



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.**

21st September 2025 @ 10am

Pentecost 15 - Proper 20

Season of Creation 3 – Storm

Job 28:20–27; Psalm 29; 1 Corinthians 1:21–31

Luke 8:22–25

Leader Robert

Reflection Deok Hee



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

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

Scriptures

Job 28:20–27

In Job's poetic reflection, wisdom is not human achievement but found in creation itself—in the depths of the sea, the pathways of the wind, and the weight of water. We are reminded that Earth holds deep, ancient knowledge, and God's wisdom is embedded in its rhythms, often beyond human grasp.

Psalms 29 offers an elemental song of power, where wind, fire, flood, and forest respond to the voice of God. Storms are not only destructive but can also be agents of renewal—stripping what is dead, stirring what is dormant, and making space for new life.

1 Corinthians 1:21–31

God's wisdom appears not through dominance but through what the world might call weakness. Like the hidden intelligence in storm cycles or the unseen value in the smallest creature, divine wisdom subverts human categories and reveals a deeper, interconnected order.

Luke 8:22–25

The lake turns wild, and Jesus sleeps—not out of neglect, but trust. This story draws us into the fear and awe of living in creation's uncontrollable power, yet also invites us to faith that the divine presence dwells with us in every storm, both around and within.

Theme Focus

Amid the chaos of wind and wave, we listen for the voice that stills fear and speaks peace—not only to us, but with all creation.



Word for the Day

Finding peace in the whirlwind

Storms awaken something in us. They rattle windows and expectations. They remind us how small we are. In Job 28, wisdom isn't found in books or human power; it's hidden in creation: in winds measured by weight, rain set in balance, and thunder that rolls with purpose. We do not own wisdom. It belongs to the wild.

Psalm 29 gives voice to the storm. God's voice thunders, breaks trees, shakes deserts. And yet, the psalm ends not with chaos but with peace. Divine strength is not the absence of disruption; it's the grounding that remains through it.

In Luke's gospel, the storm rages while Jesus sleeps. When the disciples cry out, he stills the waters, but not before asking, 'Where is your faith?' The question isn't a scolding, it's an invitation to see that peace is not the absence of storms, but the presence of God with us within them.

Storms, literal and emotional, are part of life on Earth. The world is not a controlled lab; it's a living, breathing, shifting home. In every flood and fire, gust, and gale, may we look not for escape but for wisdom, wisdom that anchors, humbles, and calls us back to deep trust. Even chaos participates in the wisdom of creation.

As you listen with creation in the storm, let the storm teach you. Let the silence after the storm renew you.

Ideas for Reflection

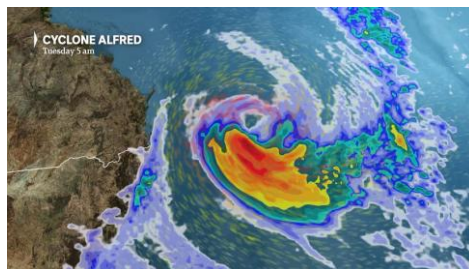
- When have you experienced a 'storm' in your life? How did it shape or change you?
- What helps you stay grounded when the winds rise?
- What might Earth's storms teach us about change, release, or renewal?
- What wisdom can we hear in thunder, in crashing waves, in wild weather?
- When have you tried to control something you could not? What would it mean to let go and to trust?
- What if the storm is not the enemy, but part of our wider kinship?
- How might we act differently if we believed storms were part of Earth's sacred rhythm?
- Where is Jesus in the storms of your life? Do you feel he is sleeping, calming, or simply present?



PEACE WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-15



Malcolm Guite offer a poetic response to Psalm 29

XXIX Afferte Domino

Call us oh Christ, and open up the gate

Call us to worship, with your mighty voice:

The voice that sings through rivers in full spate

The voice in which the forests all rejoice

The voice that rolls through thunderclouds, and calls

The deep seas and steep waves, the quiet voice

That stirs our sleeping conscience and recalls

Us to the love we had abandoned, leads

Us through the parting mists of doubt, or falls

Upon us like a revelation, pleads

With us upon the poor's behalf, blazes

In glory from each burning bush, and bleeds

Out from compassion's wounds, raises

Our spirits till we dance for joy

And gives us too, a voice to sing his praises.

"EVERYTHING IS ALIVE;
EVERYTHING IS
INTERCONNECTED."

- Cicero -



I never knew
I never knew the trees were
Speaking to each other out of sight
Or how Hildegard could know
They make energy from light
Or that the green earth is conscious
Is breathing, is alive
That there are ecosystems of hope
Inside this wild entangled life
I never knew we were relatives
The sun, the moon, the sea, the sky
I never knew we were stardust
You and me, blown into time
Until I learned to speak
In the language of leaves
The one they sing together
As a breeze blows in the trees.

*(Source: This Heart: Poems from the universe inside by Martin
Wroe, [Iona Publication](#))*

Planning Ahead

- **September 7 till September 28 – Season of Creation**
- **September 26 – Next Chinese seminar on Ageing organised by Wynne**
- **October 16, 2025 Worship Task Group on ZOOM 7pm**

Please pray for ...

The mission and ministry of our congregation and for our Minister, Deok Hee, and Wynne Cheng as they make links to the Chinese community.

Worship leaders; helpers, leaders, followers The Kogarah Storehouse and its many clients; Lala and staff and volunteers at the Storehouse. Dorothy and Godfrey and the work of LACLA. 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, Rhonda Chamberlain and family; Prema and Priya, Denis and Dolly, Ngahuia, Peter and Sue; Dinah; Ern Edwards; Jim Bird, Cindy, Dorothy and Godfrey, Sue B, Robert & Robyn. 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 and the countries of Europe. Sudan, Thailand, Cambodia

Next Sunday

28th September 2025 @ 10am

Pentecost 16 - Proper 21

Season of Creation 4 – Cosmos

Dance to the Cosmic Rhythm

Proverbs 8:22–31; Psalm 148; Colossians 1:15–20;

John 6:41–51

Leader Deok Hee

Reflection Deok Hee

Holy Communion Deok Hee



Church Council 2025-2026

Chair

Richard Goodman

Secretary

Sue Baglin

Treasurer

John Baglin (2027)

Councillors

Robert M^cAlpine (2026)

Sue Baglin (2026)

Joshua Chang (2026)

Elders

John Baglin (2026)

Bobbie Miller (2028)

Richard Goodman (2027)

Dorothy Makasa (2026)

Safe Church Contact Person

Richard Goodman