



**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.*

**4<sup>th</sup> August 2024, at 10am**

**Pentecost + 11**

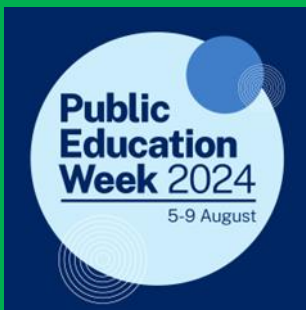
**Jesus: The Bread of Life – 2**

**Education Week Sunday with UELK**

**Leader: Richard**

**Reflection: Deok Hee**

**2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a; Psalm 51:1–12; Ephesians 4:1–16;  
John 6:24–35**



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

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

## Scriptures

### **2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a**

God is displeased by David's actions in taking Bathsheba as his wife. Nathan confronts and condemns David regarding his behaviour.

### **Psalms 51:1–12**

A psalm of lament and repentance calling on God to cleanse the psalmist's heart.

### **Ephesians 4:1–16**

Paul urges the Ephesians to live a life of humility, gentleness, and patience in order to live in unity in the body of Christ.

### **John 6:24–35**

In response to a conversation about what God requires, Jesus declares he is the bread of life.

## Theme Focus

As Jesus challenges the crowd who followed after the miraculous feeding, seeking more of the same, and declares that he is the Bread of Life in whom they will find true nourishment, we reflect on how God nurtures and nourishes us.

## Word for the Day

This week's reading from the gospel of John follows on from last week's feeding of the crowd. The people continue to follow Jesus and his disciples, seeking healing and nourishment. Jesus challenges the people. They have only come because they were fed and want to fill their bellies again. Jesus shifts their thinking from the physical to the spiritual. He challenges them to think not only about their physical food but also about what will nourish them for eternity.

Jesus refers the people to the story of the manna in the wilderness (Exodus 16:1–36) of which they would have been familiar. As Jesus explains, this bread came from God and is the real bread that continues nourishing. The people ask Jesus to give them this bread.

Jesus replies, telling the people that he is the bread of life and anyone who comes to him will hunger and thirst no more. This adds to John's gospel's other great 'I am' statements. Living Water, Light, Life, Shepherd – Bread adds to the list of metaphors used to describe who Jesus is. Jesus is the one who nourishes and feeds the people.

### Ideas for Reflection

This section of the narrative of John 6 presses the point that a sign or miracle from Jesus is not enough. Jesus embodies transformation, and the 'I am' statements symbolise this. Not only does Jesus physically feed the people, but he also feeds them spiritually. Exploring the metaphors further by asking how bread is and is not like Jesus may be helpful.

You are invited to reflect on when God has nurtured you in your lives.

It may also be helpful to revisit the story from Exodus 16 to make connections between the Hebrew Scriptures and Jesus' proclamation here. How is Jesus the Bread from Heaven for the people in the crowd?

## Poetry as a contemplative practice

### Instructions

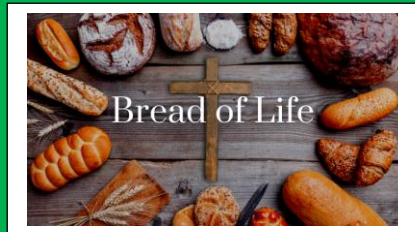
1. Try to let your mind drop into your heart as you quietly read or listen to the poem. You might like to start by centring on your breath.
2. Read or listen to the poem through more than one time.
3. Notice what arises in you each time.

This activity is a way of entering into the scriptural themes in a contemplative way – not unlike how one might engage in a *lectio divina* process.

(From our song files)

**Crowded table, urgent faces,  
people longing for the bread,  
bread of life and bread for living,  
bread for rising from the dead.  
Young and old, both men and women,  
those for whom this life is hard,  
those who live in warmth and comfort,  
those whose life is stained or tarred.**

**All are welcome, wise or foolish,  
at this table all are fed,  
sharing wine in celebration,  
eating Christ's communion bread.  
Then in costly life and giving  
we will share what we receive,  
demonstrate in daily living  
all that we affirm, believe.**



© 2005, A Pratt Reproduced under Copyright Licences:  
ONE LICENSE A-604712; CCLI #45150



**A Celebration of the Life of Pat Nankivell will be held  
at Kogarah Uniting Church**

**At 10 am**

**On Saturday 17th August 2024**

**We celebrated the Commissioning of Wynne Chen to the position of Pastor and Chinese Community Connector last Sunday.**

**We welcome her as part of our church and look forward to working with her as she helps to strengthen the connection between our congregation and the Chinese members of our broader community.**



## Planning Ahead

- 11<sup>th</sup> August after worship Congregational Meeting re Mission Plan 2024-2025 (Emailed already. Hard copy available. Tell Richard)
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August Memorial Service for Pat Nankivell @ 10am
- 20<sup>th</sup> August Worship Task Group @ 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.

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 Dennis and Robyn Lyons, 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; Ern Edwards; Godfrey; Kath Merrifield and her family; 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 Syria, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine, especially the people of Gaza. The USA.

.

**Next Sunday**

**11th August 2024, at 10am**

**Pentecost + 12**

**Jesus: The Bread of Life – 3**

**Leader: Deok Hee**

**Reflection: Deok Hee**

**Holy Communion Deok Hee**

**2 Samuel 18:5–9, 15, 31–33; Psalm 130; Ephesians 4:25—5:2;  
John 6:35, 41–51**



**Church Council 2024-2025**

**Chair**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**Councillors**

**Richard Goodman**  
**Sue Baglin**  
**John Baglin**  
**Robert M<sup>o</sup>Alpine (2026)**  
**Sue Baglin (2025)**  
**Dinah Roepers (2025)**  
**John Baglin (2025)**  
**Bobbie Miller (2025)**  
**Richard Goodman (2027)**

**Elders**

**Safe Church Contact Person**    **Richard Goodman**