

# Gladstone Uniting Church

Easter 5

18 May 2025

# 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 <u>gladuca@bigpond.com</u> if you have any queries or we can be of assistance. DAILY PRAYER: Father God, Let me love unconditionally as you love me. Help me forgive without holding on to anger or disappointment. Let me be kind and forgiving as you have forgiven me. Help me not to bring past issues into the present and to forgive the wrongs of others. May your love, peace, joy, and patience reside in my heart. In Jesus' name I pray. AMEN

For the most up-to-date information on our church please remember www.gladstoneuniting.org.au			
Lectionary Bible Readings			
Next Week: Easter 6			
Acts 16: 9-15			
Psalm 67			
Revelations 21: 10, 22– 22:5			
John 5: 1-9			
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Our Vision is for the Gladstone Region to be a community where everyone experiences the transforming love of Jesus.

#### All Are Welcome (Terms and Conditions Apply)

Based on Acts 11:1-18 and Revelation 21:1–6 – God's Fellowship has no fences (but we still keep building them)

There was a small, scattered community newcomers from across the world—drawn together by language, loss, and faith. Many



had arrived in Australia with stories pressed into silence, their hopes carried in plastic folders, and their wounds bandaged with whispered prayers. Some had lived in detention; others in limbo. But together, they had found in worship a way to breathe again.

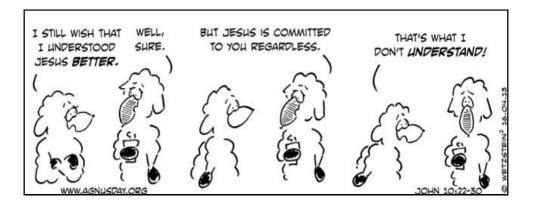
Their gatherings were simple: scripture in two or three languages, songs sung out of tune, and children circling like satellites around prayer. They met wherever space was available— a picnic shelter, a community hall, even under a gum tree once, when the rain held off long enough to let joy spill out.

One day, the pastor helping guide this group—let's call him Elias—thought it might be time to worship in a church building again. The community had grown, and it felt right to seek shelter, not just from the weather, but from the sense that they were always on the move. He approached a church that was easy to get to by public transport and fairly central for everyone. It was well-resourced, tastefully progressive, and known in town for its strong social conscience. He asked, gently, if the refugee congregation might be able to use the space for worship once, just once, Sunday afternoon to begin with. Nothing fancy—just prayers, music, and scripture.

The conversation went well at first. The church leader spoke warmly of inclusion, of justice, of standing with the marginalised. Then, as the discussion reached its end, there was a pause. A shift in tone.

Continue reading the full story here.

## χάρις & אָלוֹם - Շնորհք דו שעושחחואָרוים - Grace and Peace Levon



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

Next Week's Subset a Chinas addition		
	<u>25 May 2025</u>	Monday 19 May 2025
Preaching	Levon Kardashian	9-11am Little Explorers—In Hall
Worship Lead-in	Laraine McKay	Tuesday 20 May 2025
Notices & Prayers	Laraine McKay	9am-1pm Bookshop Open
Vestry Elders	H. Holmes, I. McKay	Wednesday 21 May 2025
Bible Reader	Pauline Shields	10am Eden Vale Service
Song Selector	Ros Bambrick	Thursday 22 May 2025
Back Up Singer		9am-1pm Bookshop Open
Piano	Selena Anderson	Friday 23 May 2025
Additional Music		
Data Projector	lan Anderson	Saturday 24 May 2025
Sound System		9am-1pm Bookshop Open
Church Steward/Valet		Sunday 25 May 2025
Welcome Host		7:45am Tannum Worship
Count Offering	John Parnell, Helper Pls	9am Worship Gladstone
Morning Tea		
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We are looking to grow our ministry of pastoral care and are inviting those who feel called to support others to consider getting involved. If you are interested, we

encourage you to have a chat with (one of the church councillors) about how you think pastoral care could work best in our congregation. Your insights and ideas are important as we shape a caring ministry together. Pastoral care can also happen outside of the church. Training will be provided for everyone who wishes to take part, so that we can offer thoughtful and compassionate support.

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A huge thank you to those who have put their names down for the roster. Unfortunately, there are still gaps that need to be filled. A draft of the roster on the table in the Narthex. Please make sure to check you are rostered on correctly or if there are any places where you might be able to assist, if not already rostered on. Thank you. \* Eden Vale Service May 21 10am

\* New Auckland Place Service

3 June 1pm

### Daily Lectionary Readings

Monday May 19 Psalm 133 1 Samuel 20:1-23, 35-42 Acts 11:19-26

> Wed May 21 Psalm 133 Leviticus 19:9-18 Luke 10:25-28

Friday May 23 Psalm 67 Proverbs 2:6-8 Acts 16:1-8 **Tuesday May 20** Psalm 133 1 Samuel 1:4-27 Acts 11:27-30

Thursday May 22 Psalm 67 Proverbs 2:1-5 Acts 15:36-41

Saturday May 24 Psalm 67 Proverbs 2:9-15 Luke 19:1-10 Lord, the resurrection of Your Son has given us new life and renewed hope.

Help us to live as new people in pursuit of the Christian ideal.

Grant us wisdom to know what we must do, the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it, the perseverance to continue to do it, and the strength to complete it.

#### 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 <u>Tannum Worship Centre</u> 12 Silverton Dr <u>Gladstone Office Details:</u> 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: minister@gladstoneuniting.org.au Sermon ideas and story: https://theoblogy.org.au/reflections/



Thanks to Gail's Mom Group (See Matthew 5:43-48) 03-09-20 HE WAS GREAT AT LOVING HIS ENEMIES ... BUT NOT SO GREAT AT PICKING APPROPRIATE TIMES OR KNOWING HOW FAR TO TAKE IT

#### 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  $$_{\rm t}$$ 

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