



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.**

15th February 2026 @ 10am

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Transfiguration

Mountaintop Experiences

Leader Dinah

Reflection Deok Hee

Exodus 24:12–18; Psalm 99,

2 Peter 1:16–21, Matthew 17:1–9



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 Richard Goodman on 0434 127 340.

Scriptures

Exodus 24:12–18 narrates the event when Moses ascends the mountain to meet with God and receive the Ten Commandments.

Psalm 99

The psalmist speaks about God ruling, reminding the reader that Moses, Aaron and Samuel all called upon God and praised God's name.

2 Peter 1:16–21

The reader is reminded that the Holy Spirit inspires God's words to be spoken through men and women.

Matthew 17:1–9

On a high mountain, Jesus is revealed in glory as heaven and earth seem to meet in cloud and light. From the cloud comes a voice that echoes the words of Jesus' baptism, affirming him as God's beloved and calling all to listen to him, and inviting us to recognise how the ordinary can become extraordinary when God's presence is revealed.

Theme Focus

With sacred encounters and transformative moments on ordinary mountains, the Season after the Epiphany comes to a close, and we are invited to ponder the mystery and prepare our hearts for the journey into Lent.

Word for the Day

The story in Matthew 17:1–9 is commonly known as the Transfiguration—a moment of awe and wonder. On the mountaintop, amazing and transformative things happen.

The disciples experience both a literal and a metaphorical mountaintop experience. Peter's response is to build three shrines/memorials/shelters/dwelling places. Perhaps the impulse is to fix the moment, to allow other disciples to come close to this experience, or another reason.

We are not told, so we cannot know. What we might recognise, though, is our own impulse to memorialise important events. We might take a photo, write a story, create a cairn or post about it on social media. How might these mountain moments shape the way we live day to day?

On the mountaintop, amazing and transformative things happen. Peter, the disciples, and Moses all encounter God in ways that shape their lives. Today, we are invited to notice those moments in our own lives and see how they call us to carry awe, hope, and God's light into our daily lives.

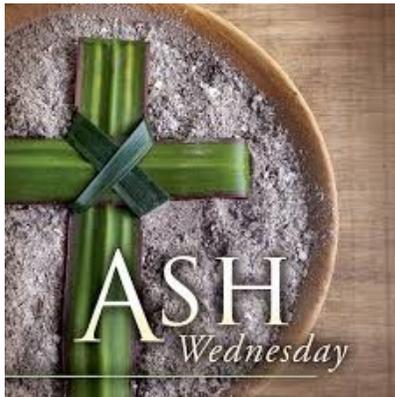
Ideas for Reflection

- How do you feel when you have exciting news that you are not allowed to share? Are you good at keeping confidences?
- The disciples would not have met or seen a picture of Moses or Elijah, so how did they know that these were the other two figures?
- The impulse to build shrines/memorials/shelters/dwellings was a significant act for Peter. Think of a moment when you felt awe or hope. How did it affect your actions afterwards?
- There are no women in this story. If there had been—say, Mary and Martha—included on this trip to the mountaintop, what might have been their response? How might it have been different?

- How might modern ways of remembering or sharing stories (such as photos, journals, and social media) help us preserve and share God's presence without losing the personal encounter?



Sunday February
15,
Chinese New Year
– The Year of the
Horse



**Our Ash Wednesday Service
will be held
at 7:30pm
on Wednesday 18th February
2026
Bring your palm crosses if you
have them.**

18 February

Ash Wednesday

Where Grief and Hope Meet

Leader: Deok Hee

Reflection: Deok Hee

Possible Readings

(Joel 2:1–2, 12–17) or Isaiah 58:1–12; Psalm 51:1–17;

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10; Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

[Ash Wednesday](#)

Receive this cross of ash upon your brow,
Brought from the burning of Palm Sunday's cross.
The forests of the world are burning now
And you make late repentance for the loss.
But all the trees of God would clap their hands
The very stones themselves would shout and sing
If you could covenant to love these lands
And recognise in Christ their Lord and king.

He sees the slow destruction of those trees,
He weeps to see the ancient places burn,
And still you make what purchases you please,
And still to dust and ashes you return.
But Hope could rise from ashes even now
Beginning with this sign upon your brow.

Sonnet by Malcolm Guite (2022) from [Sounding the Seasons](#) (If you'd like to pursue the Lenten journey further the book is available on Amazon both [here](#) and in the [USA](#) and is also available on Kindle).

Upcoming Storehouse Activities

- 23rd February – Meeting with Tim from Chris Minn’s office to plan the Storehouse contribution to Multicultural Day (14th May) celebrations at NSW Parliament House.
- 25th February – Government Links – a hub to help people access government (NSW and Federal) service. Translators will be on hand to help people access the services. (Nepali, Chinese, Ukrainian et al.) These services include: hearing tests, Centre Link, mental health (St George Hospital), Gambling Awareness, other services from the NSW Department of Health, and many others. Lunch will be provided. This activity will take place once a month on the fourth Thursday
- 5th March - Chinese New Year celebrations. Soul of Chinatown, as supporter of the Storehouse, will provide lunch/Yum Cha.



**uniting
church**



the
Kogarah
STOREHOUSE

The illustration shows a simple line drawing of a house with a chimney and a flagpole.

Sharing God’s love with our local community

Planning Ahead

- **February 15, Chinese New Year – The Year of the Horse - begins**
- **February 18, Ash Wednesday service @ 7:30pm**
- **February 19, 2026, Worship Task Group meeting @ 7pm via Zoom**
- **March 31 Church Council Meeting @ 7pm via Zoom**
- **April 12 Yum Cha after church at Kogarah RSL**

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.

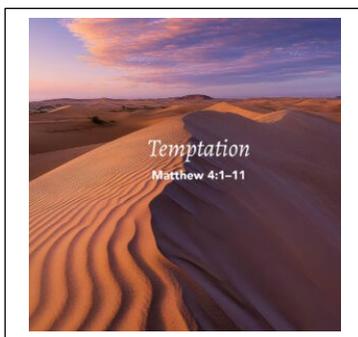
Worship leaders; helpers, leaders, followers The Kogarah Storehouse and its many clients; Lala and staff and volunteers at the Storehouse. Dorothy and Godfrey and the work of LACLA. The team, parents and children in the Early Learning Centre.

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, Nives - 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
22nd February 2026 @ 10am

Lent 1
Fed by Grace
Leader Deok Hee
Reflection Deok Hee
Genesis 2:15–17; 3:1–7; Psalm 32,
Romans 5:12–19, Matthew 4:1–11



Church Council 2025-2026

Chair
Secretary
Treasurer
Councillors

Richard Goodman
Sue Baglin
John Baglin (2027)
Robert M^cAlpine (2026)
Sue Baglin (2026)
Joshua Chang (2026)

Elders

John Baglin (2026)
Bobbie Miller (2028)
Richard Goodman (2027)
Dorothy Makasa (2026)

Culture of Safety Contact Person

Richard Goodman