

Theme: Fit For A King

Scripture....

John 13. 1-17.

- Jesus Washing His Disciples Feet. MSG

Mark 10. 35-45.

- The Highest Places Of Honour. MSG

Message ...

'The Signature Dish - A Second Helping'

"He came to serve, not to be served - and then to give away His life in exchange for many who are held hostage." Mark 10. 45. MSG

When you become a Christian

- a disciple of Jesus - you do not become His helper.

He becomes your helper.

Jesus does not need your help.

You desperately need His help.

You don't offer your life as a payment (ransom).

You accept His life as a payment.

You do not become His sponsor (supporter).

He becomes your sponsor.



JOY Circle - Thursday, 25th May, 9am, CE Room

Joy Circle, this month, will be catching up on the latest update regarding our contributions that will be going towards hurting families in our Gympie community.

We will also be hearing about the up-to-date news and suggestions to come out of the Uniting Church Synod and Assembly.

And, as always, our morning tea will be yummy!

We will be tasting Orrell's 'Signature Dish'!

Hopefully you can join us for a morning of sharing some good food and fellowship.



BBQ and Games → Next Sunday



After Gympie Worship next Sunday - **28th May** - we're having another of our BBQ & Games events with delicious food and indoor / outdoor games. We've had loads of fun on these mornings in the past - hope you can join us.

Napoleon Bonaparte captured an important truth when he declared,
“Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I myself have founded empires; but upon what do these creations of our genius depend? Upon force. Jesus alone founded His empire upon love; and to this very day millions would die for Him.”

It is entirely true.

Out of love He (Jesus) came to serve others,
and after 2000 years millions would gladly die for Him.

Christianity In One Verse

Mark 10, v45 summarizes the whole Christian message.

Here we are told two powerful truths:

1. Jesus came to serve us so we can serve others.
Jesus came to serve us whilst we serve others.
He is the ultimate servant, and He is not only our example, but also our servant.
It is not only the disciples’ feet Jesus washed.
Our feet are also washed by the Son of God every time we come to Him for cleansing from our sin:
“Jesus said, If I don’t wash you, you can’t be part of what I’m doing.” (Jn.13. 8)
It is a thrilling and stunning truth that Jesus is our servant.
2. He is also our ransom:
*“He came to serve, not to be served,
– and then to give away His life in exchange for many who are held hostage.”*
(Mark 10. 45)

The Lord of glory came to serve and to save you.

So, you are now enabled to serve others in His power.

He is not only the example of servanthood,

but also the servant who empowers you to serve in His name.

This is the wonderful truth of discipleship.

What God demands; He supplies.

Christmas Shoeboxes ~ May collections

We’re collecting **Something to Love** - dolls, soft toys (home-made or bought), action figures (e.g. transformers), plastic animals (like dinosaurs) ... size to fit into the shoeboxes with all the other exciting gifts you’ve given. **Please do not include** any war or violence related figures. You’ll find Collection boxes in our church foyers.

Containers for Change

We’re collecting empty bottles, cans etc. which attract a 10¢ refund. A pink wheelie bin is located outside the coffee hut for your donations of acceptable containers. Thank you.





Genesis 17:15-22

Andrew Johnson

On 22nd June 1977 a new movement within the church was born. With great promise, hope and optimism this movement bore witness to a God's promises to it. It would find a way to transcend differences in belief and practice to be a visible expression of a fellowship of reconciliation.

Forty-six years on, how do we feel? A lot like Abraham and Sarah? Advanced in years, worn out, unable to imagine again the joy of youth?

If God turned up in your community tomorrow and renewed the promise of the Uniting Church we declared at the time of our union, how would you respond? Would you laugh like Sarah (and then denied you'd laughed because you were afraid)? Or would you lapse into nostalgia, grief, anger, frustration?

In the story of Abraham and Sarah we hear that the promise of God can take far longer to fulfil than we imagine and can transcend the human barriers we imagine are in our way. As we take part in 26 days of prayer for our life together as this movement called the Uniting Church, we are called to stand in the steps of Abraham and Sarah. To continue to live out of the promises God has made to us.

And what is that promise that God has made to our Church? It is there for us in our Basis of Union: not that we would have a 'continuing city' but rather that we'd 'seek one to come'. Our life together is inherently fragile, contingent, temporary and incomplete. That is God's promise to us.

We may laugh out of fear at that promise, but God is faithful, even when we cannot even imagine it. In this season of prayer where we remember the promise of the Holy Spirit and the promise of the Uniting Church may we continue in hope and expectation for the new thing God is doing in our life right now.

Prayer

God of our future,
we give thanks for your covenant promise to us.
As we grow weary on our journey of faith,
we know your promise is sure.
Your love will sustain us
throughout all our days.
Amen.

Andrew Johnson is the Act2 Project Lead

Our Vision is the 'Kingdom of God'

In His first sermon, recorded in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus challenges His disciples to 'seek first the Kingdom of God' (Matthew 6:33), and in His parables Jesus described what this Kingdom looks like in the heavenly realm and here on earth.



UNITING 4570
So we can be one

Our Mission is to Pave The Way For 'The Kingdom'

Jesus laid out the mission very clearly when He invited His disciples to 'make disciples of all people' (Matthew 28). Disciples, as Jesus defines them, are those who *follow* Jesus, *reflect* His character, and *seek* His Kingdom.

As a Christian community, therefore, we embrace the mission Jesus has already laid out before us, while recognizing that our context invites us to live into this vision in a very specific way. It involves a specific *time*, *place* and *purpose*. *God's call is never ambiguous.*

What's on?

- * **Corporate Prayer & Communion** - Tuesdays, 8am, Gympie
- * **JOY Circle** - Thursday, 25th May, 9am, CE Room
- * **BBQ & Games** - 28th May, after worship, Gympie
- * **SHINE Women's Conference** - Saturday, 5th August, 9am-3pm, CCC Hall.
Theme: 'She's a Warrior' - Register at <http://shinewomen.com.au/>

About Gympie Regional Uniting Church ~ UNITING 4570

Worship

Worship Services... **Gympie:** 15 Red Hill Road - 9am + Kidz Church (school term)
Imbil: 3 Elizabeth Street - 9am

Live-streaming... Sunday messages are usually livestreamed to facebook & YouTube; look up 'Gympie Regional Uniting Church'

Contact Details

Church Office... P: (07) 5482 2985 M: 0493 442 250 E: cherylie@gruc.org
www.gruc.org.au F: www.facebook.com/guchurch

Office Hours... Mon & Fri 8.30am-12pm; Tue 9.30am-3pm; Thu 8.30am-3pm

Rev Orrell Battersby.. 0423 985 200 orrell@gruc.org

Pastoral Care... Please contact the office by phone or email

Offering & Attendance Last Sunday

Attendance: Adults 93 • Children 11 • Facebook 80 • YouTube 10

Total Week's Offering: \$3,297.75 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,792.00.

Tithe & Offerings by Bank Transfer: Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101

(Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', Thank you)