

Lectionary Bible readings for 6th September 2020

Week: Pentecost 14 Colour: Green

Exodus 12:1-14;

Psalm 149;

Romans 13:8-14;

Matthew 18:15-20.



Please submit items for the Sharing Time by Thursday 10am to Lisa 6231 4498 or scot-memorial@bigpond.com

Pastoral Care: Steven 0428 382 793 or Paul 0407 585 044 or Jeff 0438 081 151

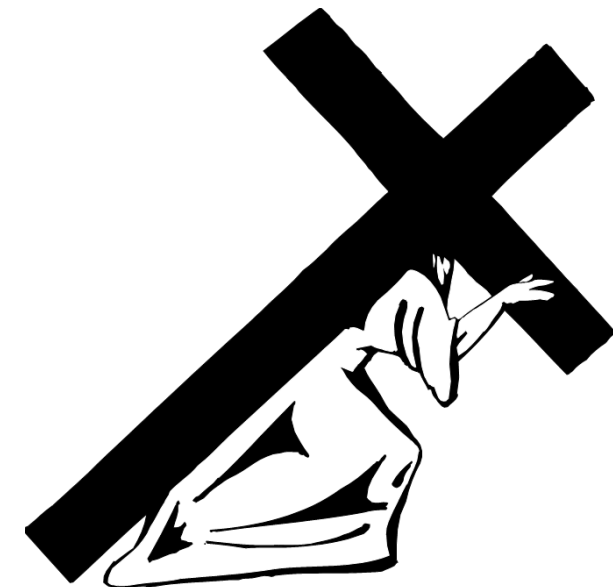
Office: Mon 7:30am-4pm, Tues-Fri 7:00am-2:30pm
 Ph: 6231 4498 Email: scot-memorial@bigpond.com
 Website: scotschurch.com.au

Scots-Memorial Rosters

	Sunday 30 August	Sunday 6th September
Leader	Jeff Gray	Keith Allcock
Stewards	Paul W (W), Andrea & Denise	Liz (W), Fred & Bob
Bible Reading	Owen	Anne
Prayer	Rosalind	Jeff G
Organist / Music	Christian McCallum	Ian Gibbs
Audio	Owen	—
Money Counting	Anne & Denise	Liz & Denise
Setting Up	Steven	Fred

The Uniting Church in Australia
 Scots-Memorial Congregation

Our Church



Take Up Your Cross

Sunday 30th August 2020



We meet on land for which the Mouheneener people are the traditional custodians. We remember the forebears with respect, and commit ourselves to working for reconciliation and justice.



Order of Service

Living Faith Jeff Gray

THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

WELCOME:

Silent Prayer as we prepare ourselves for Worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Christ calls us to follow him.
But he warns us
that it may not be an easy path.

***As we come together today
to celebrate in his risen presence,
we ask for the strength
to walk the way of the cross with him.***

HYMN: 143 - Immortal, invisible, God only wise

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
in light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious,
your great name we praise. | 3. You give life to all, Lord,
to both great and small,
in all life now living,
the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish
as leaves on a tree,
then wither: but ever
unchanged you will be. |
| 2. Unresting, unceasing,
and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting,
but ruling in might;
your justice like mountains
high soaring above,
your clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love. | 4. Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
your angels adore you,
all veiling their sight;
of all your rich graces
this grace, Lord, impart –
take the veil from our faces,
the veil from our heart. |

In today's Gospel Reading from Matthew, Jesus tells the disciples that he is going to suffer. The one on whom all their hopes are pinned states that his journey will be on the road on pain and death. Despite their protestations, Jesus says that is the way it has to be. They may not be able to understand now, because human thinking does not always accord with God's will. All will become apparent ;later. After his death and resurrection, and the descent of the Holy Spirit, the disciples will look on this episode with different eyes.

Jesus makes it clear that to follow him will involve a share in the cross. If the disciples lose their lives for his sake, they will find the true meaning of their lives. What is important is not material gain of power. Earthly goods and control over others mean nothing. It is only by taking their share of Christ's cross through an honest appraisal of themselves, and recognition and acceptance of their own sufferings, that they can be assured of finding their true selves. To know who they really are requires letting go in order to gain true life.

Just as the language of the cross was difficult for the disciples to understand, so it is for most of us. What' today's readings afford us, though, is the opportunity to reflect again on the crosses in our own lives. We can ask ourselves whether we accept our crosses and align them with the cross of Christ, or whether we use them as an opportunity to become embittered.

Jesus exhorts us to trust in him, and to allow him to help us carry our crosses as we walk beside him. If we do not do this, our lives can easily be thrown off track. However, if we do learn to accept Jesus' loving help, our appreciation of Jesus walking alongside us will grow and grow.

If we make the time to sit in silence and reflect, with God's help we can begin to identify the crosses that we carry in our own lives. And then we can begin to accept Jesus' help to bear them. The concerns of COVID-19, or difficulties with relationships, or the pain of growing older and losing one's independence, are examples of crosses which we may be carrying. If we can accept his love, walk with him and bear the cross together, it will not only give us strength but draw us closer to Christ our Lord.

Sharing Time

Tuesday Worship will be held on 1st September at Scots-Memorial at 11.30 am. Please note that there will be NO morning tea or shared lunch after worship.

Inclusive Worship—Enabling Cultural Gifts—Wednesday 2 September, 9.30am to 2 pm & Wednesday 16th September, 10 am to 12.30 pm. Tickets \$25 includes workshop access both days via ZOOM. This workshop is organised in partnership with Port Phillip West Presbytery to explore cultural gifts in our communities of faith to make worship more inclusive. More information from Devanandan Anandarajan, 0417 721 015 or devanandan.anandarajan@victas.uca.org.au or Linley Liersch, 0408 169 882, Linley.Liersch@ppw.victas.uca.org.au

Church Council will meet on Tuesday 8th September at 11 am in St Andrew's Hall.

Brrrrr!! International students struggling financially MORE BLANKETS DESPERATELY NEEDED! Anyone with spare doonas / blankets, please feel free to drop them off during business hours at Wellspring Anglican Church, Grosvenor Street, Sandy Bay or contact Elsje Steen on 0414 851 825 to arrange a pick up. Please ensure blankets are in good condition and well laundered. Thank you .

5. All praise we would render:
reveal to our sight
what hides you is only
the splendour of light;
and so let your glory,
Almighty, impart,
through Christ in the story,
your Christ to the heart.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

As our lives are presented before you here, O God,
enter them in kindness and lead us on into this new day
as we prayerfully wait to know your Spirit among us.

This we pray in faith. Amen.

SHARING TOGETHER: - 'How has the past week been for you?'

AN EARLY WORD: - 'The way you think is not God's way'

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD FOR US TODAY

FIRST READING: Romans 12:9-21

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 16:21-28

In this we listen for the word for us today

Thanks be to God

HYMN: 583 (T. 439) - 'Take up your cross' the Saviour said

'Take up your cross,' the Saviour said,
'if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart
and humbly follow after me.'

Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
and let your foolish pride be still:
your Lord refused not even to die
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross, then, in his strength
and calmly every danger brave;
it guides you to a better home
and leads to victory o'er the grave.

Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

MESSAGE: - *'TAKE UP YOUR CROSS'*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

OFFERING

THE SENDING FORTH OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

HYMN: 595 - O Jesus, I have promised ...

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
Lord, be for ever near me,
my master and my friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide.</p> <p>2. Still let me feel you near me:
the world is never near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
and tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw me nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.</p> | <p>3. O let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
Lord, speak to reassure me,
to chasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
true guardian of my soul.</p> <p>4. Lord, let me see your footmarks
and in them plant my own;
that I may follow boldly
and in your strength alone;
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my friend.</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

BLESSING:

Father,
your Son has shown that the path of life
is also the way of the cross.
Help us this week to follow your way
wherever it may lead us.

And may almighty God bless you,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN: 779 - May the feet of God walk with you

May the feet of God walk with you,
and his hand hold you tight.
May the eye of God rest on you,
and his ear hear your cry.
May the smile of God be for you,
and his breath give you life.
May the Child of God grow in you,
and his love bring you home.