

# **Gladstone Uniting Church** Interface

Pentecost 14

25 August 2024

## Welcome

ello 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.

Here is my prayer for the day. May I live this day with thanksgiving in my soul, compassion in my heart, creativity in my mind, kindness in my words, and diligence in my work.

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

### **Lectionary Bible Readings**

This Week: Pentecost 14	Next Week: Pentecost 15
1 Kings 8: 22-30, 41-43	Song of Solomon 2: 8-13
Psalm 84	Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9
Ephesians 6: 10-20	James 1: 17-27
John 6: 56-69	Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

#### The Tale of Sarah: A Modern-Day Parable on Blessings

Sarah, a woman of strong faith, grew up believing in a church where she was taught that faithfulness to God would bring material success, health, and happiness. As an adult, she diligently prayed, tithed, and worked hard, expecting God's blessings to manifest in her life. However, despite her efforts, Sarah faced numerous challenges: a stressful job, a chronic illness,



and loneliness. She couldn't understand why her prayers weren't being answered as she had been taught they would be. Doubt crept in, and she began to feel disillusioned.

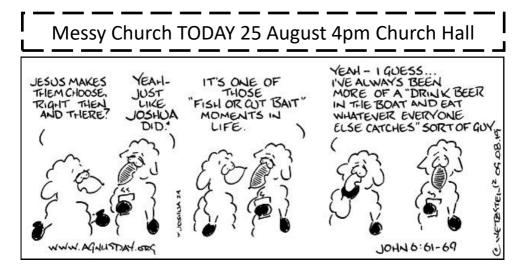
One Sunday, seeking a fresh perspective, Sarah visited a different church. The sermon that day focused on the idea that true blessings aren't material but are found in the peace, joy, and contentment that come from a deep relationship with God. The pastor shared stories of biblical figures like Job and Paul, who, despite their suffering, found fulfilment in God's presence.

This message resonated with Sarah. She realised she had been seeking blessings in the wrong places. Instead of material success, she began to value the small moments of peace and joy in her life as evidence of God's presence. Her prayer life changed, focusing more on asking for God's presence and strength rather than specific blessings.

Over time, Sarah's perspective shifted. Her circumstances didn't change, but her understanding of what it meant to be blessed did. She found renewed peace and contentment, recognising that true blessings come not from material gain but from walking closely with God in all aspects of life.

## χάρις & אָלוֹם - Շնորհք եւ Խաղաղութիւն - Grace and Peace Levon

#### https://theoblogy.org.au/ordinary-21-b/



#### 1 September 2024 Monday 26 August 2024 9-11am Little Explorers—In Hall Preaching Levon Kardashian 7.30pm Church Council Meeting Worship Lead-in Levon Kardashian Tuesday 27 August 2024 Notices & Prayers **Ros Bambrick** 9am-1pm **Bookshop Open** Vestry Elders G. Caird, J. Parnell Wednesday 28 August 2024 **Bible Reader Ros Bambrick** Song Selector Ros Bambrick Thursday 29 August 2024 **Back Up Singer** 9am-1pm **Bookshop Open** Piano Nicky Rippingale Friday 30 August 2024 **Additional Music Data Projector** Nathan Rippingale Saturday 31 August 2024 Sound System 9am-1pm **Bookshop Open Church Steward/Valet** Sunday 1 September 2024 Welcome Host Linda Rippingale 9am Gladstone Worship Service H. Holmes, Help Pls **Count Offering** Morning Tea 5pm Tannum Worship Service

### Next Week's Gladstone Roster & Church Activities

#### **Offering Envelopes**

Anybody who wants to continue with envelopes for their offerings and tithes to please contact the office in the next couple of weeks. We are not buying pre-printed ones this year. A simple stamped plain envelope will be provided to those who wish to continue with envelopes.

#### Tuesday Morning Bible Study



The next meeting of the Tuesday Bible Study is this week Tuesday 27 August at 10am. Please BYO Bibles.



## Church Council Meeting 26 August 7.30pm New Auckland Place 3 September 1pm Car Rally & BBQ 12 October TBC

## Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday August 26 Psalm 119:97-104 Nehemiah 9:1-15 Ephesians 5:21-6:9

Tuesday August 27 Psalm 119:97-104 Nehemiah 9:16-31 Ephesians 6:21-24

Wed August 28 Psalm 119:97-104 Isaiah 33:10-16 John 15:16-25

Friday August 30 Psalm 15 Exodus 32:15-35 James 1:9-16 Thursday August 29 Psalm 15 Exodus 32:1-14 James 1:1-8

Saturday August 31 Psalm 15 Exodus 34:8-28 John 18:28-32 Lord Jesus Christ, Send down your Spirit upon me. When I am uncertain, grant me **wisdom**. When I am confused, grant me **understanding**. When I am ignorant, grant me **knowledge**. When I am wandering, grant me **counsel**. When I am afraid, grant me **fortitude**. When I am separated from you, grant me **piety**. When I am selfish, grant me the **fear of the Lord**. I ask for an outpouring of your Spirit with all of these gifts in your name. Amen.



REMEMBER IN THE BIBLE WHEN THEY SWITCHED TO FISHING ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THEIR BOAT AND THEN THEIR LUCK CHANGED ... MAYBE WE SHOULD TRY THAT

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

Gladstone Worship Centre Cnr Uniting Place & Dixon Dr Tannum Worship Centre 12 Silverton Dr Gladstone Office Details: Open Tues & Thurs 9.00am—12.00pm (times subject to change in school holidays) Email: gladuca@bigpond.com (07) 4979 3323 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 <u>Nut & Egg Free Church.</u> *Please note that Egg as an ingredient in cakes or biscuits is fine.* Your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

EGG & NUT FREE