



Our Common Life

Blackall Range Uniting Churches

Maleny | Montville | Palmwoods



Uniting in Christ | Acting with love | Living with hope | Witnessing in faith | Working for justice

3 April 2022

*****LECTIONARY THEMES*****

WELCOME TO WORSHIP



Face to Face Worship Service

Montville 8:15am: Worship Service
Maleny: 9:45am: Holy Communion
Palmwoods: 10:00am Family Service

RCL Year C Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8

Next Sunday 10 April 2022

Palm Sunday

Montville 8:15am: Holy Communion
Maleny: 9:45am: Worship Service
Palmwoods: 15:30pm Garden Fellowship

RCL Year C Readings

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Luke 19:28-40

Philippians 3 vs 10-12

*I want to know Christ—yes, to know
the power of his resurrection,
and participation in his sufferings,
becoming like him in his death,
and so, somehow,
attaining to the resurrection from the dead.
Not that I have already obtained all this,
or have already arrived at my goal,
but I press on
to take hold of that
for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.*

Independence

Philippians 3:4b-14

Meditating, but without God. Relaxation therapy, but without the peace of God. Mindfulness, but without awareness of God's presence. Forgiveness, compassion and respect encouraged, but without the acknowledgement of God's Spirit. Ideals of personal integrity, honesty in business, openness in politics, but without grounding in God's integrity, honesty and openness.

That's the prevailing mood today. We can fix it; we don't need God. That's a bit like the attitude that Paul says he turned from when he met the risen Christ on the Damascus Road. Righteousness attained by the human effort of keeping God's Law he now saw as worthless compared with the righteousness gained through faith in Christ. DIY righteousness compared with God's freely-given righteousness. The world being put right by our own efforts compared with the world being put right by God.

The Gospel announces that God has acted in and through Jesus Christ to put the world right by introducing a new way of being human, a different way of living, one based on union with God. God is constantly working to put right what has gone wrong but he calls for our cooperation in this. God doesn't just snap his fingers and everything is suddenly put right.

The ultimate vision of reality is of everyone and everything living in a perfect relationship with God and with each other, but in the mean time we have God's decisive action in and through Jesus Christ opening up life on this new dimension for all who will accept it. Under the confusing conditions of life in this world, we have the option of consciously and willingly pressing on toward this goal because Christ Jesus has made us his own. (Philippians 3:12)

- People can do great things without taking God into account. Think of space exploration, medical advances, counselling for example. Why bring God into it?
- If righteousness means being right with God, what's so wrong with trying to get right with God by putting our best efforts into it?
- If we are saved by God's grace, what part are we expected to play?
- In Philippians 3:12-14 Paul speaks about pressing on toward the goal. What is the goal for you in your life?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

- **COMING UP for next weeks– Details below**
- Tuesday – Cuppa Craft at Maleny 9:30-12 noon (First and Third Tuesday) **5th April and 19th April**
- Wednesday – Maleny Meditation at 8:30am (Weekly)
- **Pastoral Care Meeting Thursday 7 April at 4pm at Liena's place.**
- **Monday 11th April at 9am Church Council Meeting**

Easter 2022 Services

Why do you look for the living among the dead?
(Luke 24:1-12)

NOTE: Excitingly, there are new events on this year's Easter calendar. An ecumenical Palm Sunday liturgy on Sunday the 10th April with the Anglicans at **Montville at 7:30 am** and then another in **Maleny at Baptist Church at 6:30pm**. Definitely one for the diary as we unite as church as a witness in Montville, Maleny and along the Range.

And the **Easter Sunrise Service with Salvation Army** band at **Montville at 6am** is always a special event of glory.

Palm Sunday 10 April March

7:30 Palm liturgy with Anglicans
8:15 Montville Holy Communion
9:45 Maleny Family Worship
15:30 Reflection in the garden
18:30 RCLN Palm Sunday March at Baptist Church

Maunder Thursday 14 April

18:00 Tenebrae Service @ Maleny

Good Friday 15 April

07:30 Montville
08:00 Maleny
09:00 Palmwoods

Easter Sunday 17 April

06:00 RCLN Sunrise Service Montville
07:30 Montville
09:45 Maleny
09:00 Palmwoods

CONNECT GROUPS and MORNING TEA

In 2022 the connect groups were asked to be responsible for morning tea on the combined service day as we need more servers. Next combined service is **29 May** so we need another group to offer their service on that day. Contact Dorothy 5494 2486.

UNITING CHURCH NAME BADGES will be ordered again soon. Please contact Jing at the Church Office (5429 6995) or Barbara (5494 2238) if you would like to order a badge. They cost approximately \$8. Alternately, add your name to the list at the back table, Maleny Uniting Church.

OFFERING

Kindly remember to continue to give your weekly/monthly offerings. They can be Direct Debited to Blackall Range Uniting Church.

ANZ Bank, BSB 014-507. A/C 3762 29735

Sausage Sizzle Friday 1 April 10:30-15:00

THANK YOU – BIG THANK YOU to the volunteers.
\$214.92 was raised for chaplaincy. Tatenda Liena

Montville UC: Lent Exhibition: Stations of the Cross

Montville UC's reflection Gallery's will display the late Rev Ron Potter's equally memorable paintings illustration the stations of the cross from early March to Easter.



Make sure to visit the gallery as part of your Lent Reflections.

Lent 2022 This year we will have an intentional focus on prayer and we, the leadership pray that we will, collectively as a congregation and also as individuals, be transformed through and in our prayer life. Everyone is invited to join the leadership in **intentional and intense** prayer during Lent and we highlight some of the initiatives below.

The New Vine: The latest *New Vine* features prayer and various aspects of it. We encourage you to pray through the words and pages of the *New Vine*.

A Collection of Prayers. A collection of prayers will be available for use during Lent. This collection will have a prayer for each day, and you will be invited to jot down your own prayer every Sunday.

Daily 5am-6am and 5pm-6pm @ Riverine Chapel

You are also invited to join me in prayer each day between 5-6am and 5-6pm at the amphitheatre/along the amphitheatre side verandah of the church hall during Lent.

Lenten material: 7 Sayings of the Cross: The Silent God? Our Lenten study is a reflection on the 7 sayings of the Cross. The material will be short reflections in writing and video presentations. We are grateful for the material that has been prepared by various persons across the congregations. We will have printed copies available

Prayer - From Duty to Delight

Upholding one another in prayer...

Prayer is one of the great blessings of our life of faith – both as we pray for others and as we ourselves receive prayer support in our own time of need. Here are three ways in which this is practiced in our faith community

1. **Email prayer group.** There are approximately thirty people who receive this and who have committed to praying about matters raised. There is a weekly update, "Prayer Matters", sent out and as needs arise, an email is sent requesting prayer for more urgent matters. Those who don't use email receive a hard copy of the weekly "Prayer Matters". Confidentiality is important to us and any information shared is kept to those on the prayer chain and not more widely discussed.
2. **Maleny Prayer Group.** The Sunday morning prayer group meets at 9am at the Maleny church before the service when we pray together for any matters raised. This can be a good option for any issues that are of a more private nature.
3. **Personal Prayer.** "When two or three are gathered in my name..." It can be a great blessing to sit with someone and pour out our hearts before God. After the Maleny Sunday morning service, there is someone available each week to pray with anyone with a

personal prayer need or who would like to pray about a matter on their heart.

If you would like to be a part of the email prayer group or receive a weekly copy of Prayer Matters; or if you have prayer matters to raise for the chain or prayer group, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact **Helen Uhlmann...**
helen.uhlmann@gmail.com; PH: **0407542142**

MENTORING

We have spoken often about the value and joy of being a mentor for a child. Maleny State School is seeking another 5 mentors so please give it your prayerful consideration and chat to one of the current mentors: Helen U, Nancy, Jan, Liena, Sue C and Paul... and come join us on Tuesday the 29th to learn more about it. Contact Liena for more information.

The Church Hall Hire

The Calendar of Church hall hire is available to check online <https://ourcommonlife.org.au/calendar-hall-hire/#>
Please check and make a booking via admin@ourcommonlife.org.au or 5429 6995

Blackall Range Uniting Church acknowledges the first peoples who are the traditional owners of the land upon which we live and worship.

Ministry Contacts:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874
minister@ourcommonlife.org.au
Friday off-day.

Church Office: Jing Wang 07 5429 6995
Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 9 am to 12 noon
Email: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

Community Pastor Pastor Kay Nixon
kayxn43@gmail.com 0412 539020

Tongan Community Siale Lolohea 0476 306 815
Internet: <http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au>



Blackall Range Uniting Church
Maleny Uniting Church,
Montville Uniting Church,
Palmwoods Uniting Church

Easter at 3 Open Gardens at Montville
Sat 16th and Sunday 17th April 9am to 4 pm
travel to Montville in the Sunshine Coast hinterland

"The Shambles"
85 Western Avenue
Montville

"Lower Woontooba"
238 Western Avenue
Montville

"Wongawilli"
19 Manley Drive
Montville



Visitors will enjoy three fascinating large country gardens, each with a different character in their beautiful borrowed landscapes

Plants STALLS, refreshments "Rising Scene cafe" AT "The Shambles"
Funds raised for Cittaanan Hospice www.cittaananhospice.com.au
Visit beautiful Montville village and the scenic Blackall Range attractions
Entry \$10 to each garden (cash only) children free

Prayer for a World Where Hope Seems Dim

Dear God,
the world seems so dark and foreboding.
Where are the signs of hope?
What are you calling us to do?

Wars, uprisings, displacements, hunger, poverty, and disease continue to claim victims by the millions around the world each year.

Our ears do not want to hear their stories and our eyes do not want to see their plight because the suffering and destruction is so massive and cruel.

In our hearts and minds there is a desire to help somehow,
but the crises seem so overwhelming that we shake our heads in dismay and we wonder what the point is for us even to attempt to be witnesses for healing and hope in this hellish morass

We beg with the song writer to open our eyes that we may see glimpses of truth you have for us.

Help us to follow the path of Jesus, the Suffering Servant.

Give us the courage to be willing to walk the path of depression and pain with the victims of injustice here at home as well as abroad.

Help us to seek ways to light candles of hope, however small, through our words, our deeds, and our prayers,
to encourage our sisters and brothers to hold onto the faith in spite of the pain and suffering they are facing.

And help those of us who are among the fortunate ones, who have enough bread to eat, good health, and who live in relative peace,
to open our heart to learn from our sisters and brothers who are living lives of grace and forgiveness in the horrid circumstances which surround them.

O God, help us to light one candle rather than to curse the darkness.

We pray this in the name of Jesus, who knows what being a light in this dark world is all about.

- Larry Kehler, Mennonite Central Committee, Canada, 2009

<https://www.xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index>