

Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday 7 am: Holy Communion

(Hymns: MP 729, TIS 591, MP 64, MP 33,vv1,3,5)

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

(Hymns: MP 746, TIS 156, TIS 538, Who put the colours in the Rainbow)

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

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.

Rev'd Timothy writes...

In this first Sunday in Lent, our gospel passage is as one might expect, the account of the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness. However, one might wonder why the lectionary compilers have paired this with the end of the Noah story.



This story was most probably written in the time when the Israelite people were in exile or returning home. It has the nature of a 'myth', which in many cultures, the Israelites included, were sacred tales that give meaning to their world; a tangible description of a truth. Here, in the midst of the chaos of their lives, the Israelites are reassured that their relationship with God is assured; there is a covenant relationship between them and God. Though their world had been destroyed, God provided them opportunities to start over, and assured them that they were still bound to the compassionate and merciful God.

But the message is bigger. The covenant is with all of creation; it is not exclusive. And this indeed is the message that Jesus brings. The promise of deliverance and new beginnings for all.



Lent at St Luke's

Sunday services: As we move through this solemn season, I invite you all to arrive early for our Sunday services. I will ring a bell and read the sentence of the day five minutes before the service is due to commence, and then encourage you to sit silently in prayer until we sing the opening hymn. If you arrive after this time, please enter quietly.

Lent study groups: Weekly on Tuesday 10am/Thursday 7.30pm from 13th/15th February. "The Imaginary Doorway". For details see later in Notice Paper.

Mid-week communion: Weekly on Wednesday 9.30am from Ash Wednesday.

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be held THIS MORNING (18th 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 in church and a link has been emailed as well.



Readings for the First Sunday in Lent

First reading (7am only)

A reading from the book of Genesis

⁸ Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹ 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰ and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' ¹² God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³ I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶ When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' ¹⁷ God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

Psalm 25.1-10

¹ In you, O Lord my God, have I put my hope:
in you have I trusted, let me not be

ashamed, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

² Let none who wait for you be put to shame:

but let those that break faith be confounded and gain nothing.

³ Show me your ways, O Lord:
and teach me your paths.

⁴ Lead me in the ways of your truth, and teach me:

for you are the God of my salvation.

⁵ In you have I hoped all the day long:
because of your goodness, O Lord.

⁶ Call to mind your compassion and your loving-kindness:
for they are from of old.

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth,
nor my transgressions:
but according to your mercy think on me.

⁸ Good and upright is the Lord:
therefore will he direct sinners in the way.

⁹ The meek he will guide in the path of justice:
and teach the humble his ways.

¹⁰ All the paths of the Lord are faithful
and true:
for those who keep his covenant and his commandments.

Second Reading (7am & 9am)

Genesis 9:8-17 A reading from the first letter of Peter

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in

the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight people, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

1 Peter 3:18-22

Gospel reading

A reading from the gospel of Mark

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the

Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

¹² And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³ He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. ¹⁴ Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵ and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

Mark 1:9-15

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Signs of Promise

Water and God's promises are key themes that weave through this week's passages. After a great flood, God promises to safeguard the world and to be in deep relationship with all creation. A psalmist trusts in God's promises, and water is a sign of God's promise and protection in the first letter of Peter. As Jesus emerges from the waters of baptism, God's spirit rests on him – a sign of God's promise.

Genesis 9:8–17 follows just after the well-known story of Noah who is best known for building a large boat on which he, his family, and representatives of all land animals would be saved from the floodwaters.

In this week's passage, God promises to protect and never destroy the earth and makes a covenant with all creation. A rainbow is a sign, a reminder, of the promise. God wants to be in a deep and mutual relationship with all of creation.

Although God promises there will never be a flood that destroys Earth, today there are many devastating disasters. Tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, and other storms have resulted in a loss of life and significant damage to property and creation. How do we reconcile this promise with our modern-day realities? One way might be to continue to believe that God does not bring about this suffering. Rather, it is

people's apathy about creation and human choices that destabilize the environment.

This Season of Lent could, therefore, be a time to re-orient and reflect on how humans have failed God's good creation. While humans may have destroyed parts of the environment, we may not be able to clean up the environment with only human wisdom – we need to rely on God's wisdom to change our ways. Lent is a time of reflection of becoming closer to God and reflecting on God's promises.

The story of Noah is often told to children, and we might wonder where is there good news in the destruction of a people? Perhaps this story is more about God's promises, new beginnings, and creation care. Young children could likely relate to themes of being sorry for something they did, for doing something new, or doing something to take care of Earth. The story offers an opportunity to explore more about God-promises, regrets, and care for all of creation. God of the promise invites our trust.

The writer of Psalm 25:1–10 trusts God and seeks to orient their whole self to God. They make requests of God to teach, forgive, and not to remember past sins. This, too, is a story about being in relationship with God and relying on God's help.

Overwhelmed by violence and being threatened, the people of 1 Peter 3:18–22 also rely on God's help. The writer makes a clear connection between the waters of the flood and the waters of baptism and reminds us that water is a sign of God's promise and protection. Baptism is a symbol of new beginnings.

Baptism that signifies cleansing and new beginnings is a central theme in Mark 1:9–15. As Jesus emerges from the waters of baptism, God's Spirit comes as a sign of peace and promise. This same Spirit also urges Jesus into the wilderness. While Jesus struggles in the wilderness, he is not alone.

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Trusting and relying on God's promises – even when life is difficult – is a key theme in this Bible passages. Trust and reliance on God are invited even after a devastating disaster, while waiting on God's help, during times of violence, and during times of temptation. In all times, God invites us into a deeper relationship. During this Lenten season, how might you work to be closer to and more reliant on God?

Seasons of the Spirit
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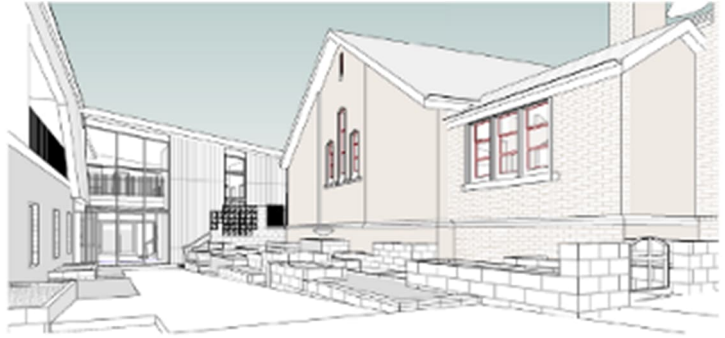
My Heart Leaps Up

My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky:
So was it when my life began;
So is it now I am a man;
So be it when I shall grow old,
Or let me die!
The Child is father of the Man;
And I could wish my days to be
Bound each to each by natural piety.

William Wordsworth

Redevelopment News

Our Architect and the builder are negotiating the final details of the electrical system in the new build. The builder is ready to start on site as soon as these details are agreed, and this is now expected between 26th February and 4th March.



Hall and office clear out

Thankyou to all who have helped with the clear-out over the last few Saturdays, and with moving items into storage. There is still a little to move, so we are still seeking space. If anyone has something like an unused garage, please speak to the Wardens.

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.

Prayer:

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

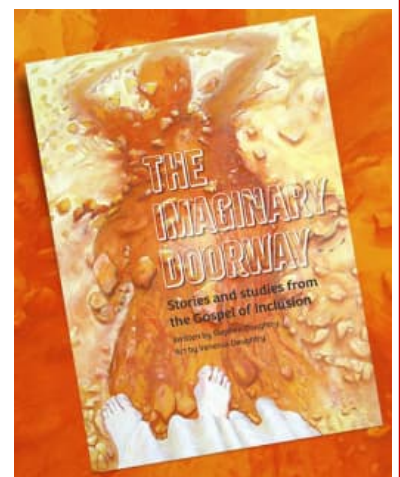
The next edition of Church News will be out in March.

Now is the final call to send articles and photos for inclusion to Honor phlawler@optusnet.com.au phone 0410 423 446.



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, started 13th/15th February. Speak to Rev'd Timothy or June if you are interested in joining us.

For our Prayers

Prayer for the day

God of the new and eternal covenant, as the forty days of the great flood swept away the world's corruption and watered new beginnings of righteousness and life: grant to us, who are washed clean and born again in the saving flood of baptism, the wellspring of your grace, that your gift of new life may flourish once again; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

The World

Pray for the people of Pakistan and Indonesia who held elections last week as new governments are formed.

Anglican Communion

The Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

The Diocese of North Queensland: †Keith Joseph; Clergy and People

The Parish of Clayfield St Mark's: Nicole Colledge, Peter Daugaard

Converge International Industrial Chaplain

The Springfield Anglican College, Springfield: Principal - Steven Morris; Chaplain - Jonathan Kemp; Chair of College Council - Michael Willis; members of College Council; staff & students

Our missionary partners

Bruce and Libby, serving with CMS in South Asia

Our parish

Pray for the Annual Meeting of the parish as we give thanks for the year past and elect our Parish Council for the year ahead.

Local Schools & Colleges

Yeronga High, Mansfield High, Holland Park High, Mt Gravatt High, Brisbane State High

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., Margaret Sheehan, Don Rennie

From the Parish Book of Remembrance

18 February: Margaret Thompson, Margaret Wood; *19 February:* Raymond George Teske; *20 February:* Edwin Keith McMillan, Wilbur Ronald Toombes, *21 February:* Richard Vitaly Tatzenko, Margaret Fay Brock; *22 February:* Roma Dawn Trovas; *23 February:* Keith Harold Miles; *24 February:* Betty Cairns.

World Day of Prayer Service

Friday March 1st - 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.



Children's Church

continues each Sunday during school term



Sustainability and Environment Group

Next meeting Saturday 24th February in church. All welcome.

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.



Services This Week:

Tuesday-Friday

6pm: Evening prayer on Zoom

Wednesday 21st February

9.30am: Holy Communion (St Luke's)

Sunday 25th February

(2nd Sunday in Lent)

7am: Holy Communion (St Luke's)

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

Readings: Genesis 17:1-6, 15-16, Psalm 22:24-32, Romans 4:13-25, Mark 8:31-38

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

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📘 @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>