



The Uniting Church in Australia

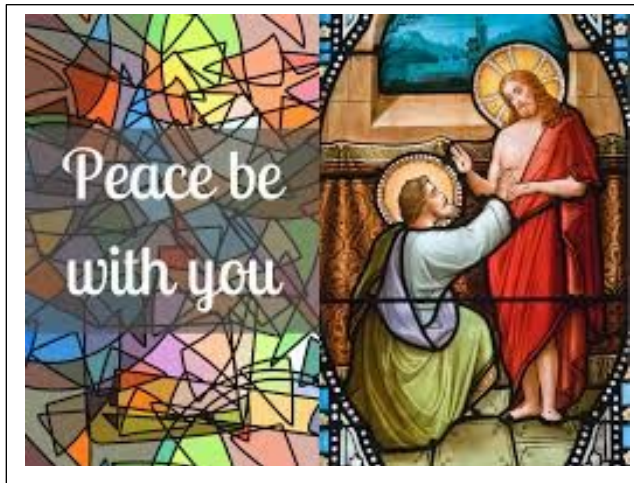
KOGARAH UNITING CHURCH

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

**April 7, 2024, @ 10am
Easter 2 – Resurrection Witness**

**Leader: Robert
Preacher Deok Hee**

**Acts 4:32–35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1–2:2;
John 20:19–31**



**For details and information about our church activities and The Kogarah Storehouse, check out the websites:
kogarah.uca.org.au and
<https://www.kogarahstorehouse.org.au/>**

**For pastoral concerns,
please contact Rev Deok Hee Cho on 0401 975 745**

**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.

Masks are highly recommended given the vulnerability of some of our members. Please do not come in if you are feeling unwell.

Word for the Day

This short scripture reading from Acts can feel very challenging. The writer tells us that ‘the group of followers all felt the same way about everything.’ Can you remember a time when a group of people you were connected to all felt the same way about everything?

Let alone people in your congregation. When people disagree, it can be a great opportunity to learn new things and see life from a different perspective.

In the very next chapter of Acts, Ananias and Sapphira demonstrate that the community is not as idyllic as it is made out to be in this chapter when they hold money back for themselves from a sale of their land.

Sometimes, we are tempted to idealise faith or get carried away with hyperbolic statements. This can impact our hearers in a range of ways. At times like this, the words of Psalm 19:14 can be brought to mind: ‘Let my words and my thoughts be pleasing to you, Lord, because you are my mighty rock and my protector.’

Ideas for Reflection

- **How do we deal with Bible texts like this that might be hyperbolic? Are they encouraging or discouraging? Or perhaps, when do passages such as this act as an encouragement, and when do they feel discouraging?**
- **Are there any issues you could confidently assert that everyone in your community agrees on? Are there issues that divide the community? What happens when people disagree on an important issue? How are difficult topics negotiated in love?**
- **The passage says that no one went in need of anything. Whose needs might the author of this passage have overlooked? Whose needs in your community are overlooked or unseen? How do you find out who is in need? How do you meet those needs? How do we respond when the needs of the world are insurmountable?**
- **What would a blessing look like in your community? Would this blessing look different to different members? Perhaps ask other members of the community to share blessings they have recently**

received. People who feel comfortable might also be invited to share their needs. An invitation to write needs anonymously might allow people to express their needs without embarrassment or shame.

Scriptures

Acts 4:32–35

The followers of Jesus shared all their possessions and gave money to those in need.

Psalm 133 gives praise for a peaceful life where all live together peacefully, using the imagery of anointing oil and morning dew to describe how beautiful it is.

1 John 1:1–2:2

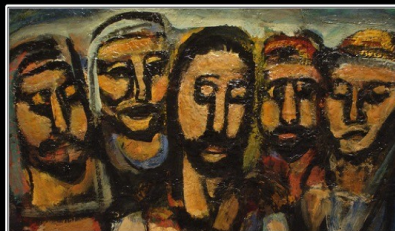
John begins his letter reminding the reader that he was a witness to the Resurrection and encourages them to lay their sin at Jesus' feet.

John 20:19–31

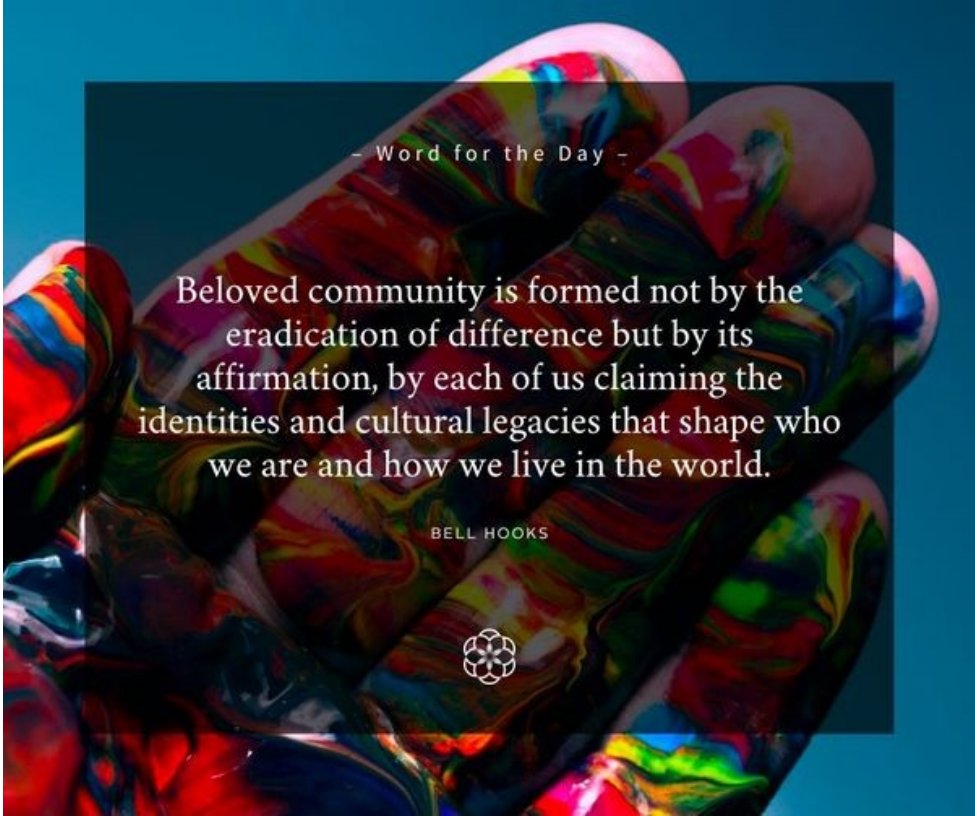
John finishes this book by recounting two of Jesus' appearances to the apostles and notes that the book is written so that the readers may have faith.

Theme Focus

The gospels finish soon after the death of Jesus. The book of Acts (written by the author of Luke) picks up the story and records the spread of the gospel through the activity of Peter, Paul and others. One of the things that enabled this witness was the sharing of possessions, money and even the proceeds from selling land to enable them to give money to anyone in need.



“OF ONE HEART AND SOUL”



- Word for the Day -

Beloved community is formed not by the eradication of difference but by its affirmation, by each of us claiming the identities and cultural legacies that shape who we are and how we live in the world.

BELL HOOKS



(Shared from Jamberoo Abbey)

Easter Tuesday

"It's Easter. There is new life beginning everywhere—in the earth around us and, if we will, in our souls. Both kinds of life, however, must be cultivated.

It is an exercise in 'yes,' this slip-slide from summer to autumn, from dark to light, from Lent to Resurrection. Yes to today; yes to tomorrow; yes to life again. We all come out of the tomb of Lent new and bright with promise. It is 'yes' to our life now, however old, however jaded we may be. It is the rediscovery of possibility again.

Easter is here. We sing to Tuesday mornings, alleluia; to friends and work, alleluia; to dawn and dusk, alleluia; to old things and new, alleluia."

~ *Joan Chittester OSB*

So, as we take up our tasks again, may the "yes" to life and copious alleluias continue to reverberate in our hearts, minds and actions...for Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed, alleluia!

(Posted by Jamberoo Abbey)



Planning Ahead

- 11th April Church Council Meeting 7pm via Zoom
- 21 @ 28 April Deok Hee on annual leave
- 2nd June Possible Storehouse Sunday @ 10am
- 11th June Worship Task Group @ 7:00pm via Zoom

Want to know what the Storehouse is doing? Here is a link. Type it into your search engine.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1pZl6yzaFvx9q4t3gxOfMieJCh69BDSSH0y4o8-QB-wc/edit?usp=sharing>

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.

Dorothy and Godfrey 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; Peter and Sue; Dinah; Robyn; Craig; health care workers at this time, including Richard, Millin and Roseline Goodman and Dorothy Makasa and Elin.

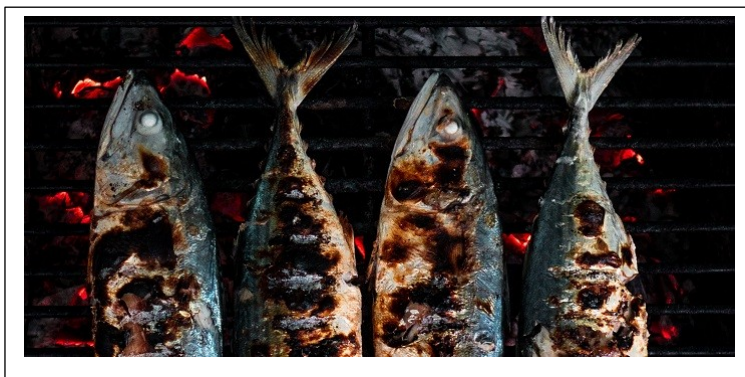
For others whom we name in our hearts.

Pray for the people of Türkiye, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine, especially the people of Gaza

April 14, 2024, @ 10am
Easter 3 – Not by Might or Power

Leader: Deok Hee
Preacher Deok Hee
Holy Communion Deok Hee

Acts 3:12–19; Psalm 4; 1 ; 1 John 3:1–7
Luke 24:36b–48



Church Council

<u><i>Chair</i></u>	Richard Goodman
<u><i>Secretary</i></u>	Sue Baglin
<u><i>Treasurer</i></u>	John Baglin
<u>Councillors</u>	Robert M°Alpine (2024)
	Sue Baglin (2025)
	John Baglin (2025) Richard
<u>Elders</u>	
	Goodman (2024)
	Dinah Roepers (2024)
<u>Safe Church Contact Person</u>	Richard Goodman