



28 MARCH 2021



Welcome to worship this morning and a special welcome to Neil Menger who will be speaking at the congregation meeting following the service today.

Lectionary Readings Holy Week

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
Philippians 2:5-11

Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12
Psalm 2
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18:1—19:2

Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43 or Isaiah 25:-6-9
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8

Congregation Meeting

There will be a meeting of the congregation after worship this morning.

We will be considering electing Ayesha Sadiq as an elder, and Kate Bowra as a member of Church Council.

We will also be hearing from Neil Menger who will be presenting the Presbytery Life and Witness Consultation report which will determine if we can begin the process of calling a new minister.

Daylight Saving

Don't forget Daylight Saving ends next Saturday so put your clock **back** and enjoy the sleep in.

Easter Services

Good Friday 2nd April 9am

Easter Sunday 4th April 9am

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies Bible Study will meet on Tuesday afternoon from 3-5pm in the chapel. They are looking at "Listening to the God who hears" and all ladies are welcome.



Greystanes Uniting Church

Cnr Cumberland & Eldridge Roads (P O Box 5064)

Greystanes NSW 2145

Minister:

Office

Phone: 9636 3245

Email: office@greystanesuniting.org.au

Website:

www.greystanesuniting.org.au

John 12:12-16 Jesus Christ our Saviour and King

As Jesus rode a donkey into the town of Jerusalem a large crowd gathered and laid palm branches and their cloaks across the road, giving Jesus royal treatment. The hundreds of people shouted "**Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!**"

The people were expecting Jesus to save them from Rome, from political oppression, from lives of poverty, hunger, sickness and death. It was believed that the Messiah would come as a mighty warrior, throw out the Romans, and establish God's Kingdom on earth once and for all.

But Jesus did not come to meet our expectations of what a king should be like. He came to meet our deepest needs – our need for a means to God that is not self-devised, our need for a salvation that is more than a political solution, our need for the truth about who God really is rather than who we hoped God would be. Jesus came to bring us peace we could not have on our own. One might say that Palm Sunday was the day when both the disciples and the crowd had their expectations destroyed by Jesus. But how about us? Again, is this the sort of king, messiah, saviour we expect... that we even want?

The Palm Sunday story names something about our journey of faith: it says that amid struggle, anguish, denial and forgetfulness, we have a wild and soaring anticipation, a vision of a new way, a glimpse of a new world. To follow the path of Jesus does not necessarily mean that everything will be peaceful and prosperous and pleasurable for us. He never calls us to worldly success; he calls us to faithfulness, invites us to join him in changing the way we do business around here.

Yes, on Palm Sunday something new and unexpected rides in among us. And certainly we can choose to turn away from it, deny it, get rid of it. Or we can take the risk of opening a window in our hearts through which this unexpected Jesus can climb in. We can allow our longings to give rise to new worlds of anticipation, our imaginations to birth new images of human hope and godly grace. We can allow his life, as challenging, and yes, at times as maddening as it is, to touch our lives, his view of reality to alter our view of reality and of what is possible. Today a side window opens and a whole new world comes parading in.

As we begin this Holy Week, may we constantly be reminded of its significance and value for our lives today. That very important day in history, when Jesus began His journey towards the cross. His Word reveals such great truths in every part of this story. Truths that draw us closer towards Christ, reminding us that He alone is King...He is our Lord and Saviour. - Lola