



Gladstone Uniting Church Interface

Easter 2

7 April 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.

*Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer.
From the ends of the earth I call to you,
I call as my heart grows faint;
lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
For you have been my refuge,
a strong tower against the foe.
I long to dwell in your tent forever and
take refuge in the shelter of your wings.*



Psalms 61:1-4

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

Lectionary Bible Readings

This Week: Easter 2

Next Week: Easter 3

Acts 4: 32-35

Psalms 133

1 John 1: 1—2:2

John 20: 19-31



Acts 3: 12-19

Psalms 4

1 John 3: 1-7

Luke 24: 36b-48



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

The Journey of Doubt: Lessons from Thomas' Encounter with Resurrection

The story of Thomas' doubt and eventual belief in the resurrection of Jesus offers deep insights into the human experience of grappling with the unfamiliar and the unknown. His scepticism teaches us valuable lessons about faith, understanding, and the power of community.

Thomas' initial doubt stemmed from his lack of prior experience or understanding of resurrection as an individual event. Raised within a Jewish tradition that likely emphasised a collective resurrection at the end of time, a belief in which all the dead would be resurrected, Thomas struggled to accept the idea of Jesus rising from the dead in a singular, immediate manner.

Thomas' journey highlights the limitations of our perspectives, the tendency to interpret new concepts through the lens of our existing knowledge and beliefs, and how this can sometimes hinder our ability to accept unfamiliar truths. It invites us to consider how our preconceived notions might shape our understanding of the world around us.

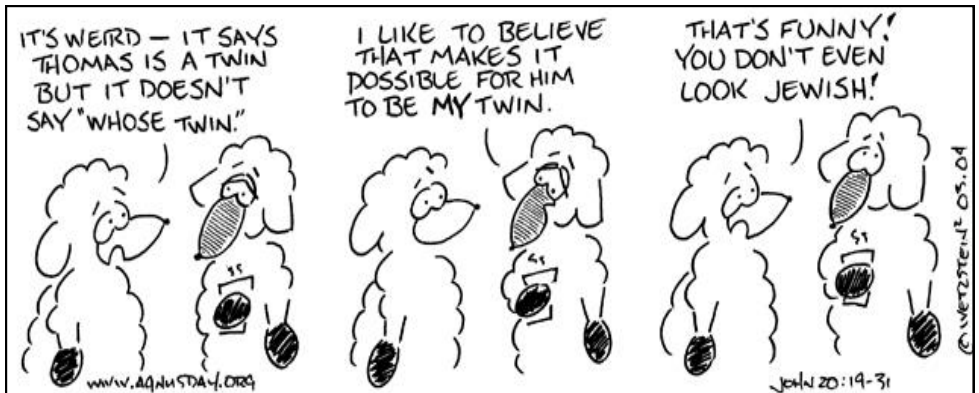
Yet, Thomas' story also highlights the transformative potential of openness to learning and the willingness to engage with uncertainty. Ultimately, his doubt was resolved not through solitary introspection but through the testimony of his fellow disciples who had experienced the risen Jesus firsthand. This underscores the significance of community and shared experiences in shaping our beliefs and helping us navigate moments of doubt. It reminds us that faith is not a solitary endeavour but a communal journey where we draw strength and insight from the perspectives and experiences of others.

Moreover, Thomas' journey invites us to embrace the tension between faith and doubt as integral aspects of our spiritual growth. Doubt, far from being a sign of weakness, is a normal part of our journey and can be a catalyst for deeper understanding and conviction when approached with humility and openness. It's a part of our journey that we all share, and it's okay to have doubts.

In conclusion, Thomas' encounter with resurrection offers a compelling narrative of doubt, belief, and communal affirmation. Through his journey, we are reminded of the importance of remaining open to new ideas, engaging with uncertainty, and drawing strength from the community as we navigate the complexities of faith and understanding.

χάρις & οὐλψ— Շնորհք եւ Խաղաղութիւն - Grace and Peace,

Levon



Next Week's Roster & Church Activities

<u>14 April 2024</u>	
Preaching	Delwyn Bambrick
Worship Lead-in	Delwyn Bambrick
Notices & Prayers	Delwyn Bambrick
Vestry Elders	J. Parnell, H. Holmes
Bible Reader	Pam Elliott
Song Selector	Ros Bambrick
Back Up Singer	
Piano	Nicky Rippingale
Additional Music	Tony Leong
Data Projector	Nathan Rippingale
Sound System	
Church Steward/Valet	Wise Kafoa
Welcome Host	
Count Offering	J. Parnell, Helper Please
Morning Tea	H. Warren, J. Broome

<u>Monday 8 April 2024</u>	
9-11am	Little Explorers—In recess
<u>Tuesday 9 April 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
<u>Wednesday 10 April 2024</u>	
<u>Thursday 11 April 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
9.30am	Fellowship @ Church
<u>Friday 12 April 2024</u>	
<u>Saturday 13 April 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
<u>Sunday 14 April 2024</u>	
9am	Worship Service

Hello all fellowship people. Our next gathering will be on Thursday 11th April at the church at 9.30am. Hopefully Rev Levon will join us to tell us a bit about himself. Tea, coffee, milk supplied, and a couple of us will provide a light morning tea. See you then. Pam



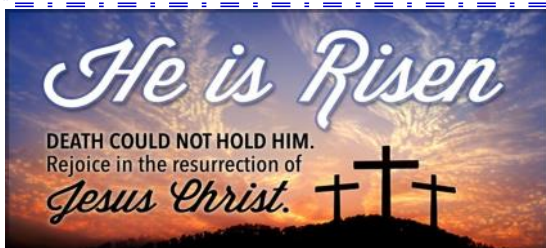
Dates to Note
 New Auckland Place 7 May 1pm
Church Council Meeting
Monday 29 April 7.30pm
Special Congregation Meeting
Sunday 28 April after worship

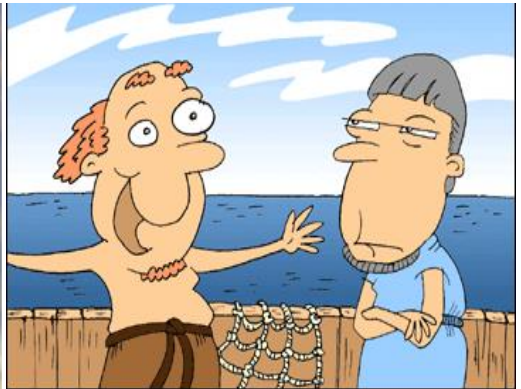
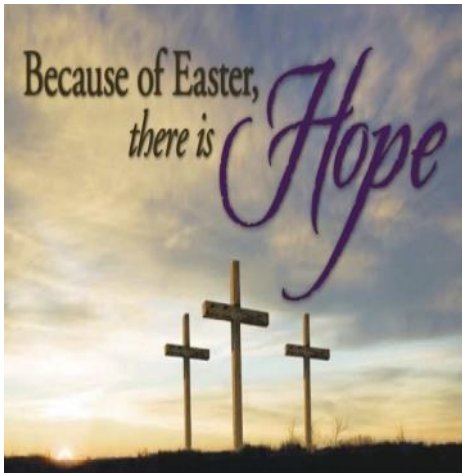
Special Congregation Meeting
 Sunday 28 April 2024
 following worship, to agree to
 the merger with Tannum
 Sands Congregation.



Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday April 8 Psalm 135 Daniel 3:1-30 1 John 2:3-11	Tuesday April 9 Psalm 135 Daniel 6:1-28 1 John 2:12-17
Wed April 10 Psalm 135 Isaiah 26:1-15 Mark 12:18-27 Mark 16:1-8	Thursday April 11 Psalm 4 Daniel 9:1-19 1 John 2:18-25
Friday April 12 Psalm 4 Daniel 10:2-19 1 John 2:26-28	Saturday April 13 Psalm 4 Acts 3:1-10 Luke 22:24-30





Thanks to Terry Wetter (See John 20:24-29) 03-06-2002
DOUBTING THOMAS WAS NOT ONE TO FALL FOR WILD FISHING TALES

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

Minister:

Rev Levon Kardashian

13 Waratah Street

GLADSTONE QLD 4680

Mobile: 0410 404 542

Email: TBA



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**