

Third Sunday in the Season of Lent

15 March 2020



I cannot dance, O Lord,
Unless You lead me.
If You wish me to leap joyfully,
Let me see You dance and sing—

Then I will leap into Love—
And from Love into Knowledge,
And from Knowledge into Harvest,
That sweetest Fruit beyond human sense.

There I will stay with You, whirling.

—Mechtild of Magdeburg, 1207–1282 CE

GATHERING

Preparing Our Space and Our Hearts

Call to Worship

We come, hungry and thirsty for deep, eternal things
things that endure through the passing seasons of life.

We come, aware of the dis-ease and anxieties of these days
seeking a word of hope, a sign that God is with and for us.

We come, and are gathered into the solitude of silence
and together we voice our yearnings and praise.

Come, let us worship God, the giver of life and love.

Prayer of Invocation

We Sing "O love of God, how strong and true" (TiS 139)

O love of God, how strong and true,
eternal and yet ever new,
uncomprehended and unbought,
beyond all knowledge and all thought!

O wide-embracing, wondrous love,
we read you in the sky above,
we read you in the earth below,
in seas that swell and streams that flow.

We read you best in him who came
to bear for us the cross of shame,
sent by the Father from on high,
our life to live, our death to die.

We read your power to bless and save
 ev'n in the darkness of the grave;
 still more in resurrection light
 we read the fullness of your might.

O love of God, our shield and stay
 through all the perils of our way;
 eternal love, in you we rest,
 for ever safe, for ever blest.

Words: Horatius Bonar
 Tune: GONFALON ROYAL

Prayer of Confession

“Return to me with all your heart,” says the Holy One,
 “rend your hearts and not your clothing.”
 Return to the One who is gracious and merciful,
 slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Loving and Gracious God:
 You long to enfold us under your wings of care
 but we would not; Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

You woo us through the beauty of creation and the love of others
 but we do not have eyes that can see; Christ have mercy.
Christ have mercy.

You call us your friends and reveal the way to true life
 but we remain on paths of our own making; Lord have mercy.
Lord have mercy.

Words of Forgiveness

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ENCOUNTERING

Scripture Reading

Exodus 17:1–7

Psalm

Psalm 95

ALL: If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.
If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.

SOLO: Come, ring out our joy to the Lord,
hail the rock who saves us
let us come now before our God,
with songs let us hail the Lord.

Come, let us bow and bend low,
let us kneel before God who made us,
for here is our God; we the people,
the flock that is led by God's hand.

O that today you would hear God's voice,
"Harden not your hearts,
as on that day in the desert,
when your parents put me to the test."

Word: and music: David Haas

Gospel Reading

John 4:1-30, 39-41

May your word live in us:
and bear much fruit to your glory.

Reflection on the Word

RESPONDING

Prayers of the People

Response: Spring up within us, O Spirit of Life,
and make us channels of your love.

Offering and Song of Praise

(TiS 768ii)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
 praise God, all creatures here below,
 praise God above, you heavenly host,
 praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost

Words: Thomas Ken

Music: Jimmy Owens

Communion Song “Eat the bread and drink this wine”

Eat the bread and drink this wine;
 come and share this sacred sign.
 Love that we celebrate;
 grace for everyone.

Here we bring our brokenness,
 open hands and emptiness.
 Here in community,
 hope may live again.

Here we bring our cup of tears,
 sorrows, griefs and silent fears.
 Here in community,
 joy may live again.

Here we touch divinity,
 present in diversity.
 Here in community,
 love may live again.

Eucharistic mystery,
 lives again in you and me.
 Here in community,
 grace for everyone.

Words: Helen Wiltshire
 Music: Hungarian Folk Melody

St. Andrews by the Sea Uniting Church

15 March 2020



Lent Event Offering

As a soccer-mad young boy, Nyoman went out to play with friends and thinking he had found a ball, picked up a hand grenade. He lost his left wrist



and hand. Left over from the conflict between Muslims and Christians that killed 5,000 in his home province, Ambon Island, the grenade could easily have taken his life. But with the help of UnitingWorld, Nyoman and his friend Petrus are signs of God's grace at work, building peace and ending poverty.

Envelopes are available in the foyer for your special offering or you can donate at the Uniting-World's webpage. All offerings gathered as part of our Good Friday worship will go to Lent Event.

Mary's Experience

Introduce yourself to the Mary's community on the fifth Tuesday of the month, 31 March. The Team has set aside this Tuesday night for members of St. Andrew's to have a "Mary's Experience." If you have questions or would like to express your interest, please speak with Lisa or Avril today.

Evening Fellowship

On Thursday 26 March, 7:30 pm Christine will lead us in a Lenten discussion about death and resurrection, including how we celebrate life when it has passed. Who and what are funerals for? What makes them a source of comfort and affirmation of faith? Pantry goods for the Uniting College will be collected.

Exploring Friendship in Lent

This **Wednesday, 7:15 for 7:30 start**, we'll explore spiritual sight in the Gospel of John. Do we see Jesus for who he really is? Our gatherings begin with a brief check-in and conclude with the introduction and practice of a prayer form. Each week is a stand alone session so you are welcome to come along anytime.

Sunday Lunch

Next Sunday, 22 March, a group from the church will be going to the Jetty Hotel for lunch. All are welcome to join in this time of fellowship. Please see Joy for bookings.

Name Badge

Marguerite will be placing an order for new UCA name badges for anyone who would like one. Maybe you are newer to the community or you lost your old one—whatever the reason, please let Marguerite in the office know of your desire for a name badge. You can ring Marguerite during office hours or email her anytime.

Movie Fund Raiser

Come and join in for an afternoon of entertainment with the feel-good movie, *Military Wives*. Sunday, 29 March, 4:00 pm at Piccadilly Cinemas, North Adelaide. Cost is \$20 and proceeds will support the Centre for Music, Liturgy and the Arts.

The Pastoral Partners have 10 tickets and are coordinating shared rides and a meal afterwards near the theatre. They will take expressions of interest today.

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Readings for Sunday 22 March 2020
Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

Rostered Duties:

Welcomer:

Jennifer Portway

Scripture Reader:

Peta Thomas

Prayers of the People:

Peter Thomas

Morning Tea:

Judy Clayton and Lyn Anesbury

Birthday Cake—March

Kate Spyker

This Week at St Andrews:

Sunday:

9:30 am	Worship
10:30 am	Morning tea
6:30 pm	Narcotics Anonymous

Monday:

Tuesday:

10:30 am	Open Church
10:30 am—1:30 pm	Op Shop
11:00 am—1:00 pm	Friendship Café
12:00 pm—2:30 pm	Community Aid
6:00 pm—7:30 pm	Mary's Kitchen BBQ Night

Wednesday:

7:30 pm	Lenten Bible study
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Thursday:

10:30 am	Open Church
10:30 am—1:30 pm	Op Shop
11:00 am-1:00 pm	Friendship Cafe
12:00 pm	Community Aid
7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting

Friday:

10:30 am	Open Church
12:00 pm— 2:30pm	Community Aid

Contact Information:

St Andrews By The Sea Uniting Church
92 Jetty Rd, Glenelg SA 5045

Office Administrator: Marguerite Saint | 10.30 am - 2.30pm, Tues to Fri
Email: office@standrewsuc.org.au | Phone: 08 8295 1771

Rev. Christine Gilbert: 0400 151 691

Website: <http://www.standrewsuc.org.au>