



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 12A, 2026 Aug 16

Theme: “Lord, help me.”

Genesis 45:1-15 “for God sent me before you to preserve life.”(v.5)

Psalms 133 “How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!”(v.1)

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 “God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.”(v.2a)

Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28 “But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.”(v.25)

Last week, he heard Peter saying, “Lord, save me” when he was starting to drown as he noticed the strong wind and waves. This week, we hear a Canaanite woman for her daughter’s illness, “Lord, help me.”(v.25) As we learned last week, the miracle is not the key message of the story. The most important message was when we only focus our eyes to Jesus and walk only toward him, God will reach out his hand and hold us safe, and show us how to live.

In today’s story in Matthew 15, the story of Canaanite woman, healing her daughter is not the key message but the woman pursued the grace of God, despite of her cultural background being looked down by the people of Israel. It happens again in human history, often we look down on other people like disciples who urged “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.”

But Jesus hears the cry of the lost sheep and their genuine pain, not the social or religious status.

The audience of Matthew, mainly Jews, needed to hear that it is not the racial or religious status that will save them, but the true heart of a mother who didn’t worry to be treated as dogs, Kynariois (κυνάρῑοις) in Greek, which have similar sound with the word “Lord”(Kyrie) In greek translation, the Lord (Kyrie) heard the prayer of a mother who were looked down by people as dogs (Kynariois) When human eyes only see social hierarchy, Jesus sees our heart.

Genesis 45 we hear also the final confession of Joseph when he met his brothers who sold him as a slave. He comforts his brothers saying, it is not you who sold me, but God who sent me before you so that Joseph could preserve life in

famine(v.5) when brothers struggle with their guilt, God still uses Joseph to save them.

It resonates when Psalm 133 sings, “How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity.”(v.1) and this unity is only possible when we see things from God’s perspective, not our human values.

Romans 11 also speaks that God has not rejected his people (v.2) especially when they humbly seek God’s help.

Questions:

1. What was your recent prayer to God like the Canaanite woman’s prayer, “Lord, help me.”?
2. Why do we behave like the disciples who judged first by human standards?



Worship Services Today

Wangaratta 9.30am
Rev. Hoon You

Wangaratta 5.00pm
Wendie Wilkie HC

Eldorado 2.00pm
Rev. Hoon You

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 Church Council election is now open for nominations. The nomination forms are available on the table in the foyer. There are four church council positions available. Three members have completed their 3 year term and one person is retiring. Your current Church Council members are; Bill Gerritsen, Gigi Blanch, Helen James, Helen van Riet, Ross Moore, Eileen Dinning, Lyn Hammond, Lesley Johnson, Glen Miles, Colin Thomson, Anne Turnbull, and Ruth Maxwell. The three people who are completing their term and are eligible for re – election are Bill Gerritsen, Gigi Blanch, and Eileen Dinning. Ruth Maxwell is retiring.

Social Justice Committee will meet on Wednesday 19th August @ 4pm in the Meeting Room.

Loaves and Fishes Christians Caring had a very successful Grab a Grocery at Coles on the 8th August. Goods to the value of \$4,500 were given. Many thanks to all who helped with this effort.

Rev. Hoon will take Annual leave from 25-27 August to visit family

Bible Study “Walking the Bible” will begin from 2nd September for 6 sessions. Gathering time will be decided at Tuesday's Church council meeting. This study will summarise the whole Bible and help us to understand the Scripture so that we can journey our life with guidance of the Word of God.

A memorial service for the late Pat Brown will be held in the Church on Friday 21st August at 1pm

Messy Church - a Training Day for Congregations interested in starting a Messy Church, will be held in our Church Hall on Saturday 5 September, from 10am to 2pm. All welcome. What is Messy Church? Messy Church is church for families who may not find other forms of church appealing and who don't yet belong to a church. It is typically held once a month, includes hands-on creative experiences, a celebration and a meal. It does not prioritise either the needs of children or adults, but intentionally welcomes and provides for all ages. Come along and help us learn how to create a space, for those in our community who don't understand what going to Church is like, but who are looking for an opportunity to enquire about God.

Wangaratta Cluster Calendar

Monday 17 August
Mainly Music

Monday 17 August
SALT - KVLG - 6pm

Tuesday 18 August
Pastoral Care Committee - 4pm

Tuesday 18 August
Church Council meeting - 5.30pm

Wednesday 19 August
St John Service - 11am

Wednesday 19 August
Social Justice Committee - 4pm

Thursday 20 August
Illoura Service - 11am

Saturday 29 August
Church Knitting Group - 9am

Sunday 30 August
Church Council Elections

Rosters for Sunday Worship

Wangaratta 9.30am	16 August	23 August	30 August
Worship Leader	Rev. Hoon You	Colin Thomson	Rev. Hoon You
Musician	H Miles	J & H van Reit	Band
Vestry	H James	C Thomson	L Hammond
Welcome and Offering	W Toppin	R & D Chapman	B Sheppard & J Poole
Bible Reader	K Craig	R Barnard	J Kerr
Morning Tea	R Barnard & ?	J McGregor & S don Leonard	D & K Fleet
5 pm	Wendie Wilkie HC	Helen van Riet	No Service
Eldorado 10am	Rev. Hoon You 2pm	No Service	No Service
Greta/Moyhu 10am	No Service	Rev. Hoon You HC	No Service

*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!