



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 April 2026 @ 10am

Easter 3

Recognising God with Us

Leader Richard

Reflection Deok Hee

Acts 2:14a, 36–41; Psalm 116:1–4, 12–19; 1 Peter 1:17–23;

Luke 24:13–35



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
Rev Deok Hee Cho on 0401 975 745.

Scriptures

Acts 2:14a, 36–41 Speaking to fellow Jews gathered in Jerusalem, Peter declares that the risen Jesus has been made both Lord and Messiah. His words resonate, and some ask what they should do. Peter’s answer is as clear now as it was then: turn toward God, be baptised, receive forgiveness, and welcome the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Psalms 116:1–4, 12–19 The psalmist speaks from the heart about God’s faithfulness in a time of distress. Although the voice is personal, it can easily be heard as the gratitude of a community that has known God’s rescue. Whether we speak as individuals or as a gathered people, the psalm invites us to notice God’s nearness and give witness to it.

1 Peter 1:17–23 The writer reminds new believers what it means to consider themselves children of God. Made new through Christ’s self-giving love, they are called to live in a way counter to the prevailing culture. Their lives are to be marked by a sincere, mutual love that reflects the grace they have received.

Luke 24:13–35 On the road to Emmaus, two disciples try to make sense of all that has happened. They had heard the women’s astonishing report of the empty tomb, yet grief and confusion linger. When Jesus comes alongside them, they do not recognise him. It is only at the table, when he blesses and breaks the bread, that their eyes are opened. In that instant of recognition, Jesus vanishes—but they are already on their feet, hurrying back the long, dark road to Jerusalem. An encounter that began in disappointment ends in renewed faith and mission.

Theme Focus

As two disciples walk along the road to Emmaus and encounter Jesus but do not recognise him, we ponder why we sometimes fail to recognise Jesus/God in our everyday lives

Word for the Day

The writer of Psalm 116 recognises God's effect on his life, and the author of 1 Peter invites us to think about what it means to belong to God as beloved children—using the image of God as a loving parent who guides and shapes us. In the Acts reading, Peter helps his audience in Jerusalem understand that the one crucified has now been made both Lord and Messiah. In Luke 24:13–35, two of Jesus' disciples who meet the risen Jesus on the road need Jesus' help to recognise him.

Ideas for Reflection

- Think back to when you first encountered Jesus. How did it feel?
- When did you last encounter Jesus? How did it feel?
- The disciples had lost hope. In times when we have lost hope, how can this story speak to us?
- How do we box Jesus into our own ideas of who he is?
- The disciples recognised Jesus when he took the bread, blessed and broke it and gave it to them. How does this affect how you hear those words in the communion service?



Luke 24:25-26 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

**We thought that everything was lost and gone,
Disaster on disaster overtook us
The night we left our Jesus all alone
And we were scattered, and our faith forsook us.
But oh that foul Friday proved far worse,
For we had hoped that he had been the one,
Till crucifixion proved he was a curse,
And on the cross our hopes were all undone.**

***Oh foolish foolish heart why do you grieve?
Here is good news and comfort to your soul:
Open your mind to scripture and believe
He bore the curse for you to make you whole
The living God was numbered with the dead
That He might bring you Life in broken bread.***

Malcolm Guite (2016)

This sonnet forms part of a new sequence of fifty sonnets on the sayings of Jesus called [Parable and Paradox](#). They have been published in a book of that title. Image: Christ appears to the Apostles on the road to Emmaus. Mosaic (6th century)





Photos from last Sunday's Yum Cha at Kogarah RSL. Over 60 people attended from our broader church and community family (congregation, Table Tennis, Chinese singing and dancing groups, Mei mei's family and friends.)



Many thanks to Wynne for organising our get together. It involved a lot of work, including negotiating with the RSL, especially as the numbers kept on growing.

Planning Ahead

- May 6 Kogarah Storehouse Board Meeting
- May 7 Worship Task Group meeting @ 7pm via Zoom
- May 8 Book discussion @ Bobbie's @ 11:30am
- May 14 Kogarah Church Council via 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, Nives - For others whom we name in our hearts.

Pray for the people of Syria, Iraq, Iran, Jordan and other Middle Eastern Countries involved in the current war; Ukraine, Russia, Israel and Palestine, especially the people of Gaza and Lebanon. The USA and the countries of Europe. Sudan. **(Below: Choir in worship on 12.04.2026)**



Next Sunday
26th April 2026 @ 10am
Easter 4 – Good Shepherd Sunday

Opening to life
Leader Deok Hee
Reflection Deok Hee
Holy Communion Deok Hee
Acts 2:42–47; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19–25;
John 10:1–10



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