



Theme: Palm / Passion / Politics

Bible Readings: Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 19:28-40

Today's gospel reading is Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. He had made advanced preparations for an unridden donkey colt to be made available. Jesus rode the colt into Jerusalem. Some people put their cloaks on the road. Others waved palm branches and said:

*Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven. (Lk 19:38)*



Theme

Palm Sunday is one of the most politically charged Sundays of the church year; that is, politics as defined by Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is Lord: other competing "lords" are not. Politics is about power, power to do good, power to change the world. Christians claim that in Jesus Christ, we have seen the peculiar power of God at work, the strange claim of God upon the world. Jesus Christ is God's definition of God, God's definition of reality, what is happening in the world, where we are all headed, who is in charge. The man who enters the city bouncing on the back of a donkey is king.

Prayer (by Rev William Willimon)

Lord Jesus, on this Sunday, you entered Jerusalem as the king we did not expect, ruler of a kingdom we found hard to understand.

Enter into our city, we pray. Come to us that your kingdom might break in upon us. Show us the way that we might follow you and walk with you down you narrow way of the cross so that in following you, in bending our lives to your crucified life, we might be citizens of your kingdom, recipients of your salvation and sharers in your glory. Amen.

EASTER

Worship Services Next Weekend

Maundy Thursday Meal

This Thursday, 17th April, you are welcome to share a meal at the long table as Peter Hall leads us through a Passover-style worship experience. Arrival from 5.30pm for a 6pm start at our Gympie church. For catering purposes, please let Joan Burke know if you plan to come ... **today is our RSVP deadline.**

Good Friday

18th April - 8am worship services at Gympie (with Peter Hall) and Imbil (with David Fanning).

Easter Sunday

20th April - 9am worship services at Gympie (with David Fanning) and Imbil (with Peter Hall).

Reverends David Fanning and Peter Hall

David's and Peter's time with us is coming to an end. We're forever grateful for their sharing of the ministerial role and for taking us through this interim period with such care, energy and enthusiasm.

David's last service with us will be in Gympie on Easter Sunday - soon after he'll be heading off to Norfolk Island for a 3-month placement.

Peter will be winding up shortly after David, hopefully to enjoy a well deserved rest. We welcome them back to visit us at any time.

Plans are underway for the next period of ministry relief. Church Council will let you know once arrangements are confirmed.

Christmas Shoebox Collections

During April we're collecting '**Something to Wear**' - Boys and Girls clothing for ages 2 to 14. **NEW** clothing only such as T-shirts, shorts, skirts, socks, dresses, thongs, underwear, caps, beanies - to fit in a shoebox-size gift pack with lots of other items. Upper body clothing is required to have sleeves or come with a t-shirt to wear underneath.



Mother's Day Remembrance Service

Gympie Cemetery Trust invites you to this special service on Friday, 9th May from 1pm to 2.30pm at the Cassia Gazebo (93 Cartwright Rd. Gympie). The service will be conducted by a representative of the local Minister's Network.

Bookings are essential. Please RSVP to supervisor@gympiecemeterytrust.com.au or phone 5482 2199.



Ronnie Timperon

Many of you will have known Ronnie from her days as a 'School Chappy' and from her many other connections within our community.

Very sadly, Ronnie passed away on 27th March 2025 after a brief illness. Her family invites you to join them in celebrating Ronnie's life on **Thursday, 17th April 2025, 10am** at the Rainbow Beach Community Complex (32 Rainbow Beach Road).

Please keep Ronnie's husband, Mike, and their family, in your prayers during this particularly difficult time and in the days ahead.



Uniting 4570 Name Badges

Last chance today to put your name down for a new-style badge before an order is lodged. If you would like to order a badge, please let Cherylie know by phone, email or in person (including what type of back attachment you prefer - either a PIN or MAGNET). We'll be lodging an order this coming week.

The cost is **\$14** and **PAYMENT** can be made either in cash (we keep very little cash on site, so it would be appreciated if you could bring the correct change) or by bank transfer to our church account with a reference of '**Badge**' and '**your name**'. (Bank account and church office contact details can be found on the back of this newsletter).

Gympie Strings Concert

Today, Sunday 13th April, 4pm at St. Peter's Anglican Church (cnr Amy St. and Lady Mary Tce, Gympie). Entry: gold coin donation. Refreshments afterward.

Friends of The Bible Society

Join the Friends of The Bible Society for morning tea at Central Coffee Club this **Wednesday 16th April, 9.30am**. If you have any questions, give Linda a call on 0403 830 679. All are welcome.

Combined Churches Prayer Meeting

This month our local churches are meeting at 6.30pm on Tuesday, 22nd April at the Gympie Church of Christ (57 Horseshoe Bend) ... praying for half an hour and then an opportunity to stay on for some fellowship together.

Joy Circle

Come along to Joy Circle this month - Thursday **24th April**, from 9.30am in the CE Room. Our focus will be on the Anzacs - do you have a family member's story to share?



Read (Luke 9:28-36) one last time slowly. Then come down the mountain with Jesus and proceed to the outskirts of Jerusalem.

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY – HOLY SATURDAY

Henri Nouwen gifted us this prayer in *Returning - God's love calls us Home*. You are invited to meditate on these words as you pray the prayer each day.

A Prayer for Holy Week

O Lord, make me generous. Mary, Lazarus' sister, anointed your feet with very costly ointment and wiped them with her hair. I am still so very much like Judas, who considered this a waste and felt that the money could have been better spent by giving it to the poor.

I am so stingy Lord - especially with my time. I always want to do useful things and am afraid to waste my very costly time. But you want me to sit at your feet like Mary and just sit there, resting with you, listening to your words.

O Lord, make me generous. How will I ever be able to serve the poor if I cannot be poor with you? How can I ever be close to the poor if I don't want you to be close to me? How will I ever be able to show your love to others if I am not free enough to let you show your love to me?

Make me generous with my time, Lord. During this Holy Week let me listen quietly to you as you tell me about your sorrow and fear. O Lord, let me console you with my love for you, and hold you in my arms as a friend who wipes away the tears of a friend. Let me be generous, Lord, and forget myself for once. Amen.

DAILY READINGS FOR HOLY WEEK

Any of the gospels could be chosen. Mark has been chosen because he names each of the days in the last week of Jesus' life.

Palm Sunday *When they were approaching Jerusalem (Mark 11:1)*
Read Mark 11:1-11

Monday *On the following day (Mk 11:12)*
Read Mark 11:12-19

Tuesday *In the morning (Mk 11:20)*
Read Mark 11:20-13:37

Wednesday *It was two days before Passover (Mk 14:1)*
Read Mark 14:1-11

Thursday *On the first day of Unleavened Bread (Mk 14:12)*
Read Mark 14:12-72

Friday *As soon as it was morning (Mk 15:1)*
Read Mark 15:1-47

Saturday *The Sabbath (Mk 15:42, 16:1)*
No Reading

BEYOND HOLY WEEK EASTER READINGS

Sunday *Very Early on the First Day of the week (Mk 16:2)*
Read Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-12,
John 20:1-18





UNITING 4570
Better Together

Worship

Worship Services... **Gympie Uniting Church:** 15 Red Hill Road - 9am + Kidz Church
Imbil Uniting Church: 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
www.gruc.org.au F: www.facebook.com/guchurch
Office Hours... Mon & Wed 8.30am-12pm; Tue 9.30am-3pm; Thu 8.30am-3pm
Pastoral Care... Please contact the office by phone or email.

- Need a lift to church? ... Jill 0421 333 538
- Need the services of a Justice of The Peace? ... Glenda 0418 187 698
- Need prayer? ... call the church office 0493 442 250 or join us at 8am of a Tuesday in the CE Room.

Offering and Attendance Last Week

Attendance: Adults 80 ♦ Children 7 ♦ Facebook 106

You can give your tithes & offerings by direct transfer into the church's bank account Westpac BSB 034 127 Acct: 29 4101 (Please identify your bank transaction as either 'Tithe' or 'Offering', 'Shoebboxes', etc. Thank you).

