



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 7A, 2026 July 12

Theme: "One who hears the word."

Genesis 25:19-34 "Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright."(v.31)

Psalms 119:105-112 "Give me life, O Lord, according to your word."(107)

Romans 8:1-11 "Christ Jesus...will give life ...through his Spirit that dwells in you."(v.11)

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 "what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it."(v.23)

One of the misunderstanding concept of "Mission" is that it is like a seed sown on good soil and yielding hundred, sixty or thirtyfold fruit. Yes, it is possible to bear fruit, but that is not the point in Mission as well as in the story of Sower. Let us read all readings for this Sunday to see a common theme and hear the words and understand them.

Genesis 25 talks about Jacob, Isaac's son and Esau's younger brother. Here Jacob understand the importance of the birthright asking Esau's birthright for bowl or lentil stew and a bread. For Esau, his empty stomach and immediate needs are more important than his birthright and responsibilities for his family. Yes the bowl gave him a satisfied fill in his stomach, but it is not eternal nor contains spiritual life in it.

Psalms 119 is a song about the word of God in entire chapter. This word of God indeed gives us spiritual life that sustains our soul and nourishes our spirit. Starting from verse 105, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path," today's reading talks about the meaning of the word and its actual worth, as a life giving source that brings a light, teaching, guidance, percepts, law and joy of our heart. Pledging to "incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end."(v.112)

Romans 8 tells us that we are no longer belong to the flesh, but according to the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, we are set free from the law of sin. If this Spirit of Jesus Christ dwells in us, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit that dwells in us. (v.11) It is all about the life that the Spirit can give. Without this life we and our bodies are only nestle to cary flesh and its desire.

Through these readings, we can see now the sower's story is not just about the quality of soil, but the life a seed can bring out regardless of the soil. Traditionally, we considered this story is about us and our reception of the word. I believe it is not wrong, though the main focus is the real value of the word of God that brings abundant life and is original intention of God for us to experience.

This life the word of God brings to us, are we really incline our heart to hear and understand?

Questions:

1. What are the things that take away this life from us from Matthew's reading?
2. Where do you find or experience this life of the word around you?

Next week: Pentecost 8A, 2026 July 19

Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43



Worship Services Today

Wangaratta 9.30am

Rev. Hoon You

Wangaratta 5.00pm

Glen Miles

Greta/Moyhu 10.00am

Colin Thomson

Minister

Rev. Hoon You

✉ hoonyou@gmail.com

☎ 0403 369 781

Sunday to Thursday

Pastoral Care Worker

Wendy Toppin

✉ ToppinW@ramsayhealth.com.au

☎ 0407 165 973

Leave a message

Cluster Office

Christina Pizzini
Administration Officer

10 Rowan Street, Wangaratta

☎ 03 5721 6555

🏠 **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**

News

The Worship Planning Group will meet at approx. 11am on Sunday 19TH July (after morning tea) in the Meeting room. The purpose is to review worship over the last 3 months, to provide resources & support to our worship leaders, and to plan the worship leadership rosters for August, September, and October.

Loaves and Fishes Christians Caring are in need of the following items:

- Shampoo and conditioner
- Sweet biscuits
- Large tins of tuna
- Tinned vegetables

Thank you, Myra

Presbytery meeting will be on Saturday 18th in our Church hall

How are you using try praying booklet? Please share your experience of prayer with Hoon and others by email to Hoon (hoonyou@gmail.com)

Dementia Awareness Information Session - Free session open to everyone in the Community. Learn. Understand. Support.

Perfect for families, volunteers, carers and anyone wanting to build understanding around dementia. Thursday 1st October 10am - 11.30am, The Centre, 17 Chisholm Street, Wangaratta. Spaces are limited. Bookings required: 1300 843 236

NAIDOC week finishes today 12th July. This year's theme is "50 years of Deadly" as a marker, not just of time passed, but of the momentum still building.

Wangaratta Cluster Calendar

Wednesday 15th July
St Johns Service - 10am

Thursday 16th July
Illoura Service - 11am

Saturday 18th July
Presbytery Meeting - 9.30am

Sunday 19th July
Worship Planning Meeting - 11am

Monday 20th July
SALT - Rowan St - 6pm

Tuesday 23rd July
Pastoral Care Meeting - 4pm

Tuesday 23rd July
Church Council Meeting - 5.30pm

Rosters for Sunday Worship

Wangaratta 9.30am	12 th July Pentecost 7	19 th July Pentecost 8	26 July Pentecost 9
Worship Leader	Rev. Hoon You	Rev. Hoon You	Glen Miles
Musician	L Johnson	H Miles	L Johnson
Vestry	H James	E Dinning	H Twitt
Welcome and Offering	B Sheppard & J Poole	A & H Twitt	A Twitt & A Turnbull (?)
Bible Reader	R Diffey	F Smith	T Wickham
Morning Tea	H Twitt & H Wickham	L Bertuch & J Johnston	TBC
5 pm	Glen Miles	John van Riet	John Emmett
Eldorado 10am	No Service	Rev. Hoon You 2pm	No Service
Greta/Moyhu 10am	Colin Thomson	No Service	Greta Congregation

*Also helps with Vestry for HC

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!