



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.**

19th October 2025 @ 10am

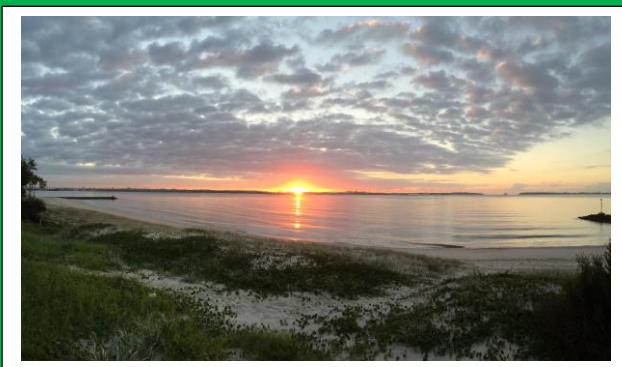
Pentecost 19 - Proper 24

Looking to a New Day

Leader Dinah

Reflection Deok Hee

Jeremiah 31:27–34; Psalm 119:97–104; 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5; Luke 18:1–8



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 Deok Hee on
0401 975 745.**

Scriptures from the Revised Common Lectionary

Jeremiah 31:27–34

The prophet looks forward to a day of rebuilding when Judah and Israel will flourish again. In this new day, everyone will have the opportunity to know God and God's way of justice written on our hearts.

Psalm 119:97–104

Psalm 119 is a full poem written as an elaborate acrostic, designed as a tool for teaching and memorisation. Each section corresponds to a letter of the Hebrew alphabet, and every verse within a section begins with that letter. This section (vv. 97–104) corresponds with the Hebrew letter (mem) and focuses on the psalmists' close and trusting relationship with God.

2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

This section of the letter to Timothy encourages the reader to develop their familiarity with the scriptures so that they are 'equipped' to do good. This won't always be easy, so perseverance is also required.

Luke 18:1–8

The writer uses the example of a widow who does not give up on demanding justice. Even the unjust judge will listen to her and make sure she is satisfied.

Theme Focus

As the prophet Jeremiah looks toward a new beginning, we imagine what the future may contain and how we can work towards flourishing for all.

Word for the Day

The prophet Jeremiah looks forward to a time after the exile has finished and the people can return to Israel and Judah. This will be a time of flourishing but also a time of change. During the COVID pandemic, people longed to get back to 'normal', but we found ourselves having to get used to a 'new normal' because things can never quite go back to what they were.

In this passage, Jeremiah tells the people that in the new time, everyone will have the opportunity to know God for themselves. God's ways will be written on people's hearts, and people will be responsible for their own sins. How does this picture of God fit in with our own understanding? What might we find written on our hearts?

Ideas for Reflection

- What would our ideal of justice look like?
- If we could change or fix our world to make it more just, what things would we include?
- How can we contribute to bringing these types of justice to fruition now?
- How do we understand that Yahweh has watched over the tearing down and overthrowing? How does it make us feel to imagine God watching and choosing not to intervene?
- When the return from exile eventuated, it wasn't the idyllic return that Jeremiah imagines in this text. How do we cope when the longed-for time does not deliver the justice we were hoping for? How do we keep hoping when hope seems futile?

When we think about this passage in connection with the persistent widow in the gospel reading, how does it change our understanding?

What do the two texts together communicate to us?



Begin the week with a prayer from Jamberoo Abbey

Monday Morning Reflection

Bring us bright God
from yesterday
into today and tomorrow.

Cheer us with courage.

Disturb us with justice.

Safeguard us with wisdom.

Bless us with wonder.

Cherish us with love.

Amen

~ Ruth Burgess

Also ...

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time was also the World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees.

From Pope Leo's message to mark this day:

"In a world darkened by war and injustice, even when all seems lost, migrants and refugees stand as messengers of hope. Their courage and tenacity bear heroic testimony to a faith that sees beyond what our eyes can see and gives them the strength to defy death on the various contemporary migration routes...

Their presence, then, should be recognized and appreciated as a true divine blessing, an opportunity to open oneself to the grace of God, who gives new energy and hope to his Church: "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it" (Heb 13:2).

The ramifications of the Season of Creation continue (also from Jamberoo Abbey's Facebook page)

Vale Jane Goodall. All created things have lost a giant and a treasure today. May she rest in peace and may we continue her work of loving the world and advocating for the protection and restoration of all of creation, especially her beloved chimpanzees. No doubt she will be greeted in heaven by many of her friends!



A Statement on the appointment of the Archbishop of Canterbury-designate

Rev Charissa Suli, President of the Uniting Church in Australia

As President of the Uniting Church in Australia, I share in the joy of the worldwide church in congratulating and warmly welcoming the newly appointed Archbishop of Canterbury-designate, The Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally DBE.

We rejoice in this historic moment: for the first time in a long history, a woman will serve as Archbishop of Canterbury. This is an affirmation of our deep and long-held belief that the gifts and call of the Holy Spirit are poured out freely, without boundary or restriction of gender, for the leadership of Christ's church. This appointment is a powerful witness that Christ's body cannot be whole without the love, vision, dedication, leadership and giftedness of women.

We give thanks for the many gifts Bishop Mullally will bring to this globally significant role. Her years of service in healthcare, and her Christian ministry as priest and bishop, now converge in her call to serve the whole Communion. We welcome her experience, faith, courage and compassion, trusting that these gifts will enrich the Church of England, the Anglican Church and the body of Christ across the world.

We assure Bishop Mullally of the prayers of the Uniting Church in Australia as she prepares for her enthronement next year and this new vocation of service. We pray that God will pour out upon her courage and wisdom, that she may listen deeply, lead with compassion, and call the church to grow in confidence in the Gospel of Christ.

May her ministry be a blessing to the Anglican Communion and to the whole people of God, and may she be sustained always by the Spirit's renewing grace.

Gracious God,

we rejoice in this new way of your Spirit moving among us.

Bless Bishop Sarah Mullally as she begins this ministry.

Strengthen her in wisdom, humility and courage;

sustain her family, colleagues, and the Church of England in faith and hope.

Guide the Anglican Communion under her leadership, that your Church may be a beacon of justice, compassion, and Christ's reconciling love to the world.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Planning Ahead

- **November 5th TKS Management Committee AGM @ 4pm ftf**
- **December 11th Worship Committee @ 7pm via Zoom**

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, Ngahua, 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

Christopher and all those in the middle of their HSC examinations

Next Sunday

26th October 2025 @ 10am

Pentecost 20 - Proper 25

Dreaming New Dreams

Leader Deok Hee

Reflection Deok Hee

Holy Communion Deok Hee

Joel 2:23–32; Psalm 65; 2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18; Luke 18:9–14



Church Council 2025-2026

Chair

Richard Goodman

Secretary

Sue Baglin

Treasurer

John Baglin (2027)

Councillors

Robert McAlpine (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