

# SHEPPARTON UNITING CHURCH

## SHEPPARTON RURAL CLUSTER



### NEWS APRIL 2 and 4, 2021

#### MINISTERS

Rev Loni Vaitohi 5822 4602 0449 504 228

Rev Joan Fisher, Minister in Assoc

Rev Glenys Gill, Supply Minister

Pastoral Care Convenor Shirley Marven

Church 4805 1120

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

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

**HOLY THURSDAY** April 1, 7.00pm Joan McRae

**GOOD FRIDAY** Rev Loni Vaitohi

Readings Is 52.13- 53.12 Ps 22 Heb 10.16-25 John 18.1- 19.42

**EASTER DAY** Rev Loni Vaitohi

Praying Together Mooroopna

Readings Acts 10.34-43 Ps118.1-2, 14-24 1Cor15.1-11Jn 20.1-18

#### READINGS APRIL

Holy Saturday Job 14.1-4 Ps 31.1-4,15-16 1Pet 4.1-8 Mt 27.57-66

April 11 Acts 4.32-35 Ps 133 1 John 1.1-22 John 20.19-31

April 18 Acts 3.12-19 Ps 4 1 John 3. 1-7 Lk 24.36b-48

April 25 acts 4. 5-12 Ps 23 1 John 3.16-24 John 10.11-18

*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters of the region, the Peoples of the Yorta Yorta Nations, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.*

## SHEPPARTON WORSHIP ALSO CONTINUES ONLINE

Joining in to Zoom via the phone

Step 1: Dial 03 7018 2005 or 02 8015 6011

**Good Friday** Meeting ID 958 7971 1915# Passcode 981 735#

**Easter Day** Meeting ID 913 4880 7995# Passcode 150 542#

## CHURCH ROSTERS

	April 2 Good Friday	April 4 Easter Day
Opening	A. Liersch	A. Liersch
Elder	S. Marven,	L. Threlfall
Welcome/Sign In	J. Le Quesne	K. Teague, J. Fitzgerald
Readers	B. Mathews, S. Marven	E.Cameron, L.Watts
Data Projector	R. Dewi	R. Dewi
Audio-Zoom	TBA	TBA
Counting Offering	-	D.Spratling, J. Dahlberg
Flowers	-	B. Mathews
Morning Tea April	-	H. Lloyd, L.Watts, E.Brewster

**ROSTER APRIL 11** order as above ; ;

A. Liersch; L. Losaki; W.and V. Gibbs; L.Losaki, C.Carter; D.Metzke; A. Russell; V.and W.Gibbs

## THIS WEEK

Wednesday 7 Pastoral Care Meeting, 7.00pm

Thursday 8 Cuppa and Chat 10.00am to noon

## PASTORAL CARE, PART TWO

We had a wonderful discussion last meeting. Let us continue to build on our Pastoral Care skills and make a difference! Wednesday 7 at 7.00pm.  
Let's do this! Shirley Marven

## LENT STUDIES

The final discussion will be held on Wednesday April 14, at 2.00pm.

## PASTORAL PRAYERS

We continue to pray for those who are not well, remembering Emily, Tracy Ford, Lisa, Heather Turner, Ailsa, Jim, Eve, Gordon, and Merinda Speedy. The Presbytery prays for Mooroopna. The WCC invites prayers for the lands and peoples of the Balkan States - Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia. The Assembly asks prayers for Christians everywhere, sharing the Easter story; those spending Easter recovering from floods or COVID-19

## outbreak. **BIBLES IN WORSHIP**

Recently there's been some confusion about the use of Bibles in our worship. After discussion at the January meeting of the Worship Group, these recommendations were made:

1. The Lectern Bible is too heavy to carry. So the Elder on Duty is asked to *open* it before worship; and *close* it after worship.
2. A large print copy of the *New Revised Standard Version*, available on the table inside the entrance doors, is recommended for readers to use during worship. Why the NRSV? It's based on the most up-to-date and accurate scholarship; and where appropriate it uses language that includes both women and men.
3. After the last reading, the reader is asked to say either: '*For the word of the Lord **thanks be to God***'; or '*May your word live in us, **and bear much fruit to your glory***.'

*Joan Fisher, for the Worship Group*

## **THE PRESIDENT'S EASTER MESSAGE**

Easter is about hope and transformation, says Dr Deidre Palmer in her 2021 Easter message which highlights the courageous women in the Easter narrative and those speaking out against injustice today.

"I give thanks to these brave women and men the world over for sharing and embodying the good news – that God's vision of love, peace, justice and reconciliation is alive today," says Dr Palmer.

The President's 2021 Easter message is now available to download for UCA congregations and faith communities to play at Easter services and events. Dr Palmer's message along with messages from UCA Moderators, are on the [uniting.church](http://uniting.church) website. The message is password protected (P/W: ChristisRisen) until Easter Sunday.

## **DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE**

The Uniting Church has a future! *What do you think?* Let the Assembly know by completing the *Act2 survey* before April 116, or send an email.

## **FROM FRIDAY TO SUNDAY... from a different, older, hymn book**

***'I see you crucified and I call you King'*** *Chrysostom*

Today he who hung the earth upon the waters is hung upon the Cross.  
He who is King of the angels is arrayed in a crown of thorns.  
He who wraps the heavens in clouds is wrapped in the purple of mockery.  
*from an Orthodox hymn for Good Friday*

Today a tomb holds him who holds the creation in the hollow of his hand;  
a stone covers him who covered the heavens with glory.  
*from an Orthodox hymn for Holy Saturday*

Christ is risen from the dead; trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.  
*from an Orthodox hymn for very early Easter Day. I've sung this while circling round outside a Russian church just after midnight Easter morning*

## **EASTER PROCLAMATION**

This is the Good News –  
the grave is empty,  
Christ is risen.  
***Alleluia!***

This is the Good News –  
the light shines in the darkness  
and the darkness can never put it out.  
***Alleluia!***

This is the Good News –  
once we were no people,  
now we are God's people.  
***Alleluia!***

Christ is our peace,  
the indestructible peace  
God's people share with each other.  
***Alleluia!***

**CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**