

### **Good Friday - 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

Scripture: Matthew 26: 36 - 46 MSG

Message: Your Safe Place

Part One - The Garden

Say this: "God, you're my refuge.

*I trust in you and I'm safe!"*

Psalm 91.1 MSG

### **Resurrection Sunday - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Scripture: Matthew 27: 57 - 66 MSG

Matthew 28. 1 - 20 MSG

Message: Your Safe Place

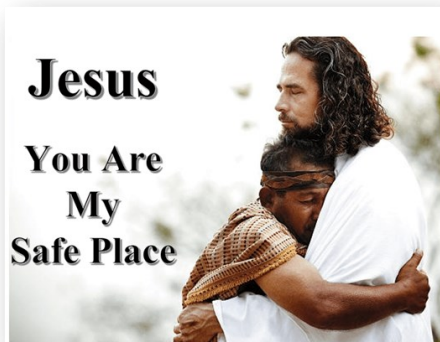
Part Two - The Grave

*"There is nothing to fear here. I know you're looking for Jesus, the One they nailed to the cross. He is not here. He was raised, just as he said."* Matthew 28.5-6. MSG

*"The greatest issue facing the world today, with all its heartbreaking needs, is whether those who, by profession or culture, are identified as 'Christians' will become disciples - students, apprentices, practitioners - of Jesus Christ, steadily learning from Him how to live the life of the Kingdom of the Heavens into every corner of human existence."*

Dallas Willard, The Great Omission:

Reclaiming Jesus's Essential Teaching on Discipleship



### **At our Gympie Easter Services:**

**Good Friday** Remember and affirm your baptism by coming forward to be anointed with oil, on your forehead, in the shape of the cross.

**Resurrection Sunday** A number of our church family will be either reaffirming their baptisms or being baptised for the first time by full emersion in water.

## Why on earth do we call it 'Good Friday?'



### Here's 26 reasons to get you started:

1. Good Friday is good because what men meant for evil, God meant for good (Gen. 50:20).
2. Good Friday is good because at the Cross of Christ justice and mercy kiss.
3. Good Friday is good because God is good, and I am not.
4. Good Friday is good because God's Son became me, and I became His son.
5. Good Friday is good because it gives us a hope deeper than our fears.
6. Good Friday is good because our greatest need was met at the Cross.
7. Good Friday is good because "It is finished" is not a cry of defeat but of victory.
8. Good Friday is good because the 2nd Adam succeeded where the 1st failed.
9. Good Friday is good because 'without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.' (Heb. 9:22)

10. Good Friday is good because we get all of the reward that we don't deserve and none of the punishment that we do.
11. Good Friday is good because the Peacemaker became the peace-offering.
12. Good Friday is good because it reminds us to imitate Christ's example of selflessness.
13. Good Friday is good because we cannot work for/earn/merit the rewards of the Cross.
14. Good Friday is good because the Kingdom of God is at hand.
15. Good Friday is good because we are reconciled to God.
16. Good Friday is good because we are reconciled to one another in Christ.
17. Good Friday is good because it shows the love of a Husband for His Bride.
18. Good Friday is good because His death gives us life.
19. Good Friday is good because the greatest pain has brought us comfort.
20. Good Friday is good because the spiritually blind can now see.
21. Good Friday is good because we are made clean by His blood.
22. Good Friday is good because we are free from having to prove ourselves to God, or to anyone else for that matter.
23. Good Friday is good because the alternative is not.
24. Good Friday is good because the worst event in history is also the best.
25. Good Friday is good because it is the climax of the story,  
....but it is not the end of it.
26. Good Friday is only good because of Sunday.





*Joyce Irvine went home to Jesus on Sunday, 24th March, 2024.  
You are invited to celebrate Joyce's life on Monday 8th April, 1pm,  
at our Gympie Church. Please keep her family in your prayers.*

## In the Few Days Before the Resurrection:



Jesus washed the disciples' feet (John 13; Matthew 26).

Jesus broke bread (John 13; Matthew 26).

Jesus prayed and sweat blood in the Garden (John 18; Matthew 26).

Jesus was betrayed (John 18; Matthew 26).

Jesus was tried and beaten (John 18; Matthew 26).

Jesus was denied by Peter (John 18; Matthew 26).

Jesus was questioned by Pilate (John 18; Matthew 27).

Jesus was flogged (John 18).

Jesus was made a fool of, humiliated in awful ways (John 18; Matthew 27).

Jesus was sentenced to death (John 19; Matthew 27).

Jesus was forced to carry the Cross (John 19; Matthew 27).

Jesus was nailed to the Cross (John 19; Matthew 27).

Jesus said goodbye to His mother (John 19).

Jesus forgave His murderers (Luke 23).

Jesus died (John 19; Matthew 27).

The day before the resurrection was the Sabbath.

They rested (Luke 23:56).

Then the third day, Jesus rose from the dead (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15).

As you can see, a lot happens in just a couple of days before Christ's resurrection.

*Betty Wagenknecht went home to Jesus on Monday, 25th March, 2024.*

*We don't know Betty's funeral arrangements, they may be private,  
but we ask that you pray for her family.*



### **Operation Christmas Child April**

During April we're collecting '**Something to Wear**' - Boys and Girls clothing for ages 2 to 14. Only new clothing such as t-shirts, shorts, skirts, socks, underwear, caps, beanies, thongs, etc. to fit in a shoebox-size gift pack with lots of other items. Clothing is required to have sleeves or come with a t-shirt to wear underneath. Thank you for your wonderful support.

### **HymnFest**

This is a great opportunity to come together to sing more of your favourite hymns. An invitation is extended to you all, to your friends and family and to the other local churches. **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2.30pm**, in our Gympie Church. Please bring some afternoon tea to share.

### **Gympie Sound System, Livestreaming & Data (Screen Display) Training**

Here's an exciting opportunity ... we're offering training on our worship technology systems. As with other facets of our church life, we're looking to build a team of proficient operators. If you're interested, please let Joan or Cherylie know and a training date will be arranged in due course.

### **Combined Churches Prayer Meeting**

The Zion Lutheran Church (9 Nash Street, Gympie) is hosting the next local Combined Churches Prayer Meeting on **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 6pm to 6.30pm**. Everyone is welcome and to stay for fellowship afterwards. Prayer topics will be:

- Praise and thankfulness to God for recent blessings
- Salvation in Gympie and the surrounding areas
- Middle East Peace.



### **What's on?**

- \* **Good Friday Services** - 8am at both Gympie and Imbil
- \* **Resurrection Sunday Services** - 9am at both Gympie and Imbil
- \* **Easter Weekend issue of 'The Vibe'** - don't miss the insert
- \* **No Easter Livestreamed Messages** - due to the style of Gympie's services
- \* **Prayer & Communion** - Tuesdays, 8am, in our Gympie CE Room
- \* **HymnFest** - Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2.30pm, in our Gympie Church
- \* **Joy Circle** - Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 9.30am, CE Room
- \* **Local Churches Prayer Meeting** - Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 6pm, Lutheran Church



**UNITING 4570**  
**Better Together**

In this new year, as we look forward with faith for a new season, we remain energised by the possibilities of RENEWAL.

We seek a deep and powerful renewal that encompasses reflection, recognition, and restoration, one that challenges us to resurrection and re-affirmation, that may ask us to repent or to reconcile, and that calls us to realign, reimagine, and rejoice.

We need to look clearly at ourselves, and the path set before us.

The Uniting Church has a particular commitment to recognising our imperfections.

Let us also recognise the Spirit in all we do, the possibility of a miracle, and the hope of a new way. *(Old Synod)*



**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 Us**

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

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

**Rev Orrell Battersby..** 0423 985 200 [orrell@gruc.org](mailto:orrell@gruc.org)

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

- Need the services of a Justice of The Peace? ... Glenda 0418 187 698
- Need help with your computer? ... Mike 0403 271 413
- Need a lift to church? ... Jill 0421 333 538
- Need prayer? ... call the church office 0493 442 250

**Offering & Attendance Last Sunday**

Attendance: Adults 70 ♦ Children 5 ♦ Facebook 72 ♦ YouTube 12

Total Week's Offering: \$ 1,925.00 ... Budgeted Offerings per week is \$3,270.00.

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

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