



TOGETHER IN FAITH

We extend a warm welcome to everyone to worship today

'We are God's people: unconditionally loved by God. Following our calling, we seek to reflect God's love everywhere, in all that we are and in all that we do'

Lectionary Readings for Pentecost 15C, 2025 Sep 21

Theme: "in the sight of God."

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 "Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people from far and wide in the land."(v.19)

Psalms 79:1-9 "Help us, O God of our salvation,... for the glory of your name;"(v.9)

1 Timothy 2:1-7 "There is only one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus."(v.5)

Luke 16:1-13(14-15) "what is prized by humans is an abomination in the sight of God."(v.15)

Today is 21st Sep, the international day of peace and I would like to reflect on peace in the sight of God and in the sight of human. What would be differences of the peace in God's perspective and in our perspective?

Luke 16 starts with the story of a dishonest manager which includes a famous saying, "You cannot serve God and wealth" in verse 13. Following verses 14-15 explains the meaning of wealth introducing complaining Pharisees who were lover of money, saying "what is prized by humans is an abomination in the sight of God."(15)

I believe it is not judging all kind of wealth is abomination in the sight of God, but certainly those wealth that blocks us to see what is valuable in God's perspective. From this Gospel message, let us try to understand what would be valuable in the sight of God and what would be peace in God's perspective.

Jeremiah 8 writes the tears of Jeremiah who lament over Judah, God's people. "My joy is gone; grief is upon me; my heart is sick."(v.1) "Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her? I feel in Jeremiah's mind, the absence of the Lord in the heart of his people would be absence of the peace in Israel. We have our Lord God with us, but why we are pursuing foreign idols, like idols of success, reputation or power. In the sight of God, these values could be just an abomination and detach us from peace that God originally intended.

Psalms 79 shows the crying out of God's people. "How long, O LORD? Will you be angry forever?"(v.5) "Help us, O God of our salvation,... for the glory of your name;"(v.9)

1 Timothy 2 clearly named God's help for us. "there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus"(v.5) One of the title of Jesus, 'Prince of Peace' is given for his role of being the only mediator between God and us. This is the peace in the sight of God. Not through the political power nor religious power. Not even spiritual power can bring the work of the mediator for God is not a colonial dictator. Our mediator Jesus Christ is humbly and quiet, but surely working in between God and us all. I trust in Jesus no matter how long, he will mediate and achieve God's peace on earth and also I believe for this we are called to be a peace maker following footsteps of Jesus.

Question:

How can we know what is valuable in the sight of God?

What can we do now to be part of the peace making works of Jesus?

Next Week: Pentecost 16C, 2025 Sep 28

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 (*Amos 6:1a, 4-7*)

Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16 (*Psalms 146*)

1 Timothy 6:6-19, Luke 16:19-31



Worship Services Today

Wangaratta 9.30am
Rev. Hoon You

Eldorado 2.00pm
Rev. Hoon You

Wangaratta 5pm
Wendie Wilkie

Minister

Rev. Hoon You

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Sunday to Thursday

Cluster Office

Christina Pizzini
Administration Officer

10 Rowan Street, Wangaratta

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🏠 **Tuesday and Thursday**
9.30am to 4pm

✉ wangaratta@victas.uca.org.au

Online Giving

The Uniting Church Parish of Wangaratta
BSB: 083 945
Account No: 5160 84153

Short Notices for the weekly bulletin can be emailed to Christina by 4pm Wednesday

Church Council News

The meeting started with a devotion led by Ruth Maxwell titled “Music” she spoke about how there are lots of references to Bible passages in music that we have listened too over the years. Thank you, Ruth.

- General Secretary Rev Dr Mark Lawrence sent a letter of resolution re, Non-Violent Peace Building. This will be on display in the passageway notices board.
- Pastoral Care committee reported that there are a number of church members and families that need our prayers of support.
- The next Safe Church Training session will be on the morning of 8th November 25, 9.30 am to 1 pm.
- Rev Hoon You, provided a report on the happenings at Synod along with Anne Turnbull.
- Anne Turnbull also provided us with a short report of her recent Leadership training course she attended in Sydney.
- The Financial reports were tabled along with the Capital Funds report. Thank you to Ross, Christina and Graham.

Chairman Bill Gerritsen

Other News

Today is the International Day of Peace and this year’s theme is “Act Now for a peaceful world”

Special thanks to Dr Mark Zirnsak, Senior Social Justice Advocate from eLM Synod, who will share stories and news from Palestine and Israel.

UCAF - Please note that UCAF has been cancelled for the remainder of the year. Please contact Betty Whitten if you have any questions.

The Afghan Women from Shepparton are bringing a large group of women and children to Wangaratta tomorrow to have a lunchtime picnic.

Date: Monday, 22 September

Time: 11am – 2.30 pm

Place: Apex Park, Wangaratta

The group will bring and share food, drinks, picnic mat and a game for children to play.

The women would love to meet with and share lunch and goodwill with people from Wangaratta and surrounds. BYO fold up chair, cup/mug and something to contribute to lunch. Family members, friends and children all welcome! RSVP to Bern Fraser: rarwangaratta@gmail.com ASAP if you’re interested in meeting with the women to share lunch and make new friends:

Life Giving Bible Study, the final series “DNA of Growing Churches” will start from Monday 6th October at 4pm in the meeting room.



Wangaratta Cluster Calendar

Saturday 27 September
Church Knitting Group - 9am

Wednesday 1 October
Singing Group at Illoura - 10.30am

Wednesday 1 October
PALS - 2pm

Wednesday 8 October
Rangeview Service - 11am

Wednesday 15 October
St Johns Service - 11am

Thursday 16 October
Illoura Service - 11am

Rosters for Sunday Worship

Wangaratta	21 September Pentecost 15	28 September Pentecost 16	5 October Pentecost 17
Worship Leader	Rev. Hoon You	Rev. Hoon You	John van Riet HC
Musician	Lesley Johnson	J & H van Riet	Ruth McLay
Vestry	Helen James	Anne Turnbull	Eileen Dinning
Welcome and Offering	L Bertuch & J Johnson	L Bertuch & J Johnson	J & G Kerr
Bible Reader	Frank Smith	Rosemary Steele	Helen van Riet
Morning Tea	M Clayden & V Watson	T & H Wickham	J Thomas & J McGregor
5 pm	Wendie Wilkie HC	Brian Tunks	Glen Miles
Eldorado	2pm - HC Rev. Hoon You	No Service	Glen Miles
Greta/Moyhu	No Service	Colin Thomson	No Service

If you are unable to fulfil your rostered duty, please arrange to swap with someone else. A heartfelt thanks to you all - our priceless volunteers!