



The Uniting Church in Australia
KOGARAH UNITING CHURCH

*We welcome people of all cultures and lifestyles,
We create a safe place for the community
We share the journey of life and faith.*

January 14th 2024, @ 10am
Second Sunday after Epiphany

Leader: Deok Hee
Preacher Deok Hee
Holy Communion Deok Hee

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20;
John 1:43-51



For details and information about our church activities and The Kogarah Storehouse, check out the websites: kogarah.uca.org.au

**For pastoral concerns,
please contact Rev Deok Hee Cho**

**Face to face Services
Kogarah Uniting Church
At 10:00am**

Some COVID Conditions have changed

There is an increasing number of cases at the moment, so there is still a need to be careful. New strains have been detected recently.

Planning Ahead

22nd January Storehouse reopens

1st February Kogarah Church Council @ 7pm via Zoom

14th February Ash Wednesday – our Lenten journey to Easter begins

6th March Worship Task Group 7pm via Zoom

7th March Kogarah Church Council @ 7pm via Zoom

Please pray for ...

The mission and ministry of our congregation and for our Minister, Deok Hee.

Worship leaders; helpers, leaders, followers The Kogarah Storehouse and its many clients; Lala and staff of the Storehouse. The Storehouse will be closed till 22nd January.

Dorothy and Godfrey (as they travel to Africa) and the work of LACLA.

Nick Hedges and the scripture teaching at JCBTHS and MGHS

The team, parents and children in the Early Learning Centre.

Those who are sick, sad or lonely:

We pray especially today for, Brian and Rhonda , Prema and Priya, Jim and Bobbie, Denis and Dolly, Jim Bird, Naghuia, John and Sue and especially John's mother and father; health care workers at this time, including Richard, Millin and Roseline Goodman and Dorothy Makasa and Elin.

For others whom we name in our hearts.

Pray for the people of Türkiye, Syria, Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine.



This week's readings from the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures

1 Samuel 3:1–10, (11–20)

Eli, the priest, helps Samuel – a young child – to respond to God's calling. Note the references to seeing and hearing in this text, both metaphorical and literal.

Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18

The psalmist is amazed that YHWH's creative acts extend to forming their human body.

YHWH knows their thoughts and words even before they have been formed.

1 Corinthians 6:12–20

Paul reminds the Corinthians that what they do there is important. This includes the food that is eaten, and the way we treat others within sexual relationships.

John 1:43–51

Jesus increases his band of followers, despite some cynicism from Nathanel, who has the wisdom of Jesus demonstrated for him and can then believe.

The next five weeks will follow the words of Paul in the letters to the Corinthians. The early church, like all churches and human communities, had problems. Paul writes to these communities to help them navigate the difficulties they are facing. These words have the potential to speak to our contemporary communities, too.

While letter-writing is not as fashionable as it once was, it can still be powerful. This season might be a time when you might think about what letters you think are important enough to be written. These could be letters to a friend, family member, the church or faith community, a politician or other community leader.

A Prayer For Our Earth at the end of 2023

By Pope Francis

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned

and forgotten of this Earth,
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the Earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize
that we are profoundly united with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.

Amen.

*Requested by King Charles III
for the Royal Carol Service*

*Dame Kristin Scott Thomas DBE reads, at His Majesty The King's suggestion,
Refugee*

WE think of him as safe beneath the steeple,
Or cosy in a crib beside the font,
But he is with a million displaced people
On the long road of weariness and want.
For even as we sing our final carol
His family is up and on that road,
Fleeing the wrath of someone else's quarrel,
Glancing behind and shouldering their load.
Whilst Herod rages still from his dark tower
Christ clings to Mary, fingers tightly curled,
The lambs are slaughtered by the men of power,
And death squads spread their curse across the world.
But every Herod dies, and comes alone
To stand before the Lamb upon the throne.

Malcolm Guite (b 1957)

Next Sunday

January 21st 2024, @ 10am
Third Sunday after Epiphany

Leader: Richard
Preacher Deok Hee

Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62 5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

Church Council

Chair

Richard Goodman

Secretary

Sue Baglin

Treasurer

John Baglin

Councillors

Robert M^oAlpine (2024) Sue Baglin (2025)

Elders

John Baglin (2025) Richard Goodman (2024)
Dinah Roepers (2024)

Safe Church Contact Person

Richard Goodman

