



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.**

2nd November 2025 @ 10am

All Saints

Pentecost 21 - Proper 26

Remembering the Communion of Saints

Leader Robert

Reflection Deok Hee

**Daniel 7:1–3, 15–18; Psalm 149 or Psalm 24; Ephesians 1:11–23; Luke
6:20–31**



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 Deok Hee on
0401 975 745.**

Scriptures from the Revised Common Lectionary

Daniel 7:1–3, 15–18

Daniel has a vision of four great beasts rising from the sea, symbolising four kings who will arise.

Psalm 149 is a call for the faithful to praise God and sing a new song. It emphasises a mutual relationship, as God delights in God's people.

Ephesians 1:11–23 uses the language of inheritance to describe our relationship with Christ. The writer prays that believers may receive the Spirit of revelation and wisdom to know God more fully.

Luke 6:20–31

Jesus, speaking to his disciples, presents a series of blessings and woes. He continues to those who were listening, urging them to love their enemies and to treat others as they would want to be treated.

Theme Focus

On All Saints' Day, we remember those who have gone before us and inspired our faith, and we honour their lives and legacy by living out the values they passed on.

Word for the Day

There are two aspects of the reading from Ephesians that relate directly to the commemoration of All Saints' Day. The first is Paul's use of the word 'inheritance'.

The use of this term could raise questions about God choosing specific people who are special. We need to remember that the term is being used by a person from their Jewish heritage. Being chosen brought both responsibility and comfort. Being an heir of God meant being an instrument of God's purpose in their own context. The other term used here is 'saints'. Saints can be viewed as special people who have done something extraordinary in order for them to receive this title. Here, Paul uses the term more generally to describe those who are in Christ. There is an invitation to all of us in this passage to join the saints who have gone before us and who are still surrounding us.

Ideas for Reflection

- Who are the significant people in your life who have shaped your faith?**
- How would you like to express your gratitude to these people?**
- How might you be a 'saint' for others in your community?**
- What gifts do you bring to the wider communion of saints?**

Introduction to Theme

Have you read the writing of someone from the past that has had a profound impact on your faith life? Is there a hymn written in centuries past that stirs your emotions and has deep meaning? Is there someone who has died who still feels present to you in some way, although no longer physically present? If you answered 'yes' to any of these questions, you will have some sense of the communion of saints. All Saints' Day has been celebrated in a variety of different forms for thousands of years. Western Culture has shied away from remembering the dead, but there is something profound and meaningful about recalling people and their stories who have made an impact on the faith

lives of others. Today, we will remember those important people and include them within the wider communion of saints.

A SONG FOR ALL SAINTS

Song of faith that sings forever

Song of faith that sings forever

through God's people, ages long,

Word that holds the world together

when our hearts take up the song,

always, always, somewhere sounding,

though the source we do not see,

counterpoint to all despairing,

it is hope that sets the key.

Song of faith in exaltation,

rising through the vaults of prayer,

tune of simple celebration

offered up in open air,

song in chapel and cathedral,

descant to our daily tone,

song from sickbed or in prison,

faith must often sing alone.

And when life would overwhelm us,

when there seems no song to sing,

hear the constant voice of courage

out of fear and suffering:

all who've loved and trusted Jesus,

all who lift us to be strong,

endless, endless are the voices

of the faith that makes the song.

Words By [Shirley Erena Murray](#)

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As evening falls on All Saints Day, the glow of thousands of candles spreads through Kraków, Poland's New Podgórze Cemetery. Families leave candles on the hillside graves to continue a respectful holiday tradition and create a poignant memorial.

We will all have people we call to mind today. For me it is always my grandparents.

My beloved grandmother Marjorie, who drew on a bottomless well of faith and hope through the grief of her life and was sustained by a deep and residing peace and joy. As a gifted composer she put fresh words of faith to music well into her 80s and her songs are still loved and sung at Uniting churches in Victoria.

My beloved grandparents Howard and Valda, officers in the Salvation Army, whose devotion to Jesus was fierce and whose words about him were simple yet fiery with conviction and love.

These are the ordinary saints of God. We have known them, loved them. Some have passed beyond memory but are a treasure forever held in the life of God. They surround us now, a holy communion alive in Christ, cheering us from ahead, shaping us still, inspiring our lives.

On 1 November I will count them all among the saints and speak their names out loud. I will light a candle for them, not only in memory, but as a symbol of the life that has swallowed up death and the love that will outlive us all.

I will remember that *we* are *they*; that we by the grace of God take our place in the unbroken circle of the living and the dead, only human yet made holy in belonging.

I will claim the words of faith and promise that in Christ we commune still, bound by threads that can never break nor be cut. In life, in death, in life beyond death, we belong to God.

One of my favourite hymns is that classic, *For all the saints, who from their labours rest*, which I love to sing each year. If you're looking to listen, [here is a lovely version](#). I also recently discovered [new words](#) for this old song which fill my heart to the brim. May they bless you too!

*Soon dawns the promised day of Christ our Lord
when all creation rises up restored,
and all our song, from heart and soul outpoured:
Alleluia, alleluia!*

*From every age, from dawn to setting sun,
home come the saints to God the Three-in-One,
bringing eternal praise on earth begun,
Alleluia, alleluia!*

written by Bethany Broadstock, UC Assembly Communications Unit

"Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive." Luke 20:38

Planning Ahead

- **November 12th Management Committee of the Kogarah Storehouse (AGM and General Meeting) 4pm at the Storehouse**
- **November 23rd Reign of Christ**
- **November 30th Advent 1**
- **28 November, 5, 12, 19 December Advent Bible Study: Fridays @ 10am**
- **December 10th Worship Committee @ 7pm via Zoom**
- **December 11th Kogarah UC Church Council @ 7pm**
- **December 18th Blue Christmas at 7.30 pm**
- **December 25th Christmas Day (Thursday) (There will be no Christmas Eve service this year.)**

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, - 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

9th November 2025 @ 10am

Pentecost 22 - Proper 27

Singing a New Song in God's Love

Leader Deok Hee

Reflection Deok Hee

Holy Communion Deok Hee

Haggai 1:15b–2:9; Psalm 98; 2 Thessalonians 2:1–5, 13–17.

Luke 20:27–38



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