



**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.*

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2024 @ 10am**

**Transformed by Encounter**

**Leader      Deok Hee**

**Reflection      Deok Hee**

**Holy Communion      Deok hee**

**Job 42:1–6, 10–17; Psalm 34:1–8, (19–22), 35c; Hebrews 7:23–28  
Mark 10:46–52**



**I was blind, but now I see!**

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 Deok Hee on  
0401 975 745.

## Scriptures

### **Job 42:1–6, 10–17**

Job identifies himself as small compared to God. His encounter with God has changed him. The book of Job ends with God restoring Job's fortune, replacing the things he lost earlier.

### **Psalm 34:1–8, (19–22)**

This psalm, attributed to David, celebrates the experience of being rescued, saved, or redeemed by God in a troubling situation. God has heard the psalmist's cries – and God's hearing means response!

### **Hebrews 7:23–28**

This passage celebrates the ongoing and forever role of Jesus as the one who speaks to God on behalf of people, something the writer understands as part of a priest's role.

### **Mark 10:46–52**

Jesus heals a blind man named Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus calls on Jesus to heal him. Jesus declares his faith has made him see. Bartimaeus then follows after Jesus.

## Theme Focus

'I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you...' ~ Job 42:5

## Word for the Day

There is a real tension in this final chapter of Job: Job is seen acknowledging the great mystery of God and all that takes place within the world, Job's friends are reprimanded for their words, and God is then seen to 'restore Job's fortunes' and to give Job more than God had allowed the Satan to take away from Job in the beginning. Some may read this and think, 'Yes, Job deserves all this and more.' But this reading is uneasy. There is no easy equivalence between what has been lost (children!) and what Job ends up with. This ending seems to argue against what the preceding chapters of the book have challenged: the idea that the just will receive blessing and the unjust curse. We have questions, questions that remain unresolved and unanswered. What then, to do with the ending of this book that we have wrestled with over these last weeks?

The portion of this passage that the lectionary skips over is perhaps the most helpful. Within it, God names Job's words – his complaint and accusation that God has not acted justly – as speaking what is right. There is space within this for the complaints and accusations that we bring, too, about the injustice that we experience and the injustice in the world. God hears Job. God might, then, hear us too, as we name what is not right. In naming what is true, Job is also changed. He moves from *hearing* about God to *seeing* God. What might such an encounter look like within our communities?

### Ideas for Reflection

- Are you comfortable to speak complaints, accusations, and lament to God? Where are the spaces where you can do this?
- Our struggles rarely have a 'fairy-tale' or happy ending. How do we respond to the ending of Job? What do you find helpful, hopeful, or unhelpful within it? How do we continue to acknowledge Job's struggles and pain and that the experience of these will always remain with him?
- Have you been changed by an encounter with God? How? Is there a story you would like to share?

## 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.

### Forgive Us Now

**1. Forgive us now O God of love,  
for all the pain that we have sown,  
for all the broken hearts we've left,  
and all the words we've left unsaid.**

**Forgive us gracious God of life**

**2. Forgive us now O mother love,  
for all the idols we have built,  
for all the time we've worshipped there  
in company of dark despair.**

**Forgive us mother of all hope.**

**(Chorus)**

**As we forgive may we be healed,**

as we reach out may you be near,  
and take our hand to comfort bring  
so we can face the start again.

3. Forgive us now O holy one,  
for crimes committed in your name,  
for all the holy wars we wage,  
for all the children we enslave.  
Forgive us now O holy one.

4. Forgive us now O Jesus Christ,  
for all the pride before the fall,  
for all the times our heart was cold,  
for all the monologues we've told.  
Forgive us Jesus of new life.

(Chorus)

Dave Brown (Dave Brown is a member of the  
Brunswick UC in Melbourne)

**Coming next week ...**

## **All Saints Day**

**All Saints' Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, is a Christian holiday that is observed on November 1st in Western Christianity. All Saints' Day is a Christian memorial day honouring all church saints, whether known or unknown. It is a day set aside to celebrate all the saints who have lived righteous and holy lives in accordance with Christian teachings. All Saints' Day is part of a broader tradition that includes All Hallows' Eve (Halloween) on October 31st and All Souls' Day on November 2nd.**

**Next Sunday we will honour those from our church community who have died. We will have a short liturgy to enable you to remember those in your immediate circle.**



## Planning Ahead

- 1<sup>st</sup> November Youth and Parents Night – Table Tennis & Pizza in Church Hall
- 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 Storehouse Management Committee & AGM
- 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 Worship Task Group via Zoom @ 7pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> November Table Tennis/Church Lunch after church – 11-1pm
- 30<sup>th</sup> November Health Talk Head to Waist 10am – 12noon
- Starting Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November for 4 weeks – Advent Bible Study
- 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 Kogarah Church Council via Zoom @ 7pm

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, Naghuia, John and Sue and especially John's mother and father; Peter and Sue; Dinah; Ern Edwards; Godfrey; Jim Bird; Sue de B; Sylvia. 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 and Lebanon. The USA. Sudan

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# Next Sunday

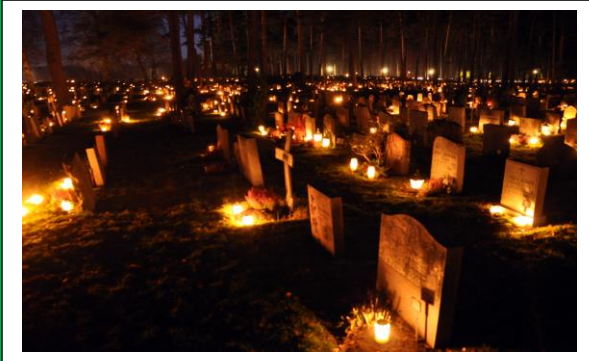
3<sup>rd</sup> November 2024 @ 10am

## All Saints

Leader Robert

Reflection Deok Hee

Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 24; Revelation 21:1-6a,; 1 John 3: 1-3;  
John 11:32-44



### 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