



23 MARCH, 2025



Welcome

Welcome to worship, we hope you enjoy being with us.

Lectionary Readings

This week 23 March, 2025

Isaiah 55:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9

Next week 30 March, 2025

Joshua 5:9-12
Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Hani's Ordination

Hani has received a call from Hurstville parish to become their minister and so her ordination will be here next Saturday 29 March at 2pm.

All are invited to attend and share this special day with Hani and Paul and their family. Afternoon tea will follow the service. If you are coming and could bring a plate of food to share for afternoon tea, that would be appreciated.

Worship next Sunday 30 March 2025

Next Sunday morning we will be having a breakfast service around tables in the hall. This service will also include communion.

Church Shirts

A number of years ago we purchased a number of t-shirts, embroidered with the church's name. If you have one which you no longer need, our Hands and Feet volunteers are looking at wearing them and would welcome any spare shirts, please bring them to church next week or drop them into the office.



Greystanes Uniting Church

Cnr Cumberland & Eldridge Roads (P O Box 5064)

Greystanes NSW 2145

Minister: Rev Gail Hinton 0407 269 162

revgail@greystanesuniting.org.au

Office Phone: 9636 3245

Email: office@greystanesuniting.org.au

Website: www.greystanesuniting.org.au

Rev Gail's Message

Does God have a plan and purpose for our lives? This is a tricky question best answered by simply saying, God's plan for our lives is that we should love God and love people. Over the centuries however the church formulated a complex and much debated doctrine that suggested every specific detail of our lives has been foreseen and planned out by God.

This doctrine known as Predestination is mainly derived from the following verses:

Ephesians 1:11

In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will

Jeremiah 1:4-7

The word of the Lord came to me (Jeremiah), saying,⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew^l you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

This week in worship Karen and Lola will focus on what it means to be Called and Chosen by God. This is a less complex way of dancing around the Doctrine of Predestination. Shane and I will be away for the weekend celebrating two birthdays, a father turning 60 and his son turning 30. The other guests in attendance will be a mix of believers, agnostics and atheists and if I can pluck up enough courage I will ask each one the following question, "what do you think the purpose of your life is?"

Instead of unpacking a hot potato like the Doctrine of Predestination I invite you to reflect on your purpose and the way your faith has shaped your life. What purpose did God create you for? What does God still have in store for you in later life? If you are young you may be more inclined to ask, 'What has God created me for?' "What is God's will for my life"

I wonder if you, like me, stumbled along in your youth never really giving the questions above any serious thought? Yet here I am today, called and set apart to be an ordained person in God's church. I can't explain Predestination but I can give witness to God moving in mysterious ways. May God continue to surprise us as we follow God's will for our lives and the life of our beautiful church in Greystanes.

Rev Gail