



19 SEPTEMBER 2021

Please join us online via our Facebook page to worship with us this weekend.

Lectionary Readings

This week 19 September, 2021

Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

Next week 26 September, 2021

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Rearview Vision: A message from Rev Christine Gapes

I am spending my time in Lockdown doing research on the early history of youth and children's ministry in the Uniting Church (NSW) and leading up to Union, from 1970 to about 1985.

Whether you were a child/youth, minister, leader, parent I would love to hear your experience.

If you would be willing to fill in a questionnaire, please contact Christine Gapes, Uniting Church Chaplain at Western Sydney University, c.gapes@westernsydney.edu.au.

Mark 9:30-37 Who is the greatest of them/us all?

We all know the story of Snow-White and the seven dwarves. The beautiful and kind-hearted princess Snow White charms every creature in the kingdom except one - her jealous stepmother, the Queen. When the Magic Mirror proclaimed Snow White the fairest one of all, Snow White must flee into the forest, where she befriends the lovable seven dwarfs.

I believe that most of us can identify ourselves with the evil stepmother with the "I am this" and "I am that" attitude- the attitude of pride- the same attitude that cast Lucifer and his followers out of the heavenly realm.

The disciples had been travelling with Jesus and today's text is the second of three times that Jesus teaches his disciples that they are headed to Jerusalem where he will be betrayed, condemned to death, executed, and after three days he will rise again.

It is also the second of three times that his disciples fail to understand, and Jesus must teach them about God's honouring that reverses commonly accepted human understandings of honour, status, prestige, and salvation.

The disciples' response of not understanding and being afraid to ask about it- is not far from our own response to this teaching. Grace and Peace, Hani.