

# SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

## SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



**The building is closed.  
The Church is alive!**

### NEWS MAY 3, 2020

#### MINISTERS

Rev Rosalie Rayment-Hewitt 5821 2077

Rev Loni Vaitohi 5822 4602

Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Association

Website [sheppartonuc.org.au](http://sheppartonuc.org.au)

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/shepparton.unitingchurch>

#### SUNDAY MAY 3 EASTER 4

*Christ is risen! Alleluia!*

*Praying Together* Mt Beauty ARRM

#### Readings

Acts 2.42-47, Psalm 23, 12-19, 1 Peter 2.19-25, John 10.1-10

**Worship Rosalie** check Facebook for streamed service

<https://www.facebook.com/shepparton.unitingchurch>

#### READINGS

May 10 Acts 7.55-60 Ps 31.1-5,15-16 1 Pet 2.2-10 John 14.1-14

May 17 Acts 17.22-31 Ps 66.8-20 1 Pet 3.13-22 John 14.15-21

May 24 Acts 1.6-14 Ps68.1-10,32-35 1Pet 4.12-14, 5.6-11 Jn17.1

May 31 Acts2.1-21 Ps 104.24-34,35b 1Cor 12.3b-13 Jn 20.19-23

*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of the region, and pay our respects to their Elders.*

#### WORSHIP ONLINE

Waranga Cluster 9.30 am Check [warangaunitingchurches.net.au](http://warangaunitingchurches.net.au)

Glen Waverley Uniting Church 10.00am <https://gwuc.org.au/live/>

Brunswick Uniting Church [brunswick.unitingchurch.org.au.worship-with-us/](http://brunswick.unitingchurch.org.au.worship-with-us/)

Mt Eliza Uniting Church [mteliza.unitingchurch.org.au](http://mteliza.unitingchurch.org.au) 10.00am or recorded

Manningham [manninghamuc.org](http://manninghamuc.org) 10.00am or recorded

Sonder Collective first and third Sundays 5.30pm Go to Sonder Facebook and request link

#### EASTER

Easter 2020 is about half over - it's a season, not a day! So on May 3, we will celebrate Easter 4. Sundays Easter 5 and 6 will follow. On the fortieth day of Easter, Thursday May 21, the Church celebrates the Ascension, when Jesus went to be with God. Easter 7 follows. And then on the fiftieth day, May 31, comes the great celebration of Pentecost and the gift of the Spirit!

#### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, in the Southern Hemisphere, is from Ascension Day to Pentecost - a long week. This year we will not be able to hold the activities the InterChurch Council had planning for that week, but there will be some resources for you to share at home.

#### TREASURER

Please contact Zane for matters related to your offering. Zane is most grateful to those who have already made their offering by direct debit, EFT payments, cheque or cash.

#### 'HE MAKES ME LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES'

When we say or sing Psalm 23, we doubtless have a mental picture of lush green paddocks, dotted with sheep. In Palestine, however, sheep are not usually seen on farm lands, needed for growing crops. In April 1994, in very well-spaced isolation, our forty course members spent a silent hour meditating in the desert off the Jerusalem-Jericho road, getting the 'feel' of the desert. Bare whitish rocks and pebbles everywhere. Absolute silence. One spindly tree. Then, briefly, a fragile bird song. But a shepherd sat there on a rock, watching his few sheep and goats rambling, grazing on grass invisible to us. Single grass plants well scattered - just enough for the day's food. Is this how we should re-see Psalm 23? Joan