



Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday 7am: Holy Communion

(Hymns: TIS158, MP 48, MP162, TIS228)

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

(Hymns: MP 52, MP 921, MP 381, MP 936)

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

Turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.

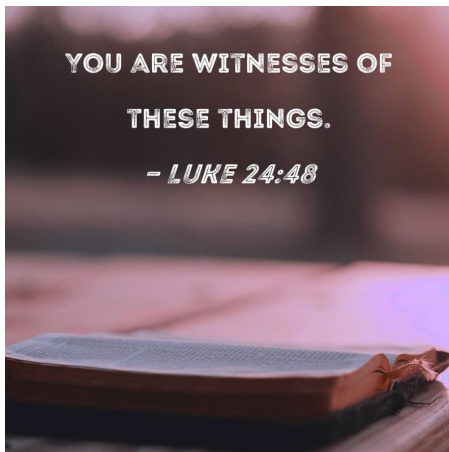
Rev'd Timothy writes...

We need a little context to understand our gospel passage this week as we have jumped from the gospel of John to the gospel of Luke. In the latter, on Easter morning three women found the tomb empty and were told by two angels that "[Jesus] is not here but has risen". The first appearance of the risen Jesus was to the two travellers on the road to Emmaus, Cleopas with, probably, his wife. They, at first didn't recognise Jesus, much in the same way as Mary in the John's gospel account. But just as Mary's eyes were opened when Jesus said her name, the same happens to the travellers when Jesus took, blessed, broke and gave bread. This prompted them to hurry back to Jerusalem to tell the eleven disciples what they had seen.



Our gospel passage then takes up as Cleopas is speaking to the disciples, and follows the same motif as we read last week: Jesus appears to the disciples; they are afraid and unbelieving; and he convinces them that he is indeed their teacher and friend raised from the dead, and that they, believing in him, are to continue his mission in the world.

And this story repeats itself in our lives too. We come with our doubts, confusions, fears, and misunderstandings. We, each week, through worship encounter the risen Christ. In the reciting of the scriptures and the preached word we are offered explanation, proclaiming the good news of what God has done and is doing. We may eat with Christ, breaking the bread in the Eucharist. The Spirit brings enlightenment, opening our hearts and minds, setting our hearts afire. Finally, this leads to us being sent us out into the entire world to be witnesses to this amazing news.



Concert at St Paul's Anglican Church

Music on Sundays

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Adults \$35 Concessions and FT Students \$25, School Students free

Readings for Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading (7am only)

A reading from the book of Acts

¹²When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?' ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out, ²⁰so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah appointed for you, that is, Jesus.

Acts 3:12-20

Psalm 4

¹Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness:
when I was hard-pressed you set me free;
be gracious to me now and hear my prayer.

²Children of earth, how long will you turn my glory to my shame:
how long will you love what is worthless
and seek after lies?

³Know that the Lord has shown me his wonderful kindness:
when I call to the Lord he will hear me.

⁴Tremble, and do no sin:
commune with your own heart upon your bed and be still.

⁵Offer the sacrifices that are right:
and put your trust in the Lord.

⁶There are many who say 'Who will show us any good?:
the light of your countenance, O Lord, has gone from us.'

⁷Yet you have given my heart more gladness:
that they have when their corn, wine and oil increase.

⁸In peace I will lie down and sleep:
for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety.

Second reading (7am & 9am)

A reading from the first letter of John

²¹⁵Do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world; ¹⁶for all that is in the world—the desire of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, the pride in riches—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷And the world and its desire are passing away, but those who do the will of God live for ever.

³¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the

world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴ Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵ You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶ No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him.

1 John 2:15-17;3:1-6

The Gospel

A reading from the gospel of Luke

^{36b} Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?

³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that

it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

Luke 24:36b-48

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We Are Witnesses

A thread running through this week's texts is that of being a witness – of what has been, of what is unfolding, of something to be revealed. To be a witness, as these texts understand it, is to exist in complex tensions of doubt and evidence, astonishment and faith, terror and peace, disbelief and joy, of distress and hope, of who we are and who we could be. To be a witness is to have an encounter with God that transforms us and compels us to act.

Acts 3:12–19 recounts Peter's sermon following his and John's healing encounter with a person who has been lame since birth (v. 2). Peter speaks of the people in condemning terms, depicting them as having rejected Jesus, painting a stark contrast to those whose lives are marked by the power of faith in the resurrected Christ, evidenced in the wholly transformed life of the formerly lame man.

Like the disciples in Luke 24:36b–48 are invited to “touch and see” Jesus, those present “see and know” this man and are witnesses to his story and the power of faith. The good news of Peter’s sermon is that, through repentance, all those present may be forgiven and restored to wholeness.

Psalms 4 bears the characteristics of an individual lament, where a complainant addresses God with a plea for help, acknowledges their sinfulness while expressing confidence in God, and offers an anticipatory thanksgiving for coming deliverance. Verse one expresses the tension of being “in distress” alongside the expectant hope embedded in a command for God to “Answer me...”.

In 1 John 3:1–7, community is understood as a gift from God, part of our identity as children of God. Again, tension is present in this community of witnesses who “see” (v. 1) God’s love. They await a future revelatory encounter with God, one that will transform them; yet, they know that being children of God requires a response, imperfect as it is.

Luke 24:36b–48 continues the narrative that began earlier in v. 13 with Cleopas and his companion encountering Jesus on the Emmaus road. “They” (v. 36) are the eleven disciples plus their companions, gathered and listening to the Emmaus pair tell of meeting and sharing a meal with Jesus.

These events mirror the events of last week’s text from John 20. This time, however, the disciples are in the position of Thomas. They are hearing another’s account of meeting the risen Jesus and are not able to overcome their doubt without the evidence of sight and touch.

This text presents two significant and interlocking themes. First, as also happens in Acts 3, a miraculous event occurs, and, as a response, those who are witnesses to the event are called to repent. To be a witness is not a passive event. It is a call to action. The gathered followers are not only observers of an amazing story; they are to be participants in that amazing story.

Second, repentance is an act of devotion to God, an act of worship, as is sacrifice (Psalm 4:5) and purification (1 John 3:3). In Luke, Jesus shares food (v. 41) and word (v. 44) with his followers. These are sacred acts. Luke 24, along with this week’s other texts, makes a deep connection between being witnesses to the love of God and participating in the worship of God.

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To be a witness is to respond to the call of God. Each of this week’s texts asserts that we all bear the burden of the sins we have perpetrated and are called to repentance. Each text is equally clear that God’s complete forgiveness is perpetually offered to all. How might we express repentance as part of our response to God’s call to be witnesses?

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.



Parish Study: The Creeds

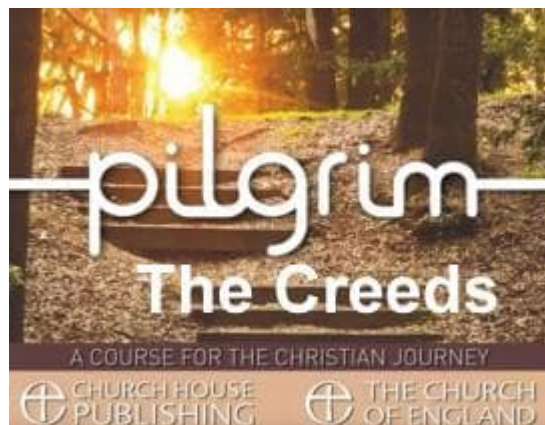
Our next Parish Study will be a six week course looking at the Creeds, using material from the Church of England 'Pilgrim' (we used their course on the Eucharist last year).

From the earliest days of the Church, Christians have developed short, simple, summaries of the faith (for instance see 1 Corinthians 15:3-5). These became known as Creeds, from the Latin *credo* meaning 'I believe and trust'. Two in particular have become important and are regularly used in our worship today: The Nicene Creed and the Apostles Creed. They address key questions about the nature of God and of Jesus.

This course will help us unpack the meaning of the Creeds, and how they can resource our Christian life.

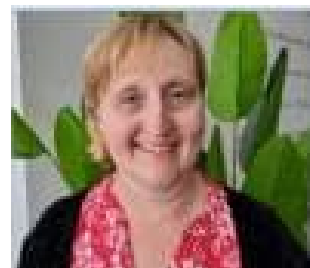
The course will run fortnightly starting on 30th April at 10am or 2nd May at 7.30pm. A course booklet is available, cost \$15.

If you would like to join us please speak to Rev'd Timothy or June Nicholson so we can order a book for you.



Chappy week morning tea

Chappy Robyn is seeking help with a morning tea for school staff at Weller's Hill State School on Thursday 23rd May 10-11am. If you can help with providing or serving some delicious treats please contact her at robyn.maxwell@suchaplaincy.org.au.



A reminder too that the chaplaincy ministry at Weller's Hill is largely supported by donations. To contribute to Robyn's important work with students, families and staff at the school see:

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

For our Prayers

Prayer for the day

Lord of life, by submitting to death, you conquered the grave; by being lifted upon the cross, you draw all peoples to you; by being raised from the dead, you restore to humanity all that was lost through sin: be with us in your risen power, that in word and deed we may proclaim the marvellous mystery of death and resurrection. For all praise is yours, now and throughout eternity. 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 Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
Ministry with the Torres Strait Island People of Australia – Rose Elu
The Parish of Nambour: Theodor Svensen, John Graham-Freeman
Clergy with Permission to Officiate in the Diocese
St Margaret's Anglican Girls School, Ascot: Principal – Roslyn Curtis; Chaplain – Jasmine Dow; Chair of School Council – Debbie Smith; School Council members; staff and students

Our missionary partners

Bruce and Libby, serving with CMS in Nepal.

Our parish

Pray for those returning to school this week, that they may have a fruitful time of learning together in the term ahead.

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, Cathy, Rita Johnson, Sharon L., Margaret Sheehan, Don Rennie, Georgina Crawford, Alwynne Bayley, Glenda, Sue

From the Parish Book of Remembrance

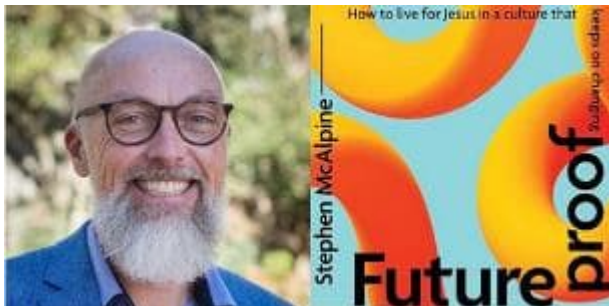
14 April: Robert William Edgar McNicol, Beryl Linda Hays; *16 April:* Ronald George Edwards; *18 April:* Delma Judith Webster; *19 April:* Shirley Margaret Griffiths; *20 April:* Frances Burt Bolton Thompson.



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 on Friday, 10th May (6:30 to 9:30 PM) 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



Keep in touch:

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-  @stlukesekibin
-  Parish Wardens:
 - Brian Wood (0466 656 149)
 - Alison Lampe (0408 183 701)
 - Lynn Mitchell (0409 150 861)

Bush Ministry Stall

The next bush ministry stall is today Sunday 14th April, after both services.



Children's Church restarts for term 2 today



Services This Week:

Tuesday-Friday

6pm: Evening Prayer on Zoom

Sunday 21st April

(4th Sunday after Easter)

7am: Holy Communion (St Luke's)

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

Readings for 14th April

*Acts 4:5-12, Psalm 23, 1 John 3:16-24,
John 10:11-18*

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>