



Easter Services

**April 9 Maunday Thursday, 6.30pm.
Passover meal**

Please RSVP for catering purposes
to Rev David ministerwalkervilleuca@outlook.com

**April 10 Good Friday, 9.30am.
April 12 Easter Sunday, 9.30am.**

There are invitation cards available
for you to share with friends and
family in the foyer.

WALKERVILLE UNITING CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Phone: (08) 8342 5875

Email: admin@walkerville.unitingchurch.org.au

Website: www.walkerville.unitingchurch.org.au

Office hours: Tuesday and Thursday - 9am to 12 Noon

Minister: Rev. David Kowalick

M: 0413 098 965

E: ministerwalkervilleuca@outlook.com

Family Ministries Worker:

Kylie Brice

E: kyliebricemusic@gmail.com



Walkerville Uniting Church

THE GRAPEVINE MARCH 22ND, 2020



Government advice for public gatherings includes
'social distancing' - the more space between you and
others, the harder it is for the virus to spread. Take
advantage of the empty seats today please.

Today's Message: This is the Good News

SCRIPTURE READINGS : Old Testament: Psalm 22: 1-5 (p 376)

New Testament: Mark 15: 33-38 (p 698)

"My God , My God, why have you forsaken me?"

Mark's gospel was the first of the gospels and was written for Roman Christians and other Gentiles. Mark tells the events of Jesus' ministry and begins his account with the words "The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet"...Mark 1:1 The Mark 15 reading on first view is one of apparent hopelessness and abandonment as we see Jesus suffering on the Cross surrounded by a crowd abusing him and the soldiers mocking. These verses also reflect the scene of darkness and in this, the cry of Jesus.

The words that Jesus spoke on the Cross from Psalm 22 were well-known to him and, like the psalmist, Jesus knew that he was safe in God's hands and was never abandoned.

In the verses that follow we see the response of those near. They offered him a drink and in Mark 15 verse 36 say "Now leave him alone", which shows that those standing around, who up to that point had been abusive, recognised that something special was to happen, and ceased their noise and abuse. Imagine the silence as Jesus moved to fulfil his mission of dying for the sin of the world and each person.

Two other significant events are recorded in these verses which changed our understanding of God and his place in the lives of all peoples/nations, not just Jews.

Firstly, the curtain in the temple in Jerusalem was split from top to bottom.

A community in Christ for all generations

This opened the holy place to all. It was no longer only the High Priest who had access to God. Now God no longer dwelt only in the Temple, but in the hearts and minds of all people who received his forgiveness and grace as a gift. Secondly, the Roman centurion who witnessed the crucifixion accepted Jesus, as indicated by his statement "Surely he was the Son of God" - He wasn't a priest or a rabbi, but a tough battle-hardened warrior and a Gentile.

Let's consider the words which Jesus spoke on the Cross from Psalm 22, in which the writer asked the question as to why he had been forsaken by God. In the latter verses of the Psalm, the writer recognises that God is with him at all times. We as individuals, as nations, and as the Church can identify with this on our life journey. The readings today speak to us in the strongest terms and affirm that, no matter what happens, God does not forget or forsake us, and that whatever the world does, Jesus is alive and available to each person if they come to Him and accept his free gift of forgiveness and grace.

In John Masefield's drama "The Trial of Jesus", there is a striking message in which Longinus, the Roman centurion in command of the soldiers of the cross, comes back to Pilate to hand in his report on the day's work. The report was delivered, and Procula, Pilate's wife, asks the centurion to tell her how the prisoner died.

She asks, "Do you think he is dead?"

"No lady", answers Longinus, "I don't."

"Then where is he?"

"Let loose in the world, lady, where neither Roman nor Jew can stop his truth".

THIS IS THE GOOD NEWS.

Jim Everett



It is with much regret that KCO Victor Harbor and UnitingWomen 2020 have been cancelled—email Kylie for more info



Assistants for Sunday 22nd March

Welcomer: S Aitchison **Morning Tea:** Cancelled until further notice

Prayer: G Slater **Bible Reader:** TBA **Flowers:** P Morrison

Children's Chat: K Brice **Godly Play:** -

Stewards & Counters: J Everett & J Barnet **Sound Desk:** Prestons

Assistants for Sunday 29th March

Welcomer: S Aitchison **Morning Tea:** Cancelled until further notice

Prayer: J Iles **Bible Reader:** B Colwell **Flowers:** R Sellars

Children's Chat: K Brice **Godly Play:** R Sellars & F Slater

Stewards & Counters: J Everett & J Barnet **Sound Desk:** C Brice

What's happening at Walkerville this week?

Until Government advice changes, all Walkerville groups will continue on a discretionary basis and we will leave the final decision to each individual. We are aware that there are people with various pre-existing health challenges, people whose age makes them more vulnerable to infection as well as those caring for young children with under-developed immune systems who choose to self-isolate. Our approach is to urge more caution than less and to ensure if you are meeting, that it happens in a place with a well-ventilated space and that **hand hygiene is paramount**.

CANCELLED

POT LUCK LUNCH CANCELLED



HIKE GROUP

Take a hike to Largs Bay Beach. Meet in the Sailmakers Tavern car-park **Sunday 22nd at 2pm** Easy hike with coffee to follow. Suits all abilities—join us!

Contact Lisa 0417 282 527 or John 0400 445 714 for more information



GRAVITY FIGHTERS

Gravity Fighters will meet on **Tuesday 24th March** at 10:30am

Contact Mia on 0404 368 318 for more information



BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study led by David Kowalick will meet on **Wednesday 25th March at 9.45am**. Followed by...



PRAYER GROUP at 11.15am in the vestry. You are welcome to come to either (or both) of these activities.

Contact David Kowalick for more information



Playgroup continues **Thursday 26th from 9.30am**

Contact Sue Clark for more information



CHAT GROUP

Next meeting is on **Thursday 26th at 1pm**.

Contact Kay Graham on 8269 5538 for more information

Please note: **Spicer Uniting Church Easter Sights and Sounds 2020**—CANCELLED.

Anita has asked if anyone has available for sale a wall clock that ticks! It has been recommended to Anita that she install one to assist her son who has very low vision. If you think you may be able to help, speak to Anita or Sue F.

