



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.**

9th November 2025 @ 10am

Pentecost 22 - Proper 27

Singing a New Song in God's Love

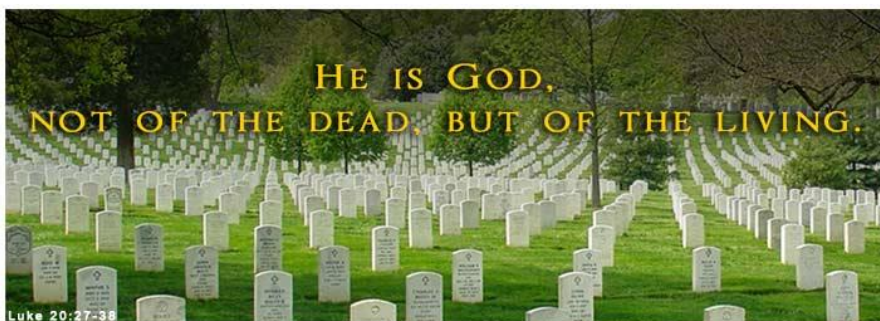
Leader Deok Hee

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



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

Haggai 1:15b–2:9

The prophet Haggai addresses the remnant of Israel, exhorting them to be strong because God is with them. He asks who among them recalls the former glory of the Lord's house, then delivers God's word that there will be peace and a house greater than the former.

Psalm 98

The psalmist calls for a new song to be sung to God in celebration of God's steadfast love and faithfulness. Not only will this song be made with instruments and human voices, but also the sea, the rivers, and the mountains will sing with joy to God.

2 Thessalonians 2:1–5, 13–17

The Thessalonians are encouraged not to be unsettled or deceived by teaching that the Lord's Day has already come. Instead, they are encouraged to stand firm and hold fast to the teaching they have received and be strengthened by God's love and grace.

Luke 20:27–38

When some Sadducees present Jesus with a tricky question about relationships after we die, Jesus explains that resurrected life is different from earthly life and argues that we cannot talk in the same terms about marriage.

Theme Focus

We hear, in Jesus' response to a tricky question about the resurrection and in the psalmist's call to praise, an invitation to see life anew—to discover fresh songs of faith and innovative ways of being the people of God in our communities.

Word for the Day

The reading from Luke tells us that some Sadducees came to Jesus with a question about relationships in life after death. The Sadducees did not believe in life after death; however, marriage and family relationships were of great importance to them. People in Jesus' time would marry people closely related to them to continue their family line. It was common practice that if a husband died and left no children, his brother would marry the widow. The Sadducees present Jesus with an exaggerated example of seven brothers who have all been married to the same wife. Whose wife will the woman be once they have all died?

Jesus' answer directs the Sadducees back to God. All will be God's children. Jesus points out that all will be alive in God and have a new life and different relationships.

Ideas for Reflection

- In what areas of your life do you become stuck and unable to see new ways of being or living?
- Where do you see 'new songs being sung' in your faith community? What do they tell you about how God is working?
- What new song do you think your community might like to hear from your faith community?

A song by the late Australian poet, Professor James McAuley brings to life this week's Psalm

*Sing a new song, sing a new song,
and wait upon the promise of the Lord.*

Creation sings a new song to the Lord,
the universal energies rejoice,
through all the magnitudes of space and time
creatures proclaim the grandeur of Christ.

*Sing a new song, sing a new song,
and wait upon the promise of the Lord.*

The mountains and the valleys and the plains,
the cattle and the wild beasts and the birds,
the shadows and the clouds, the rain and snow,
praise and reflect the bounty of Christ.

*Sing a new song, sing a new song,
and wait upon the promise of the Lord.*

The ocean deeps, the currents and the tides,
the diatoms, the fishes, and the whale,
the storm, the reef, the waterspout, the calm,
praise and reflect the wonder of Christ.

*Sing a new song, sing a new song,
and wait upon the promise of the Lord.*

The fruit trees in their seasons and the vine,
the eucalypt, the cedar, and the palm,
the lotus and the orchid and the rose,
praise and reflect the beauty of Christ.

*Sing a new song, sing a new song,
and wait upon the promise of the Lord.*

The love of man and woman clear as dawn,
the will for truth and justice broad as day,
the wisdom of the heart profound as night,
praise and reflect the glory of Christ.

*Sing a new song, sing a new song,
and wait upon the promise of the Lord.*

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November 9, Proper 27

The reading from Luke 20 is one of the clearest statements in scripture about how God sees time, the universe and everything really. In response to a fairly simplistic “gotcha” question from the Sadducees, Jesus begins to describe “life in that age”, presumably the age of the resurrection that is still yet to come. In that age the regular ordering of life and relationships (specifically marriage) is of a completely different quality to how things are understood in this age. It’s not so much that the current ordering is replaced by something new but, rather, in that age the current ordering ceases to have meaning. Whatever Jesus is saying is confusing and mysterious to the Sadducees and remains so for us today. Yet, in the mystery is also a promise of life and presence. As Jesus goes on, reflecting on Moses and the (burning) bush, he affirms that, in God’s presence, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are somehow present too. That in this moment time has broken down and all people (and all things) are gathered in God. Or, to put it another way, in God’s presence all life across space and time is somehow present too. Believers in this age have only momentary glimpses of this glory. But the promise of the resurrection is that the marks of time will be no more. That decay, waning, destruction and, most importantly, death will no longer shape reality.

From this week’s Uniting Insights on Line

Prepared by Rev. Dr Niall McKay, Educator for Lifelong Learning



Planning Ahead

- **November 12th Management Committee of the Kogarah Storehouse (AGM and General Meeting) 4pm at the Storehouse**
- **November 23rd Reign of Christ**
- **November 25th Georges River Presbytery meets at Kogarah. We supply light refreshments**
- **November 27th and 28th Storehouse Christmas market – watch for details.**
- **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.

Next Sunday

16th November 2025 @ 10am

Pentecost 23 - Proper 28

What do we hope for?

Leader Richard

Reflection Deok Hee

Isaiah 65:17–25; Isaiah 12; 2 Thessalonians 3:6–13.

Luke 21:5–19

Sing to the Lord, for
he has done glorious
things; let this be
known to all the world.

Isaiah 12:5



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