# 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 22A, 2026 Oct 25**

Theme: "You shall love the Lord."

Deuteronomy 34:1-12 "I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over"(v.4)

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 "Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations."(v.1)

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 "not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts."(v.4)

Matthew 22:34-46 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart…"(v.37)

Today's gospel reading from Matthew 22 tells us another challenging question from the Pharisees about the most important commandment. And Jesus said the first is 'love the Lord your God…" in other lectionary readings we also hear what God has done (Deut 34) Who is the Lord (Ps. 90) and what should we do to God (1 Thess.)

Let us explore the Gospel reading further. After Jesus entered Jerusalem, immediately cleansed the temple that was no longer "a house of prayer" but "a business enterprise" including religious leaders. We hear often those who attack Jesus were the Sadducees and the Pharisees. They were two major, competing religious and political groups with Judaism. While the Sadducees are more wealthy aristocratic elites with political power who rejected resurrection of the dead, the Pharisees mostly middle-class, blue-collar who only accepted the Torah(the first 5 books of Old Testament) active in synagogues religious laws. It was natural them asking the issue of tax for common people suffering in Matthew 22:15-22, last week, and Sadducees asking the issue of resurrection in Matthew 22:23-33 which we skipped, and now the Pharisees in today's reading asking the greatest commandment. We only see what we can and able to see in Jesus, not because Jesus have only that aspect to show us, but we are blinded beyond our own knowledges and perspectives.

Deuteronomy 34 tells us the final chapter of Moses' life and God said, "I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over"(v.4) There are many explanations why God didn't allow Moses shall not enter the promised land, but God is the one who helps us to see God's promise.

That is why the writer of Psalm 90, starts with the confession of "Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations."(v.1) and asks "Let your work be manifest to your servants."(v.16)

Paul also emphasised to Christians in Thessalonica, "just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals but to please God, who tests our hearts."(v.4)



Questions:

What does it mean pleasing God instead of pleasing mortals?

In what ways can we show our love to the Lord?

Next week: Pentecost 23A, 2026 Nov 1
(Reformation Day - 31 Oct)
Joshua 3:7-17, Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13, Matthew 23:1-12

## Worship Services Today

**Wangaratta** 9.30am
Rev. Hoon You

**Greta Moyhu** 10.00am
Colin Thomson & Greta Con.

**Eldorado** 2pm
Rev. Hoon You

**Wangaratta** 5pm
Wendie Wilkie HC

## Minister

Rev. Hoon You
hoonyou@gmail.com
0403 369 781
Sunday to Thursday

## Pastoral Care Worker

Wendy Toppin
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Leave a message

## Cluster Office

Christina Pizzini
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10 Rowan Street, Wangaratta
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## 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

Our meeting began with a devotion lead by Rev Hoon. Hoon used the prayer from Rev Charissa Suli, President of the Uniting Church in Australia. (If you would like a copy it will be on the table in the foyer).

There are a number of training sessions available for members of our cluster, information available on the foyer table.

CC acknowledged that the 5 pm evening service is having a break during January.

Presbytery's "Life and Witness Consultation" has now completed with the discussion which took place last Sunday. We expect to hear from Rev Dennise Nash soon.

Advent Studies has been approved and will run from 2nd to 23rd December for 4 Wednesday's

The CC approved the two quotes 1 to replace the church roof and 2 repaint the Church Spire as well as the windows and buttresses. For questions contact Bill Gerritsen.

It was agreed that all Church Councilors have read and approved and are committed to renewing their Code of Conduct.

Eldorado church sale has now been settled; the local church members are looking forward to distributing some of the funds within the local community.

- Bill Gerritsen Chairperson Church Council.

## Other News

**There have been** many concerns and prayers for Helen Haines MP during the week and our church space has been open from Tuesday till Thursday 10-5pm for a space of prayer. We also received a pastoral phone call from our Synod Moderator Rev. Salesi Faupula and Presbytery Chairperson Rev. Gereldine Leonard on early Tuesday morning and the president of UCA Rev. Charissa Suli sent a prayer for Helen and our church. Many thanks to those who joined in prayer and let us continue to pray for her fast recovery and for her family.

**Eldorado worship group meets today 2pm** (changed from last Sunday to this Sunday)

## Wangaratta Cluster Calendar

**Monday 26 October**
Mainly Music

**Wednesday 4 November**
Singing Group at Illoura - 11am

**Wednesday 4 November**
PALS - 2pm

**Wednesday 11 November**
Illoura Service - 11am

**Monday 16 November**
SALT - KVLC - 6pm

**Tuesday 17 November**
Pastoral Care Meeting - 4pm

**Tuesday 17 November**
Church Council Meeting - 5.30pm

**Wednesday 18 November**
St Johns Service - 10am

## Rosters for Sunday Worship

| Wangaratta 9.30am | 25 October | 1 November | 8 November |
|---|---|---|---|
| Worship Leader | Rev. Hoon You | TBC | TBC |
| Musician | H Miles | R McLay | H Miles |
| Vestery | E Dinning | G Blanch | R Maxwell |
| Welcome & Offering | P Ritchie & E Yelland | E Lovett | E Lovett |
| Bible Reader | T Wickham | F Smith | J Kerr |
| Morning Tea | R & D Chapman | D & K Fleet | L & K Craig |
| | | | |
| **5pm** | J Emmett | TBC | TBC |
| Eldorado 10am | No Service | TBC | TBC |
| Greta/Mohyu 10am | Greta/Moyhu with C Thomson | TBC | TBC |

**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!