

Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday 7am: Holy Communion

(Hymns: MP 467, MP 367, MP 54, MP 428)

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

(Hymns: TIS 361, MP 411, MP 1201, MP 435)

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

'Peace be with you,' says the Lord. 'As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'

John 20:21

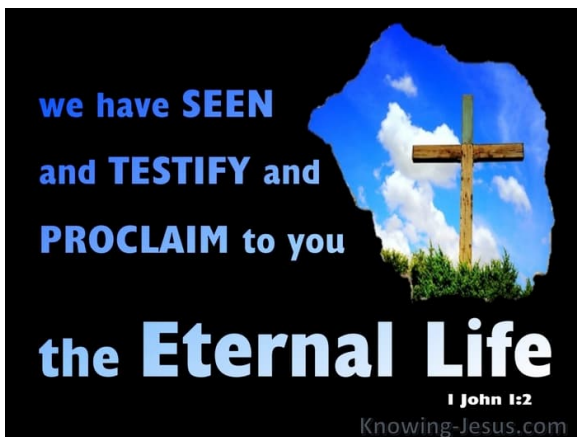
Rev'd Timothy writes...

I am writing this on the afternoon of Easter Day, and reflecting that the celebration of Easter continues for the next 50 days until Pentecost, thus Sunday 7th April is the second Sunday of Easter.



We left the story of the first Easter with Jesus having appeared to Mary, and Mary rushing to tell the other disciples that she had seen the Lord. This, in itself, contributes to the authenticity of the narrative in John's gospel. If the story was being concocted they would never have cast a woman in this leading roll. It seems though that the disciples had trouble believing Mary, for they were sitting together behind locked doors. But just as Mary needed to encounter Jesus before her tears turned to joy, the disciples need to see Jesus themselves before they can believe and rejoice. The story of Thomas, who was not there that evening and had to wait until the next week for his encounter with Jesus adds to this point.

For those of us who were not first hand witnesses to the resurrection, how can we be sure? Yes, the fact that the church grew so quickly and that people were prepared to suffer for their beliefs in the early church strongly attests to the strength of their beliefs. There were those who had seen Jesus die and his resurrection, who were inspired to tell others. John's first letter starts



We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it.

But I believe, as I said on Easter Day, that we too are met by Jesus. Okay, we haven't met Jesus in a blinding light on the road to Damascus as was Paul or seen the risen Jesus in the garden outside the empty tomb. But just as Paul heard Jesus say 'Saul, Saul' and Mary heard Jesus say her name, and in doing so had a personal experience of Jesus' presence, Jesus calls us all by name. And this Jesus still does. He calls us by name. We meet Jesus as we experience him in our midst; in the sounds of a familiar hymn, in the taste of the bread and wine of communion, in the words we read in the bible. We are witnesses to the resurrection because we are changed.

Readings for Second Sunday of Easter

First First Reading (7am only)

A reading from the book of Acts

³²Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. ³³With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. ³⁵They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

¹Behold how good and how lovely it is: when families live together in unity.

²It is fragrant as oil upon the head, that runs down over the beard: fragrant as oil upon the beard of Aaron, that ran down over the collar of his robe.

³It is like a dew of Hermon: like the dew that falls upon the hill of Zion.

⁴For there the Lord has commanded his blessing: which is life for evermore.

Second reading

A reading from the first letter of John

¹We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—²this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify

to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—³we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; ⁷but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 John 1:1-2:2

The Gospel

A reading from the gospel of John

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the

first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in

his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:19-31

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Seen, Heard, and Known

Christ sends, but do we still linger within our walls? Christ unifies, yet do we stand divided? The Season of Easter is one of new life and new birth. Filled with the excitement of what God has done and is doing, we do not stay quiet. Instead, we are sent to proclaim and to continue the physical acts of Christ on earth.

Human activity and all creation reveal God's way. Acts 4:32–35 provides a glimpse of a community that faithfully responds to what God is doing among them. The presence of the Holy Spirit, which drives us to act in response to gospel news, fosters the community's selfless giving.

Psalm 133 is a song of ascent sung by pilgrims arriving in Zion. The reference to kindred is not one of bloodline but to their common faith and practice. Their coming together from all over to one common place is an act of devotion. The message of the song rings through the context of the church, too; God blesses unity.

Just because we are in the community of believers does not mean we are perfect.

1 John 1:1—2:2 warns believers of the danger that untruths can pose to the unity of the community. Not only do lies separate us from each other, but they separate us from Christ. However, in confession, we practice the good news of forgiveness, which is an ongoing process. What the light of Christ accomplishes is the acknowledgement of the shadows in our life. Community is to be there as we confess where sin still lingers.

At the beginning of John 20:19–31, the disciples are gathered behind locked doors. Likely, the glow of lanterns was kept low. Mary Magdalene had told the disciples of what she had seen in the garden that morning, and they are fearful of how the Jewish authorities might respond to Jesus' missing body. Appearing to them, the Light of the World must make his presence known. Jesus came with a message, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Sent, not only to proclaim the gospel and the message of forgiveness but to grant forgiveness themselves, and possessing the power of the Holy Spirit, they begin to do the work of Christ.

The next scene opens in v. 24, revealing that one of the disciples, Thomas, was not present for this closed-door meeting. The other disciples share the news that they have seen the risen Christ. Thomas rejects their accounts; instead declares that he will not believe until he sees it for himself. In their very first opportunity to do what Jesus sent them to do, the disciples encounter disbelief from one of their own. A week later, Jesus appears to them behind closed doors again. Thomas receives what he asked, yet Christ and the author of John in v. 29 and then in v. 31 declare that new life is not in seeing but in belief.

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Jesus sends and forgives. From the garden, the risen Christ sent Mary to the disciples, and then sent the disciples to share forgiveness in the world. When obstacles arose, Christ continued to show up and provide for the disciples' work of sharing the gospel. The disciples still go out, as we see in Acts, to share the message of Jesus Christ with the world while depending on the Spirit to keep them unified. Christ is the unifying factor of the church, and Christ's work still needs to be carried out in the world. Will you go where Jesus sends?

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St Luke's Connect for ANZAC Day



The next St Luke's Connect will be held on Wednesday 24th April. As this is the day before ANZAC Day, we will have our parish observance of ANZAC at the 9.30am service that day (rather than on the following Sunday). Then, over morning tea, we will share memories of the legacy of World War II in the Ekibin area. All welcome.





Wellers Hill State School
Term 1, 2024

Hello
everyone!



What's been happening

The Year 6 **MATES** program is up and running. The students have enjoyed supporting younger kids in the playground and in the Chappy Room at lunch times. This term they helped with the Harmony Day activity.



Our school community has generously donated household items to assist vulnerable and disadvantaged people in our Brisbane community. Our donations went to Stationery Aid and organisations which work with the homeless in tent cities in Brisbane.

There has also been a significant **increase** in the number of school families needing **pastoral care** as they are going through challenging circumstances.

The **Mum's craft group** has started at our school. Every Monday we meet together to make small squishy comfort hearts to give to our students who need reassurance and support.

Upcoming Events

The Year 6 **MATES** will be involved in **activities** relating to Mother's Day, Earth Day, Lollies Jar competition, and Chappy Week.

This year for **Chappy Week**, there will be a **morning tea** hosted in the Chappy room for school families. This will be an opportunity for families to become more familiar with what I do as a school chaplain.

Each year, our school families are invited to participate in the **Luminous Lantern Parade** at the Mt. Gravatt Community Centre. At school, we will be making pyramid lanterns and then taking them to the Parade at the Community Centre.

Get Involved

Would you love to chat with Mums and make the comfort hearts? Come and join us on Monday mornings from 8.45 to 10.30 am



Would you like to contribute to the Chappy Week morning tea and provide some delicious treats? This will be on Thursday the 23rd May at 10 to 11 am.

Please email me :
robyn.maxwell@suchaplaincy.org.au

or contact me through the school on
[\(07\) 3249 1333](tel:(07)32491333).



If you would like to donate, or increase your donation, to the Wellers Hill Chaplaincy service, please scan the QR code or go to the website link.

<https://su.org.au/donate/wellers-hill-ss-chaplaincy-non-tax-deductible/>

Thank You!

Thank you for praying for me and the chaplaincy work at school. Thank you also for your financial support in this precious work. Together we serve and support our school community.

Happy Easter from Chappy Robyn!

DISCOVERING LIFE | suchaplaincy.org.au

For our Prayers

Prayer for the day

Risen Christ, whose absence leaves us in despair but whose presence is overwhelming: breathe on us with your abundant life, that where we cannot see we may have courage to believe that we may be raised with you. Amen.

The World

Pray for the peace throughout the world: that the Risen Lord will turn hearts from violence and open new paths to peace, and justice.

Anglican Communion

The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

The Diocese of Brisbane: †Jeremy Greaves; Assistant Bishops – †Cameron Venables, †John Roundhill, Locum Bishop – †Bill Ray; Clergy and People

The Parish of Maroochydoore: Tania Eichler, Philip Robinson, James Hall

EPIC Assist

Hillbrook Anglican School, Enoggera: Acting Principal – Mark Herriman; Chaplain – David Adams; Chair of School Council – David Marland; members of School Council; staff & students

Our missionary partners

Robyn Maxwell, Chaplain at Wellers Hill State School

Our parish

Pray for parish families travelling over the school holidays, for safe travels, rest and refreshment.

Local Schools & Colleges

Wellers Hill Primary, Junction Park Primary, Moorooka Primary

Those who are sick, frail or emotionally stressed

Ryan, Jocelyn Hawes, Peter F, Peter Pressdee, David F., Jan Moody, Robyn McElnea, June McNicol, Cathy, Rita Johnson, Sharon L., Margaret Sheehan, Don Rennie, Georgina Crawford, Alwynne Bayley, Glenda, Sue

From the Parish Book of Remembrance

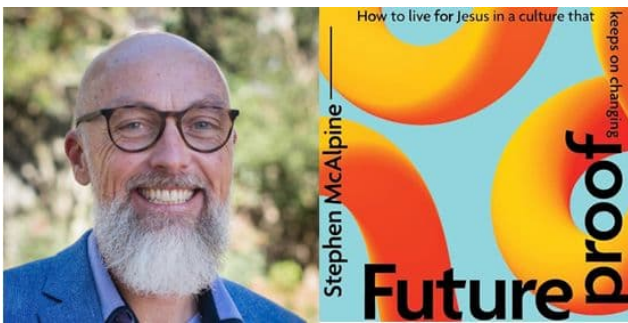
11 April: Kelvin David Garland; *12 April:* Eileen Josephine Joyce Watt, John Geoffrey Filmer Mason; *13 April:* Phillip Barrett.



2024 Annual Dinner with Stephen McAlpine

“Futureproof: how to live for Jesus in a culture that keeps on changing ”

You are invited to join us for this year’s Mathew Hale Public Library annual dinner, to be held at Kedron-Wavell Services Club. Tickets are \$50 if we can get together a table of eight. Please speak to Rev’d Timothy or June if you are interested. More details at www.mathewhalepubliclibrary.com/events/2024/annual-dinner



Bush Ministry Stall

The next bush ministry stall will be held next week, Sunday 14th April, after both services.



Services This Week:

Tuesday-Friday

6pm: Evening Prayer on Zoom

Tuesday 9th April

1.30pm: Holy Communion at Regis, Salisbury

Sunday 14th April

(2nd Sunday after Easter)

7am: Holy Communion (St Luke’s)

9am: Family Communion (St Luke’s / Zoom)

School holidays—no Children’s Church *but children always welcome*

Readings for 14th April

Acts 3:12-20; Psalm 4; 1 John 2:15-17, 3:1-6; Luke 24:36b-48

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):
Ekibin Anglican Parish
A/C 0000 7820
BSB 704 901

Or scan the QR code to give online:

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

