

200
YEAR
ANNIVERSARY



Parramatta
Mission



uniting
church
in Australia,
Synod of NSW & ACT

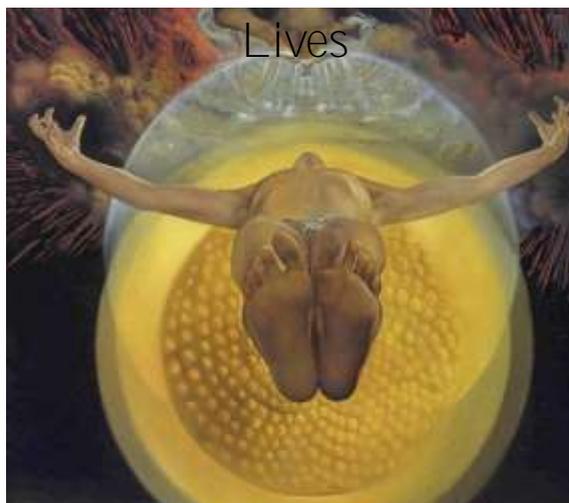
1821 – 2021

OUR NEWS

16th May 2021

Our Vision
A Community
Transforming

Our Values
Grace,
Inclusion,
Dignity,
Faith and Hope



Congregational life @ Westmead & Parramatta,
Hospitality, Community and Mental Health
Services across Greater Sydney, Central Coast,
Hunter and Mid-North Coast

Parramatta Mission acknowledges that all of our work and
our 36 sites are on the land of traditional owners.
We pay respect to the traditional custodians of the land on
which we gather, and acknowledge Elders past and present,
and emerging leaders.

Prayer Points

The people of Parramatta Mission invite you to pray for

Our Community

- We give thanks that some small gatherings are starting to take place. We give thanks for welcoming cafes and the disciplines we have learnt to help keep us all safe
- We give thanks for coffee, tea, muffins and spiritually encouraging conversations.

PM Westmead

- We pray for all of our congregations and give thanks that we are able once again meet together for worship, and also to have others able to be part of the service on zoom. We give thanks that various activities are gradually returning, as we are ever mindful of covid safety.
- We pray for the safety and well being of all people, and especially pray for the people of India and others there, who are being so severely effected by Covid 19. We pray for the doctors, nurses, and families separated and suffering loss of loved ones. For people all over the world in this time of stress, and danger.
- We pray for the Ministers and Staff and Management and leaders of Parramatta Mission in these times of change. We pray for insight, guidance, and dedication to serve the community and all we meet In God's name.

PM Korean Faith Community

- We pray for the Korean community in Western Sydney and for the revival of the church.
- We pray especially for Nak Su Baik, Kyeong Ok Hyeon (Those who are not in good health).

PM Leigh Memorial

- We pray for all PM congregation members, leaders and staff who are unwell, or having tests or procedures - and/or suffering from anxieties surrounding work, study, family life or health.
- We particularly remember Betty, Bruce, Himmi, Liz, Jolame and others in need of additional support at this time, including those who are separated from their families or grieving. We also remember those within our congregation who are devoted carers.
- We pray for those within our neighbourhoods and communities who are in need of support, friendship and inclusion in the face of marginalisation and loneliness.
- We pray for our PM ministers, leaders, managers and staff during this period of transition and new beginnings - and offer our hopes for strength, wisdom, guidance and inspiration to infuse participation and decision-making at this crucial juncture.

Prayer Points

PM Fijian

- We pray for those who are going through transitions from school to beyond.
- We pray for the Synod Pulse Team and Ofa's role as a newly commissioned Pastor in the Team, resourcing youth ministry across NSW/ACT.
- We pray for the guests at the Bula Feeding Ministry and Meals Plus and our wonderful volunteers. We pray for those who are unable to meet because of rain or storms and for those who have been sleeping rough.

Wider Work

We pray for Glenbrook Uniting Church

For Our Combined Parramatta Mission Team

May God guide all our workers and volunteers to live out our values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope.

Rev Vladimir, Rev Mary, Rev Clive, Chaplain Sarah, Robert, Coral, Rev Hyun Goo - and their families, as they support us to serve in mission.

We ask for God's help to bless the world. AMEN

Service & Zoom Information

Parramatta Mission Leigh Worship

Time: Sundays 9.30am

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/5199089657>

Meeting ID: 519 908 9657

Or Dial by your location +61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Westmead Uniting Church Worship

Time: Sundays, service starts at 9.45am...

ZOOM: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/3958336709>

Westmead UC Bible Study

Time: Mondays 2pm

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/95043695512>

Meeting ID: 950 4369 5512

Or phone in +61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Parramatta Mission Leigh Fijian Worship

Time: Sundays 11.15am

Join Zoom Meeting <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/9134913679>

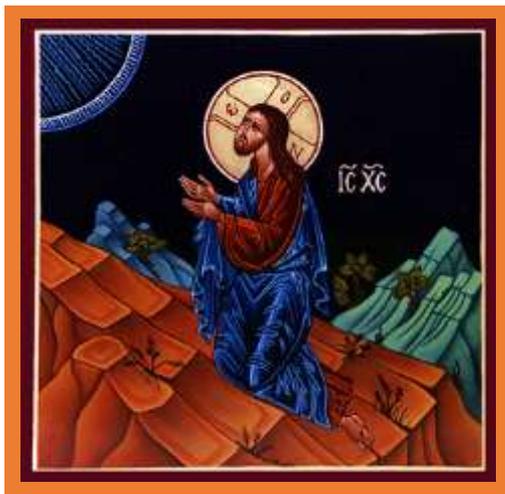
Meeting ID: 913 491 3679

Reflection of the Week
Easter 7B, 2021 • 16 May 2021
John 17:6-19

A Lover's Prayer

Debie Thomas
Journey with Jesus

For the seventh Sunday after Easter, the Revised Common Lectionary always gives us a portion of Jesus's "High Priestly Prayer," the culmination of his farewell discourse to his disciples. The setting is the Upper Room on Maundy Thursday. Jesus has just washed his disciples' feet, foreseen Judas's betrayal, predicted Peter's denial, promised his disciples the Holy Spirit, and offered them



urgent words of instruction. Time is running out, and Jesus knows it. The atmosphere in the room, if we take the liberty of imagining it, is quiet, tender, anxious, pensive. Jesus is troubled, full of pain at the prospect of saying goodbye to his friends, and the ardor of his words and gestures is the ardor of a lover. Even as he knows that his life on earth is drawing to a close, he yearns to remain in communion with his beloved. What would you do in such a moment, if you were Jesus? If separation loomed, if there was so much more you wanted to say and do, if the letting go felt like it would split your heart in two — what would you do?

Jesus prays. In the final moments before his goodbye, he "looks toward heaven and prays." Can we pause for a moment, and consider how remarkable that is? That God prays? I've heard some people call the high priestly prayer the "other" Lord's Prayer — the one we don't memorize and recite on Sunday mornings. It's certainly not polished and poetic like the "Our Father." It doesn't flow, or cover its bases with anything like efficiency — it's long, rambling, and rather hard to follow. And though the disciples are meant to overhear the words, Jesus's tone has an urgency and passion to it that is achingly private. Jesus isn't engaging in a teaching moment with this Lord's Prayer; he's rending his heart.

"I am asking," Jesus says. How surprising is it that God incarnate spends his final moments with his friends in humble supplication on their behalf? Knowing full well the trials and terrors that lie ahead, he prays into uncertainty. He hopes into doubt. He trusts into danger.

In an outpouring of words and emotions, Jesus asks God to do for his friends what he himself can no longer do. To be for them in spirit what he can no longer be for them in body. "Protect them," Jesus prays. "Protect them by your name." "Protect them from the evil one." Protect them so that they can know unity, joy, and truth. Protect them.

Do you know this Jesus, the one who pleads so earnestly? Most of us know the Jesus who teaches, heals, resurrects, and feeds. But do we know this one?

This vulnerable, tenderhearted lover who in this scripture passage does the single hardest thing a human being can do? He sends his cherished ones into a treacherous world on nothing but a hope and a prayer. He entrusts the treasures of his heart to the vast mystery that is intercession.

I am asking. As if to say: I don't know what you will do with my asking. I don't know how or when or if you will answer this prayer. I can't force your hand. But I am staking my life and the lives of my loved ones on your goodness, because there's literally nothing more I can do on my own. I have come to the end of what this love of mine can hold and guard and save. I am asking.

To wonder what role prayer plays in our world, a world rife with tragedy, illness, injustice, and oppression, is to raise the hardest questions I can think of about God — questions I don't know how to answer. Does God intervene directly in human affairs? Does God's intervention — or lack of it — depend in any way on our asking? Can prayer "change" God? As has been the case in many areas of my faith life, my beliefs about prayer have changed a lot over the years. I was raised to believe that God intervenes very directly in human affairs, and that intercessory prayer has powerful and undeniable "real world" effects. As a child, I believed with all my heart that prayer heals diseases, prevents car accidents, feeds hungry children in far away countries, fends off nightmares, prevents premature death, and "stops the bad guys." As a teen and young adult, much of that certainty collapsed under the weight of life experience — some diseases didn't get better, car accidents happened, I had nightmares, babies starved, young people died, and "bad guys" won the day. When I asked my elders to explain these discrepancies, they gave me two answers: 1) You need to pray with more faith, and 2) Sometimes God's answer is no. Both answers struck me then — and strike me now — as painfully inadequate.

Today, I live along the borders of a more complicated world. I have friends and family members who pray for parking spots, lost house keys, Little League victories, and Ivy League admissions for their children. But I also have friends who avoid intercessory prayer on principle, convinced that the true purpose of prayer has nothing to do with asking God "for stuff." In their words: "He's God. Not Santa Claus."

The challenge of intercessory prayer is that it's subjective. What looks like God's "yes" in my eyes might easily look like God's "no," God's silence, or even God's non-existence in yours. When is an "answer to prayer" really an answer? When is it coincidence? Randomness? A trick of the light? The cost of our liberty — a cost God daily chooses to endure — is that we can't say for sure. Not in this lifetime.

So why do we pray? For me, one answer is that I pray because I am compelled to do so. Something in me cries out for engagement, relationship, attentiveness, and worship. I pray because my soul yearns for connection with an Other who is God, and that connection is best forged in prayer. With words, without words, through laughter, through tears, in hope, and in despair, prayer holds open the possibility that I am not alone, and that this broken world isn't alone, either. I pray, as C.S Lewis writes, "because I can't help myself." Because "the need flows out of me all the time — waking and sleeping."

That's one answer. But maybe this week's Gospel reading offers me another one: I pray because Jesus did. I pray because I love, and prayer is what lovers do. We ask. We stretch out with our requests and intercessions. We yearn with our prayers towards communion with the Source of all love, so that our human loves might be secured, strengthened, sustained, and sanctified.

I ask because Jesus asked. Asking is the last thing he did before his arrest. The last tender memory he gave his friends. He didn't awe them with a grand finale of miracles. Neither did he contemplate their futures and despair. He looked up to heaven with a trembling heart, and surrendered his cherished ones to God.

Jesus asked because he loved. May we do likewise.

Debie Thomas: debie.thomas1@gmail.com

Leigh Congregation

COVID-SAFE GUIDELINES

Please note that mandatory contact tracing sign-ins, social distancing, mask-wearing, sanitiser wipe-downs, no singing and some other covid-related restrictions currently apply for all our worship services and group gatherings. Members who are unwell are asked to remain at home and participate via zoom. Please direct enquiries to the congregation leaders/pastoral team. Thank you for everyone's assistance and support with compliance in this challenging period of time.

PASTORAL MESSAGE



We continue to hold PM staff and Mission/congregation leaders in our prayers, and send our thoughts to everyone in our congregations who is in need of extra care and support at this time. Please contact Revs. Clive & Vladimir, or the congregation leaders, as needed and let us know if you need a pastoral visit, practical assistance, or wish to be added to the prayer list. Prayers also for all those impacted by COVID-19, both in Australia and around the world – including the many in our community dealing with serious and ongoing mental health impacts – including those being attended to by hard-working, frontline mental health support workers at PM, Uniting, Lifeline, Beyond Blue, and within our hospital system.

LEIGH MEMORIAL – SECURITY REMINDER

Everyone using our church and adjacent premises is requested to lock-up, turn off lights and appliances and remove rubbish when they leave. Please report any issues to Reception, 9891-2277.

REMINDER: “GROWING UP UNITING” – Uniting Church National History Society Conference: 11 – 13 June, 2021 @ the Centre for Ministry, North Parramatta. In-person & zoom and full or part-time attendance options are available. Tickets from eventbrite.

NEXT MONTH: MINI WORKING BEE



On Saturday 5 June between approx. 10.00am and 1.00pm – current covid-guidelines permitting – there will be a “mini working bee” at Leigh Memorial. This is being organised by the Heritage Committee ahead of heritage events at the church in June. It will involve simple cleaning, repair and tidying tasks in the church. Please give your name to Liz or Mario if you plan to attend. Helpers are welcome to come and go as they please and even half an hour of assistance will make a difference.

SAVE THE DATE: HERITAGE SUNDAY 2021

Members are asked to 'save the date' of Sunday 20 June this year for a Combined Parramatta Mission congregations celebration of our 200th anniversary (1821 – 2021) at Leigh Memorial & on zoom. Further details of the anniversary service and luncheon will be available soon. Guest preacher will be UCA Moderator, NSW/ACT, Rev. Simon Hansford. Enquiries: Robert/ Combined congregations' anniversary task group, via 9891-2277.



Foster your faith this week

Act 1:15-17, 21-26

Ps1

1 Jn 5:9-13

Jn 17:6-19

Sunday 16th May, 2021

Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

Welcome to worship at Westmead - 9.45am

ZOOM: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/3958336709>

Thank you to Rev. Vladimir Korotkov and Pastor Sarah Bishop for leading the worship service at Westmead today.

COVID Safety:

1. Wear a mask
2. Sanitise as you enter the building
3. Register using QR code, or ask Lorna to help
4. Remember social distancing. Leave 1 empty chair between others in the chapel space, except families.
5. NO singing allowed.

Thank you for helping to keep us all safe.

Greeting Cards:

Westmead has a number of greeting cards with a Christian message available. If you are interested in purchasing a selection of cards, please call Lorna for more Information. Lorna 0408 365 478

GREETINGS FROM DANIEL.

Karen enjoyed catching up with Daniel Nam at Centre of Ministry last week. Daniel was with Westmead congregation for a year or so while studying for the ministry, during the time when Rev. Christine Bayliss Kelly was minister at Westmead. Daniel and wife Sophie, and daughters, Sarang and Sharon, brought such happiness to our congregation. It is wonderful to know that Daniel was ordained on 2nd May, 2021 and is about to move to ministry at Forestville. Daniel sends a message to Westmead congregation, to say how much he and Sophie appreciated the generosity and hospitality shown to them whilst they were here, and says "Hello" to all. CONGRATULATIONS and GOD'S BLESSINGS to Rev. Daniel and Sophie and Family



OPEN DOOR will gather again on Wednesday 19th May, 2021, at 1-3pm
Come along and enjoy some company, relaxing music, board games if you wish,
or just a chat, and a cuppa. ALL WELCOME.

Tai Chi will be at Uniting on Friday.
Just for this week it will be in the afternoon, 2 - 3pm

BIBLE STUDY on zoom each Monday afternoon, 2pm. All Welcome.
<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/95043695512>

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION ON ZOOM. Led by Pastor Sarah Bishop
Tuesdays and Thursdays. Time - 6.25am
Contact Sarah for the zoom link.
Email: sarah@bluetardis.com.au
Phone: 0412 606 049

ALL WELCOME.

WESTMEAD LEADERS:

Karen Banfield - Worship and Bible Study 0488 101 469
Lorna Porter - Finance and Administration 0408 365 478
Jan Robson - Pastoral Matters & Prayer Chain. 0418 438 901
Biju Chako - 0420 275 396
Mere Vulaono - No. 28 - 0488 137 067
Alysa Biju - Technology Support 0467 674 251
Your weekly offering can be made electronically:
Account Name: PM DIRECT WESTMEAD BSB634634
Account Number: 100046885





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**YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME
IN THE HEART OF
WESTMEAD'S HEALTH PRECINCT**

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Phone: 02 9685 1233

시드니 조은 교회 Sydney Jo-Eun Church

20-21

부활후 일곱 번째 주일 (7th Easter of Sunday) 2021년 05월 16일 오후 1시 30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

송영 (Gloria) **새 1 장** **통 1 장** 만복의 근원 하나님 다함께

사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) 다함께

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

새 35 장 **통 50 장** 큰 영화로신 주

새 415 장 **통 471 장** 십자가 그늘 아래

기도 (Prayer) 주기도문송 **새 635 장** 하늘에 계신 우리 아버지 다함께

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) 창세기 2:4b-9

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 거룩한 삶의 기준

봉헌 송(Offeratory Hymn)
새 559 장 **통 305 장** 사철에 불바람 불어 있고

나눔과 알림 (Announcement & Notices)

1. 전 세계가 전염병으로 힘들 때 주님과 동행하시는 성도가 됩시다.
2. '매일 성경' 말씀으로 주님과 교제의 시간(QT)을 갖고 적용하는 훈련을 합니다.
3. 말씀, 기도, 전도 생활로 하나님이 기뻐하시는 삶을 사는 성도님들이 되시기 바랍니다.

폐회찬송(Final Hymn) **새 502 장** **통 259 장** 너 시은아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
잠언 10:18-32

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
잠언 9:1-12:14

Fijian Congregation

1. **Lotu ena sigatabu oqo 16/05** : Na lotu ena macawa oqo na veili utaki tiko kina na matamasumasu naba tolu. Ka na qaravi talega na papitaiso nei makubui tuirara. E da na vakasigalevu vata ena hall ni suka na lotu.
2. **Lotu ena sigatabu mai oqo 23/05** : Na lotu ena sigatabu mai oqo sa ratou na qai veiliutaki kina na tinada. Eda na vakasigalevu vata tiko ena hall ni suka na lotu.
3. **Lesoni ena macawa mai oqo** : Cakacaka 1:15-17, 21-26; Same. 1; 1 Joni. 5:9-15; Joni. 17:6-19

Lolo kei Na masumasu - Veinanumi ena lolo kei na masumasu ena vei Vukelulu mai na 6am – 12pm se 6am – 6pm. Soli tu na galala ke o rawa ni qarava.

Masumasu Sema - Na noda masumasu sema vakai vavakoso ena matai ni veivakarauwai ni veivula mai na 7pm – 7am

Veinanumi ena Masu : Kerei meda veinanumi tikoga ena veimasulaki vei ira na nodatou qase Aqriu Rogoimuri, Vilikesa kei Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata, Violet Cama. Ko iratou na veiliutaki tiko ena nodatou vavakoso vaka viti kei na veivuvale kece sara ena loma ni nodatou vavakoso. Na nodrau vuli talatala ko Filikesa Kamotu kei Samu Sadrata. Na nodratou vei qaravi na Bula Feeding.

Wiliwili ni lotu: 18/04 – 48, 25/04 – 43, 02/05 – 50, 09/05 - 31

4. Bula Feeding – So nai taba ena nodratou vei qaravi ena bogi ni





THE CASE FOR A PASIFIKA THEOLOGY

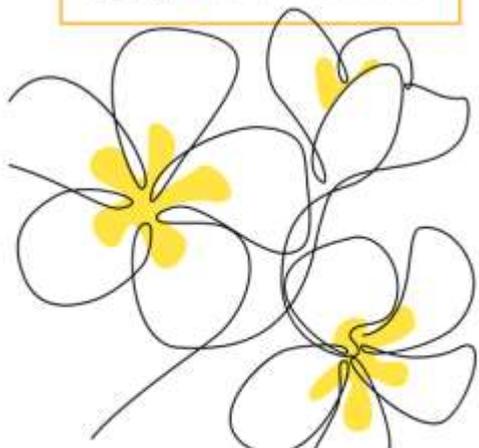
21
MAY
2021

**4PM FOR A
4:30PM LAUNCH**
UNITED THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE
16 MASONS DRIVE
NORTH PARRAMATTA

You are warmly invited to celebrate the publication of this special issue of *Uniting Church Studies Journal*, and discuss the immensely important place of Pasifika communities and theologies in the UCA – past, present and future.

Register by **May 17 2021** at:

tinyurl.com/pasifikatheology



Our surroundings may look like a
construction zone right now...
but Meals Plus is still open -
providing meals and assistance to those in need



Parramatta
Mission

Meals Plus





Pastoral Contacts

Prayer Points may be sent to
wecare@parramattamission.org.au

For a conversation or to contact a Minister, please call
Parramatta Mission Reception (9am-3pm)

119 Macquarie Street Parramatta NSW 2150
9891 2277

Leigh Memorial Church

119 Macquarie Street Parramatta NSW 2150
9891 2277

Westmead Church

175 Hawkesbury Road Westmead NSW 2145
9891 9354

IN TIME OF PASTORAL NEED

Our two ministers, Clive Pearson and Vladimir Korotkov are available to each congregation and members and your friends; their contact details are listed below.

Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Interim Lead Minister) 0431 759 573
Rev Dr Clive Pearson (Supply) 0409 523 024

YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT THESE PEOPLE FOR PASTORAL ISSUES

Rev Hyun Goo Jun (Korean Faith Community) 0433 320 588

Pr Sarah Bishop (Children's Hospital) 0429 912 943

Anare Vocea (Fijian Vakatawa) 0432 772 852