



## Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday 7 am: Holy Communion

*(Hymns: TIS 234, TIS 747, TIS 275, vv 1-3,5, TIS 268)*

Sunday 9 am: Family Communion (also streamed via ZOOM\*)

*(Hymns: MP1201, MP 545, MP 503, vv 1-3, MP 1012)*

\* <https://zoom.us/j/7210725462> or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).  
Contact the Parish Office for the password.

It is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

*2 Corinthians 4.6*

Rev'd Timothy writes...

The last Sunday before Lent is traditionally celebrated as the feast of the transfiguration. One of the authors I read this week, the biblical scholar Ched Myers, points out that the transfiguration story is one of the three revelatory events in Mark's gospel that are apocalyptic in nature; that is prophetic revelation. The other two are the baptism of Jesus, and the crucifixion:



BAPTISM (1:9–11)

Heavens rent

Dove descends

Voice from heaven

"You are my Son, beloved"

John the Baptist as Elijah

TRANSFIGURATION (9:2–9)

Garments turn white

Cloud descends

Voice from cloud

"This is my Son, beloved"

Moses appears with Elijah

CRUCIFIXION (15:33–39)

Sanctuary veil rent

Darkness spreads

Jesus' great voice

"Truly this man was Son of God"

"Is he calling Elijah?"

The essence of all these accounts is that they both tell us something important about Jesus and his message, and lead us into action. In the transfiguration reading this is made explicit with the command "Listen to him".

The Old Testament reading for today is the account of the handing over of the mantle of prophethood from Elijah to Elisha (with all the "Chariots of fire"). For Elisha it was the following and attending to Elijah and his message which led him to action himself. This again highlights the importance of listening to and responding to Mark's prophetic message, which is as important in our day as it was in Mark's.

## Ash Wednesday (14<sup>th</sup> February)

Services for Ash Wednesday will be held at 9.30am and 6.30pm.

*Both services will be followed by pancakes in the lower hall.*



## Annual Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am in St Luke's Church. It will also be possible to participate in this meeting by Zoom.

The Annual Report book is available today in church and will be emailed as well.

Nominations are now open for the following positions: Churchwarden (2), Nominator (3), Synod Representative (2) and Parish Councillor. Details and nomination forms are available at the back of church or by contacting Rev'd Timothy. These need returning by Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February.



## Readings for the Feast of Transfiguration

*First reading (7am & 9am)*

A reading from the second book of Kings

<sup>1</sup> Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal.

<sup>2</sup> Elijah said to Elisha, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.' But Elisha said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they went down to Bethel. <sup>3</sup> The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he said, 'Yes, I know; keep silent.'

<sup>4</sup> Elijah said to him, 'Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So they came to Jericho. <sup>5</sup> The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, 'Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?' And he answered, 'Yes, I know; be silent.'

<sup>6</sup> Then Elijah said to him, 'Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.' But he said, 'As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.' So the two of them went on. <sup>7</sup> Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan.

<sup>8</sup> Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

<sup>9</sup> When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, 'Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.' Elisha said, 'Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.' <sup>10</sup> He responded, 'You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.' <sup>11</sup> As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. <sup>12</sup> Elisha kept watching and crying out, 'Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!' But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

*2 Kings 2: 1-12*

*Psalm 50. 1-6*

<sup>1</sup> The Lord our God, the Mighty One, has spoken:  
and summoned the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting in the west.

<sup>2</sup> From Zion, perfect in beauty:  
God has shone out in glory.

<sup>3</sup> Our God is coming, he will not keep silent:  
before him is devouring fire, and tempest whirls about him.

<sup>4</sup> He calls to the heavens above:  
and to the earth, so he may judge his people.

<sup>5</sup> 'Gather to me my faithful ones:  
those who by sacrifice made a covenant with me.'

<sup>6</sup> The heavens shall proclaim his righteousness:  
for God himself is judge.



## *Second Reading (7am only)*

A reading from the second letter to the Corinthians

<sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup> In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup> For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup> For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. <sup>8</sup> We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. <sup>11</sup> For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible

in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup> So death is at work in us, but life in you.

*2 Corinthians 4:3-12*

## *Gospel reading*

A reading from the gospel of Mark

<sup>2</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup> and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.

<sup>4</sup> And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' <sup>6</sup> He did not know what to say, for they were terrified.

<sup>7</sup> Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!'

<sup>8</sup> Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

*Mark 9:2-9*

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## Coming through the Clouds

Many Protestant denominations celebrate the Transfiguration of Jesus on the Sunday preceding Lent. The revealing of Jesus' glory marks the end of Jesus' ministry in Galilee and the beginning of his journey toward Jerusalem. Mark describes Jesus' transfiguration and, with the disciples, we sense the sacred moment; we will see things in a new way from this time forward. This week, we also catch Elisha's vision of the sacred as Elijah is caught up to heaven; and with Paul and the psalmist, we give thanks that God's light shines forth through us.

In **2 Kings 2:1–12**, the prophet Elijah is carried up to heaven, and Elisha glimpses the sacred and comes to a fuller understanding of who Elijah is. Elisha receives a double portion of the spirit of Elijah and is thus known as a prophet in true succession.

The awe-inspiring image of God's majesty and our response to it are central in the other texts. In **Psalms 50:1–6**, God shines forth with light. In this psalm of judgment, the writer acknowledges that God's righteousness is recognized and experienced in nature.

Paul, in **2 Corinthians 4:3–6**, concludes that we often do not see the Christ or understand the gospel message because a veil separates us from God. Paul argues that the veil that hides the gospel is the worship of other gods. It is in the proclamation of the Christ that generates light and builds community.

**Mark 9:2–9** Jesus' transfiguration marks the end of Jesus' ministry in Galilee and the beginning of the journey towards Jerusalem. Just before today's reading, Peter declares that Jesus is the Messiah. But Peter does not understand Jesus' teaching about the kind of messiah Jesus has come to be. Six days later, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John to Mount Hermon. On the mountain, Jesus' appearance is transfigured – Jesus shines. The voice here describes Jesus in the same terms used when he was baptized. The disciples see Jesus talking with Moses and Elijah. This event has echoes of Hebrew Scriptures. Moses' face was transfigured on Mount Sinai when he was in God's presence and received the Law. Elijah also experienced God's presence on Sinai. Elijah's return will announce the coming of the Messiah. For Mark, Jesus fulfills the work of the Law and the prophets. Jesus' shining garments mark him as one who has triumphed through martyrdom. Jesus' changed appearance – a "metamorphosis" – reflects his nature as both divine and human.

Peter grasps a sense of the sacred and wants to preserve it; he offers to build three tents. The word used for "tent" can mean "tabernacle," the same word used in John 1:14 to describe the incarnate Jesus "dwelling" among us. This word also connects with the Exodus story of the tent in the wilderness and the ark where God's glory dwells. A cloud comes over the mountain. The Divine Presence is often described as being in clouds and speaking from clouds. Through the cloud comes a voice repeating the words from Jesus' baptism: "This is my Son, the Beloved." In Mark's account of Jesus' baptism, only Jesus hears the voice from heaven. Here, the disciples hear the voice telling them to listen to Jesus.

This mountaintop time must have been a terrifying and amazing experience for the three disciples, but Jesus cautions them not to tell anyone about it. We have seen this before in Mark's gospel. It is not yet time for the disciples to proclaim the good news. The meaning of Jesus' messiahship is to remain a secret for the time being. As we move into the Season of Lent, we feel the tension building as Jesus' ministry continues.

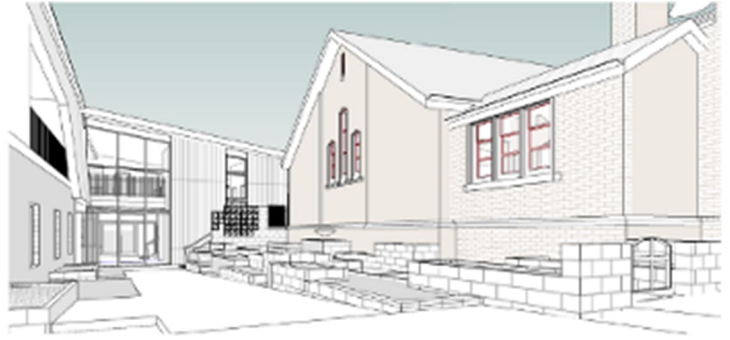
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"Epiphany" means "showing forth." During this season, we explore ways in which God's glory is revealed in the life and work of Jesus and the disciples. Where and when have you sensed the sacred or caught glimpses of God's presence? How do such moments define your life as a disciple and a church?

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## Redevelopment News

Final negotiations of a technical nature are being finalised with the builder, and we now expect the contract to be signed early next week, with the builders on site the week commencing 19<sup>th</sup> February.



Thankyou to all who have helped with the clear-out over the last few Saturdays. We expect to be able to move items into storage next week.

The Parish Council also discussed ways in which we can use the church during the build including to continue to offer meeting spaces and refreshments after services. We will be temporarily removing three pews at the back of church on the north side to facilitate this.

Following the closure of the memorial garden, over the next two weeks we will remove the ashes interred for storage until the new garden is completed, following the protocol agreed by the Archbishop.

Please join with me in giving thanks to God that our redevelopment project is now going ahead, and pray for all that needs to be done in both the preparation for the build, and to keep our ministries going during the build.

## Church News

The next edition of Church News will be out in March.

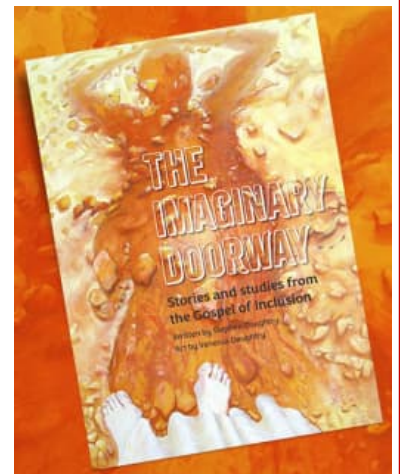
Now is the time to send articles and photos for inclusion to Honor [phlawler@optusnet.com.au](mailto:phlawler@optusnet.com.au) phone 0410 423 446.

Please send by 15<sup>th</sup> February



## Lent Study

Our Parish Lent study this year will be 'The imaginary doorway', from the Australian Board of Mission (ABM). This takes encounters that Jesus has with different people, such as Legion and Zacchaeus and invites us to take an



imaginative journey into their lives. As we consider how Jesus made such people whole we see links to ABM's contemporary mission.

Tuesday's 10am or Thursday 7.30pm, starting 13<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> February. Speak to Rev'd Timothy or June if you are interested in joining us.

# For our Prayers

## *Prayer for the day*

Everliving God, your Son, Jesus Christ, healed the lepers and brought good news to the despised and outcast: grant us your gifts of compassion and self-control, that in serving others in their need we may strive for the imperishable wreath that you bestow on all who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

## *The World*

Pray for those areas in the world where war and conflict is ever present, including, but not limited to Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan. Pray for perseverance for those seeking just and peaceful solutions.

## *Anglican Communion*

The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

The Diocese of Gippsland: †Richard Treloar; Clergy and People

The Parish of Camp Hill – Norman Park: Peter Moore - Locum

Roslyn Lodge Pastoral Visitation Program, Mt Tamborine

St Hilda's School, Southport: Principal – Virginia Warner; Chaplain Patrick

Duckworth; Chair of School Council - Catherine O'Sullivan; members of School Council; staff & students

## *Our missionary partners*

Leichhardt Chinchilla Anglican Mission Area (supported by the Bush Ministry Fund).

## *Our parish*

Continue to pray for architect and others who are bringing together the final technical details needed before the contract can be signed for our redevelopment project.

## *Local Schools & Colleges*

St Elizabeths Primary, St Agnes Primary, Red Hill Special School

## ***Those who are sick, frail or emotionally stressed***

Ryan, Jocelyn Hawes, Peter F, Peter Pressdee, David F., Jan Moody, Robyn McElnea, June McNicol, Ash and Joh, Cathy, Rita Johnson, Sharon L.

## *From the Parish Book of Remembrance*

*12 February:* Christopher Paul Dowling, Phyllis Eleanor Mills, Sidney Henry Meier, Ronald William Bond McLune; *13 February:* Arthur Alexander Thompson, John Ray Wilkinson; *14 February:* Leola May Crust; *16 February:* Ken Turnock; *17 February:* Gabriel Yvonne Lose.

## World Day of Prayer Service

Friday March 1<sup>st</sup> - 10.30 am at Annerley Baptist Church.

The service has been written by the women of Palestine.

Please bring a plate of food to share.



Given the current increase in the presence of COVID, if you are feeling unwell please stay home and rest. You can join our 9am service on Zoom. Details of how to do this are included with the weekly parish email.

If you are rostered for a task, don't worry, we will fill your spot.



## Children's Church

**continues each Sunday during school term**



## Services This Week:

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
6pm: Evening prayer on Zoom

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February  
1.30pm: Holy Communion (Regis)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February  
(Ash Wednesday)

9.30am & 6.30pm: Services for Ash Wednesday (St Luke's)



Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February  
(1st Sunday in Lent)

7am: Holy Communion

9am: Family Communion (St Lukes's / Zoom) with Children's Church

*Readings: 2 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:3-12, Mark: 9:2-9*

## Keep in touch:

-  priest@stlukesekibin.org.au (Rector, Rev'd Timothy)
-  admin@stlukesekibin.org.au (Office)
-  families@stlukesekibin.org.au (Children's church)
-  3848 2123 (Rectory and Office)
-  P.O. Box 79, Wellers Hill, QLD 4121
-  www.stlukesekibin.org.au
-  @stlukesekibin

Parish Wardens:

Brian Wood (0466 656 149)  
Alison Lampe (0408 183 701)  
Lynn Mitchell (0409 150 861)

## Offerings:

Bank details (internet banking):  
Anglican Parish of Ekibin  
A/C 0000 7820  
BSB 704 901

Or scan the QR code to give online:



<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/TIM/?BillerCode=1709377>