



ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

“Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus”

roseville.unitingchurch.org.au @530worship @rosevilleuniting

Lent is a significant season in the year for Christians. It is a period of preparation to remember, to mark, to celebrate the Lord’s death and resurrection at Easter.

As the Wednesday Small Group met this week we thought about this time and asked ourselves: how are we approaching this time? What does Lent mean for us?

We drew on background material and were challenged by Joan Chittister’s words. *“Clearly, the liturgical year brings new depth and meaning to the recurrent patterns of our own...Every year we find these times different because we are different too.”* (Joan Chittister. The Liturgical Year.)

But are we in fact, different? This, we said, depends on where we stand. Through all the experiences of our lives, we have been changing, learning day by day. And now, to this Season, we are bringing our always changing awareness of ourselves and our wider world.

In our small group, just for these moments we saw ourselves as part of the wider Christian Community: as part of our local ecumenical community where we are appreciating times of worship and fellowship in our various local churches; at one with UnitingWorld and Lent Event, reaching out to the people of the Pacific who join with us in their response. *“The impact of climate change is very real in the lives of our people in Tonga. It means a lot to us that the people of the Uniting Church in Australia are standing with us through UnitingWorld”.* (Rev Makoni Pulu, Free Wesleyan Church in Tonga.)

We turned to Walter Brueggemann’s Devotions for Lent: A Way Other Than Our Own, where he invites us ‘to live the story’. As we do this in many ways, we worship, the musicians among us reminding us that ‘the greatest minds of music’ of all ages have brought us ‘the story’ through, for example, The Messiah. We sing together ‘Love will be our Lenten calling’. So, as well as ‘being’ and ‘doing’, we listen, we sing, we pray ...

Realising that fasting, denying ourselves, is a practice of this time, we listened again to Isaiah’s words (58:6-9): *“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry....Then your light shall break forth like the dawn”*

Cont’d.....

Sunday March 16th

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

9.30am **Worship Service with Chris Goringe**
Organist: Alan Caradus
In person and online...

5.30pm **Worship Service with Chris Goringe and Jan Reeve**
In person and online...

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18
Psalm 27
Philippians 3: 17– 4: 1
Luke 13: 31-35 or Luke 9: 28-36

What’s on this week...

- Tue Kids Playtime 10.00-11.30am
- Wed Social games 1.00-3.00pm
- Fri Christian Meditation 2.30pm
PYES 7.00-9.30pm
- Sat Lindara Market 8.00am—1.00pm

Sunday March 23rd

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

9.30am **Worship Service with Chris Goringe**
Organist: Sean Weatherley
In person and online...

10.45am **Healing & Wholeness Service**

5.30pm **Worship Service with Stuart and Sonia Powell**
In person and online...

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Isaiah 55: 1-9
Psalm 63: 1-8
1 Corinthians 10: 1-13
Luke 13: 1-9

Links

[Service live \(or replay\) streaming](#)

[Zoom \(for meetings\)](#)

[Church website](#)

[Chris' sermons](#)

So, we come to Lent thoughtfully, prayerfully, alert to people close by and far away. We are ready for, alert to the newness that this time of preparation is already moving within us.

Teach us O God, to wait in eager anticipation of your salvation. In this waiting, may we discover the promised blessings of new strength, new courage, new freedom and new life. -Walter Brueggemann

-Margot

Lenten Ecumenical Services

Tuesdays at 7:30pm

11th March – Roseville Uniting Church
 25th March – Lindfield Uniting Church
 8th April – Holy Family Catholic Church

lentevent
 5 MARCH - 17 APRIL 2025

40 days of faith-filled action for God's Creation

Stand with the poor and vulnerable on the frontlines of climate change.

UnitingWorld
 connecting communities for life
www.lentevent.com.au

Scan to donate or join TeamRUC

<https://bit.ly/TeamRUC>

WHEN THE WORLD CALLS, WILL AUSTRALIA ANSWER?
 Change of date

Discover what your candidates are pledging for Australian Aid this election.
 Register at saferworld.org.au

SAFER WORLD FOR ALL

Bradfield Electorate
 Roseville Uniting Church
 7:30pm, ~~Thursday 2nd April~~
 Tuesday 25th March

UnitingWorld, Save the Children, Caritas, Oxfam, actionaid, micah

Join us in Prayer...

- **World in turmoil:** Many people are feeling deeply unsettled about multiple events around the world, including disruptive policies from the new US administration. Pray for all God's people to remember that God is sovereign, to understand that God's love is real and active, to find hope in this, and to work to bring about God's reign of love and justice in all that they do from day to day.
- **Australian election:** As the federal election looms, pray that God will be at work in the messages and conversations of our national leaders over the coming weeks. Pray that people would be able to overcome fear for their own circumstances and find generosity to respond to policies that will benefit our entire Australian community.
- **Lent and climate change:** As we lean into the Lent Event challenges to think about ways we can practically contribute to a more sustainable future, pray that people would find joy in these disciplines and a sense of hope in being part of a positive change.
- **Our RUC Community:** Finally, let's celebrate and give thanks for the different things we are all involved in, the work that God is bringing about through us, and the ways that we love and care for each other.

Stuart

LINDARA MARKET

8am - 1pm

Charity jumble sale at Lindfield Uniting Church

Saturday 22nd March



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