days to live more simply, reflect on our faith and support people struggling to free themselves from poverty. Lent traces the journey of Jesus to the Cross. It is a time to reflect on our journey as disciples and to act in solidarity with people of our global church. Lent Event is UnitingWorld's call on the church to embrace simple living, to set aside material goods and to donate the money saved to support community development projects that offer a better future to people living on the margins in some of the world's poorest countries. For more information and leaflets please see the Narthex table.



Next Week's Roster & Church Activities

<u>17 March 2024</u>	
Preaching	Gavin Caird
Worship Lead-in	Gavin Caird
Notices & Prayers	Gavin Caird
Vestry Elders	F. Clark, J. Parnell
Bible Reader	Helen Evans
Song Selector	Emily Field
Back Up Singer	
Piano	Emily Field
Additional Music	
Data Projector	Ian Anderson
Sound System	
Church Steward/Valet	Harold Holmes
Welcome Host	
Count Offering	H. Holmes, Helper Pls
Morning Tea	-NA-

<u>Monday 11 March 2024</u>	
9-11am	Little Explorers—In Hall
 <u>Tuesday 12 March 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
 <u>Wednesday 13 March 2024</u>	
 <u>Thursday 14 March 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
 <u>Friday 15 March 2024</u>	
7pm	Minister Induction
 <u>Saturday 16 March 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
 <u>Sunday 17 March 2024</u>	
9am	Worship Service

Minister Induction

On Friday 15 March at 7pm we will be celebrating the Induction of Rev Levon Kardashian into the Gladstone/Tannum Sands Uniting Churches, followed by a Light Supper.



Easter Prayer Vigil

Anyone who is available to pray or who wishes to find out more please speak to Gavin Caird.



Venue— Shelters near Auckland House

Time-1am-2am Saturday 30 March

Prayer Points—Easter Activities. Peoples safety and Christian outreach opportunities.

Please note all Fellowship people. Thursday 14th March is our next outing. Please note, a CHANGE of VENUE; we will meet at MACCAS at KIN KORA instead of in town at 9.30. The reason is there is more choice of yummy food there! We can sit in the undercover outdoor area, as there is plenty of room, and hopefully it won't be too hot. Cheers Pam

Dates to Note

- * New Auckland Place 2 April 1pm
- * Church Council Meeting 18 March 7:30pm

**** New Minister Induction***
Friday 15 March 7.00pm

**** Prayer Vigil***
Saturday 30 March 1am

Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday March 11

Psalm 107:1-16
Exodus 15:22-27
Hebrews 3:1-6

Tuesday March 12

Psalm 107:1-16
Numbers 20:1-13
1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Wed March 13

Psalm 107:1-16
Isaiah 60:15-22
John 8:12-20

Thursday March 14

Psalm 51:1-12
Isaiah 30:15-18
Hebrews 4:1-13

Friday March 15

Psalm 51:1-12
Exodus 30:1-10
Hebrews 4:14-5:4

Saturday March 16

Psalm 51:1-12
Habakkuk 3:2-13
John 12:1-11

