

HOLY COVENANT ANGLICAN CHURCH

a place for everyone



SUNDAY 7 AUGUST 2022 NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

To join us on Zoom, please use the link below:

<https://zoom.us/j/8820962366?pwd=YUpja05YTXFCN0N4MGRlSEVIRlI0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 882 096 2366
Password: 033643

Morning Tea after morning services is postponed until the current COVID wave passes.

SUNDAY 7 AUGUST

8am and 10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
3.30 pm Colours of God
5pm Twilight Conversation

WEDNESDAY 10 AUGUST

12 Midday Communion Service and lunch

SUNDAY 14 AUGUST

8am and 10 am Holy Communion
Celebrant and Preacher:
The Revd Dr Wayne Brighton
5pm Twilight Conversation

Bank details for direct debit:

Bank: Commonwealth
Branch: Jamison Centre ACT
BSB 062 907
Account No: 802588
Name: Holy Covenant Anglican Church

God of Justice

One of my favourite Tim Hughes songs is *God of Justice*. It's a call to action for Christians to live out God's kingdom:

*We must go live to feed the hungry
Stand beside the broken
We must go
Stepping forward keep us from just singing
Move us into action*

These words stack up well against this week's lectionary readings. Isaiah exhorts us to repent, confess and act against injustice. Jesus tells us to sell our possessions and give alms—give money and food to the poor. But who are the poor, and what does it mean for us to do justice for them?

Stoffragen reminds us that in the first century, it was believed that there was a fixed and limited amount of wealth. If someone gained wealth, someone else had to lose it. They didn't believe that everyone [was] becoming wealthier. So, if the poor were to escape their poverty, it would have to come from the wealthy sharing their possessions. In essence, the wealthy would have to become poorer if the poor were to gain some wealth.

And there's the challenge for 21st century, white, middle-class, cis-gendered Australians like me. We have been encouraged by society to believe in a world where each

generation lives better lives than the previous one. And by better, we mean richer in terms of our health, life expectancy, jobs, housing, social capital and income. These levels of growing wealth are unachievable for the vast majority of the world's population, and unsustainable for the health of the planet.

It is time to question the growth of our wealth the way a first century Christian would. "Who loses as I gain?" We can flip that question as well. "Who gains if I lose (some of my possessions or some of my privilege)?"

I have watched the conversation about the draft question for the Voice to Parliament with interest. Much of the opposition to the draft question, and indeed to the very concept of a Voice to Parliament for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, seems centered in concern about privilege. "Why should they be treated differently?"

What happens if we look at the Voice through the 1st century view of wealth? When I do that, I see that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander voices have been missing in our legislation for over a century.

Can we give up some of our privilege, and ensure justice for those whose voices haven't reliably been heard? Not just in terms of the Voice, but in all of our lives?

Megan Watts

Last week I received a call from a nurse at a local health facility. She asked me whether we had the capacity to support a client, and began to explain this woman's circumstances.

N lives with her disabled mother and young son. N is a full-time carer for her mother who has limited mobility and a degenerative mental condition which requires constant support.

As her son grew, N was focused on providing him with a safe and positive childhood - something she never had herself. In time, N commenced a new relationship. Eventually, the man moved in with N and her family, and was helpful in taking N's mother to some of her regular medical appointments, as well as taking N's son to school and sporting commitments. Things were going well and N was excited to have a 'complete' family again.

Within twelve months of living with her partner, N noticed some changes in his behaviour and the dynamic of the house. Out of full-time work during COVID, N's partner began drinking heavily at home, and his attitude towards N's mother and son became hostile. N voiced her concerns with him, but he continuously dismissed them.

Two weeks ago, N went to do the groceries with the understanding that her partner would take her mother to a specialist appointment. When she returned home her mother was in bed and her partner was asleep on the couch. N was furious – the health and wellbeing of her mother and son were non-negotiables. She asked her partner to leave and what ensued was a series of violent outbursts over the following days.

One night early last week, N woke up to the sound of breaking glass. She peered through the blinds and saw her ex-partner jumping on her windscreen; she immediately called the police. Upon further inspection, he had also slashed her front tires. He knew N relied on her vehicle to care for her mother and son, and that damaging it would make her life miserable.

I contacted N; we spoke at length about her wellbeing and what we could do to help. I organised a repair of her tires and windshield and invited her to the St John's Care Centre to receive some groceries and basic supplies for her family. When she arrived at SJC, she broke down. We referred her to the Domestic Violence Crisis Service for additional support and will continue supporting her family wherever possible.

Thank you to our supporters, donors and volunteers for everything that you do for our organisation, we make a real difference in the lives of so many members of our community.

Items Required: Men's Deodorant, Sardines, Shampoo and Conditioner, Pasta Meals



Companion House is a non government community based organization, that works with adults and children who have sought safety in Australia from persecution, torture and war related trauma. They provide free access to services that respect, empower and promote recovery for people who have survived torture, trauma and human rights violations.

Do you have a free hour or two to help out refugee families connected to Companion House? Revd Wendy has been in conversation with the organisers at Companion House, asking how can Holy Covenant be a good neighbour? She is looking to gather a team that can be called on occasionally to have a conversation, drop off some groceries, or perhaps mow a lawn. Please chat to Wendy or email warobertson4@gmail for more information.

What does justice sound like?

Sometimes it's important to shake up our devotional lives a little. Have you tried getting some of your bible study through a podcast? ("What's a podcast?", I hear some of you say. A podcast is a program made available in digital format for download over the Internet.)

Tearfund believe that justice is at the heart of God's character and is also what God requires from each of us. So it's not surprising that their organisational vision is 'working towards a more just and compassionate world'.

Grab your headphones, settle in for your commute, or prepare to tackle that massive pile of washing – Tearfund's got your listening material sorted! Hearing from a diverse mix of people on the frontlines of shaping a more just and compassionate world is a wonderful way to deepen your justice journey. Listening to people whose language, culture, faith expression or missional context differs from your own can help us see things anew, offer a fuller understanding of God and enlarge our vision of God's kingdom.

Check out the podcasts: [https://www.tearfund.org.au/stories/what-does-justice-sound-like?](https://www.tearfund.org.au/stories/what-does-justice-sound-like)

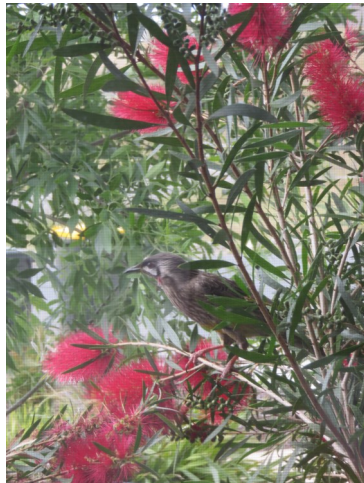
**Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?
Genesis. 18:14**

Not only were the two wattle birds delighting in the nectar of the Grevillia bush but they were also delighting in the drops of water falling all over them from the water sodden leaves of the night's rain. I looked at them, almost identical but no, there is a slight shift of colouring in one of them. Then my eye caught the beauty of the deep blue violets amidst a cluster of healthy leaves, almost identical but no, a slight difference in their size and in some their shape and colour to the bunch next to them.

I looked from the birds to the flowers in wonder at our God, who creates the same yet makes them different. And so, it is with us, with you and me, As Max Lucado says: When God made you, the angels stood in awe and delight and declared, 'We have never seen one like that before.' And they never will again!

Peace to you beyond all understanding. Anne, servant of the Lord.

<https://comewalkwithme-reflections.blogspot.com>



Colours of God

Colours of God is a Holy Covenant ministry that reaches out to people with intellectual disabilities. It acts as a friendship group for anyone who wants to talk about God in an uncomplicated way.

The main aim of this ministry is to support people with disabilities and to share the love of Jesus, to encourage them on their faith journey into a closer relationship with Christ: to help them understand and apply God's Word to their lives and to give them also an opportunity to serve others and have fellowship

in a way that is meaningful to them.

Here is their creative response to Peter's healing of a lame beggar.



Colours of God meet at Holy Covenant on the first Sunday of each month at 3:30 pm, February to November. Please contact Rev Anne Dudzinski if you are interested in getting involved.

Tuesday 9th is a 2nd Tuesday!



HAVE A GOOD YARN



CPE Introductory Pastoral Care Course



QUEANBEYAN HOSPITAL/ NSW
HEALTH PREMISES
COST: \$400



This 5 day course is a great way to get a feel for pastoral care. It would suit anyone interested in spiritual care, already doing pastoral care, or for those working in associated fields such as nursing, allied health, education and others who want to be able to listen and work with the spiritual and emotional care of others. Topics include:

- What is Pastoral/ Spiritual Care?
- Empathy
- Grief and Loss
- Spiritual reflection
- Self care

Supervisor:
Susanne Schmidt

Email: susannecpe@gmail.com
0431 243 486

NSW COLLEGE FOR CPE. TRAINING
CENTRE: THE WESTMEAD
HOSPITAL CENTRE FOR CPE
INCORPORATING THE PACIFIC
SCHOOL FOR CPE, LISMORE
ABORIGINAL CPE AND
QUEANBEYAN HOSPITAL CPE

Small Individual Seed Pots

Joh Sheehan is working with Canberra Seed Savers to grow 100 veggie seedlings for organisations supporting those doing it tough (St John's Care, Companion House, etc.). Do you have any seed pots or seeds Joh and others could use?

If yes, please contact Joh



AS LEON UNFURLED THE PIECE OF PAPER HE KNEW HE WOULD NEVER AGAIN PLAY CHARADES WITH MINISTERS

PRAYER POINTS

IN THE WORLD

- ⇒ Freedom of the press: "a well informed citizenry is the best defence against tyranny" (Jefferson)
- ⇒ The work of Amnesty International
- ⇒ A just peace in Ukraine, and withdrawal of Russian troops

IN AUSTRALIA

- ⇒ An informed debate on the draft referendum question on an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice to Parliament
- ⇒ Increased COVID vaccination rates, and sensible actions by all Australians to reduce the spread of disease

IN THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

- ⇒ Diocese of Brisbane
- ⇒ Braidwood, Bungendore & Collector Parishes
- ⇒ Mulwaree & Cartwright Mission Districts
- ⇒ Tri-parish group: Crookwell, Binda and Taralga
- ⇒ Small country churches and their ministry; co-operating parishes .

IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY

- ⇒ For all members of our parish family including Stephanie and Nick Kizimchuk; Pam Lane; Anne, Martin and Jenny Lange; Clare Lawlor; Chris Lee, and Penny Lilley.
- ⇒ We uphold those in special need of prayer including Barry Button, Bev Barnes, Claire Whelband, Penny Lilley & family, Catherine Lorimer's family; Brian and Elaine Dennis; Carol Kubanek; Paula Percival; Colin & Marilyn Tolano, Carol Sherman & family, John Arthur (Richard's dad), Libby Warren, Catherine D'Cruz and family and anyone known to us personally.

COMMEMORATIONS

Tuesday: **Audrey Pearl Kennett (d. 2015)**

Thursday: **Joyce Cole (d. 2019)**

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Sunday: Iona Brighton

Tuesday: Anne McDowell

Wednesday: Brad Indrele

Thursday: Oliver Taylor

READINGS

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

Psalms 50:1-8; 23-24

Hebrews 11:1-3; 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

COLLECT for 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Kindle in our hearts, Father, the same faith that impelled Abraham to set out from his home and to live as a pilgrim in a foreign land. As we, like him, look for the city that none but you can design and build, keep us watchful for your Son's coming, that we may be found faithful stewards of all that you have entrusted to us. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MINISTRY TEAM CONTACTS

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Holistic Care Nursing Ministries

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Resources Team

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