



ALKING POINT

Worship Service Times:	
Traralgon:	9:30 am
Glengarry:	11:00 am
Rosedale:	10:00 am
	(2nd & 4th Tuesdays)
	2:00 pm
	(3rd Sunday)

Our Mission: Sharing God's presence and reconciling love.
Our Vision: More wholehearted, more compassionate,
more abundant life shared in our neighbourhoods

SUNDAY, 14th April 2024

Volume 30 Issue 12

Coming from Gippsland and driving through our landscape, I have come to love the great Strzelecki Eucalyptus which we see in isolated parts of our landscape. There are a few along the highway to Rosedale: - those large trees which seem to stand as sentinels, in their majesty. Recent storms through Gippsland, especially Mirboo North, has seen some battered by the force of storm winds. Trees are such beautiful reminders of time, of the need to have deep 'roots', all that they shelter in their own ecosystem and by parallel our own relationships in Gods grace. So I want to share this prayer, by Neil Paynter in "Gathered and Scattered: Readings and meditations from the Iona Community".

Prayer

God, help us to grow
like a garden
like a song
like a tree.
Like a great tree
Like one of those great, old trees
you meet sometimes and hug
wandering lost
or enchanted
in a deep, dark forest
in an empty field.
A great, old tree
with roots that reach down to the heart
roots that reach down but
break through the ground around the trunk and lift as if the earth can't contain the yearning.
As if the earth shall erode and pass away and all that shall be left in the end is Spirit.
A great old tree
with breaks and wounds and scars
but dancing and clapping its hands.
Like a beautiful, old woman at a summer wedding.
A great, old tree still and centred
drawing on the living warm core of God
though left stripped of everything.
God, help us to grow
like a garden
like a song
like a tree.
Like one of those great, old trees
you meet sometimes in a crowded forest
in and empty field.

Neil Paynter



Traralgon District Uniting Church
Incorporating: Traralgon, Glengarry & Rosedale.



AT HOME WORSHIP - ORDER OF SERVICE

SUNDAY 14th April 2024

Reflection ~ from Peter Morris

So You Would Come

[So You Would Come - YouTube](#)

Theme

The LORD who knows and loves us,
changing us through the love and
forgiveness of Jesus

A paraphrase of Psalm 4

Dear God, respond to Your servant in
distress / make room for a disciple in
despair / listen to the agonizing cries of a
child / who is depressed and unhappy.

O you who I thought were my friends / why
do you keep hacking at me / gloating over
my errors, rejoicing at my failures / always
looking for the very worst in me?

I remember that I truly belong to God / and
that He does feel for me when I hurt.

Go ahead, explode, blow up / it doesn't
frighten God / as long as it doesn't hurt
anyone else.

But then, O foolish heart, simmer down /
and begin renewing your confidence in God.

I hear voices about me / whining about the
wickedness of the world / begging for divine
demonstration of might and right.

And yet I have discovered / more delight in
my relationship to You / than in all their
possessions and pleasures.

And so, I can lie down and sleep in peace /
because of You, I am eternally secure.

AMEN

(freely adapted from "Psalms Now", Father
Leslie F Brant, 1973)

Comments

How can we sleep peacefully at night and
be joyful, when those who do the wrong
thing prosper and we don't...

This Psalm asks us to consider whether we
have a divided heart, making things like
success or relationships into idols. It is an
invitation to examine ourselves and where
needed, to change our attitude.

If we have any bitterness, we are invited to
forgive... and a call to seek God's face to
have a sense of his presence and love in
our hearts. Knowing that we are safe in
God, come what may...

Prayer:

LORD, there are things
perhaps some bad things
perhaps even some good things
that we can be tempted to turn
into idols in our lives

To compete with you for the allegiance
of our hearts

Sometimes we might have resentment
to people who have wronged us
And sometimes we even have resentment
towards you

These things restrict us in knowing
the joy of your presence
and the peace in trusting in you

Help us to see these idols for what they
are

and turn more and more to you
as you fill our hearts with joy

AMEN

Comments

God invites us to speak honestly with him,
and then to listen to what he says to us in
return.

A priest told me the story of his argument, with another priest...

They had very different backgrounds and personalities; but because of their work, they had to share a house and often they argued like little kids.

One day during a heated argument he went to his room and slammed the door (just like a little kid...). Then paced up and down, rehearsing all the words he could have used in the argument.

And as he paced up and down, he thought he should pray. Now he could have folded his hands and said, "Bless him LORD". But that wasn't how he felt. It wouldn't have been an honest prayer, so he tried to pray honestly.

"LORD, he is so arrogant and rude and self-centred, he is always rubbing me up the wrong way, I wish I had the words to cut him down to size and put him in his place".

And as he prayed an honest prayer, the LORD seemed to speak to him.

"Try to see him from my perspective he is lonely and hurt by the world, with a really low self-image. He is dearly loved by me and I long to build him up".

At the close of his prayer, he didn't want to cut the other priest down to size, he wanted to find ways to befriend him and build him up.

Symbols: simple reminders of God's wonderful love...

A Candle

We are changed by the life and warmth of Jesus as he touches our very lives...

The Cross

Here is the God who loves us, who seeks us out, and who longs for us to know His love in the inner fibre of our being.

It's not just what we say, it's who we are, it's what His love makes us.

His love is so wonderful, that we can't really grasp it, and can't really explain it. BUT it's real...

Pray that we can catch a fresh glimpse of this wonderful love ...

The steadfast love of the LORD <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=edvskV0oxdQ>

Receive the good news:

Our Loving Heavenly Father pays attention to us when we pray. He receives our confession and saves us by grace.

May the peace of God guard us in mind and heart
now and forever.

Thanks be to God Amen

O how He Loves You and Me [Oh, How He Loves You and Me - YouTube](#)

The Presbytery Fig Tree Worship Resources for Sunday 17th April 2024, to enrich your worship...

<https://figtreeworshipresource.blog/>



COPYRIGHT

Hymns copied: CCLI Licence no 206729, 153822, 17844

Peter will be preaching at
Newborough Uniting Church
on Sunday afternoon.
We ask for your prayers for Peter as he
continues in this important ministry.

Winter Appeal

As the weather turns colder by the day, there is an amazing opportunity for us to support our friends in need in our community. Whether you are knitting, crocheting or buying new blankets, beanies scarves and gloves, every bit helps.

Our WINTER APPEAL dedication service will be on the 5th May.

All your wonderful contributions can be left in the office. Thank you.

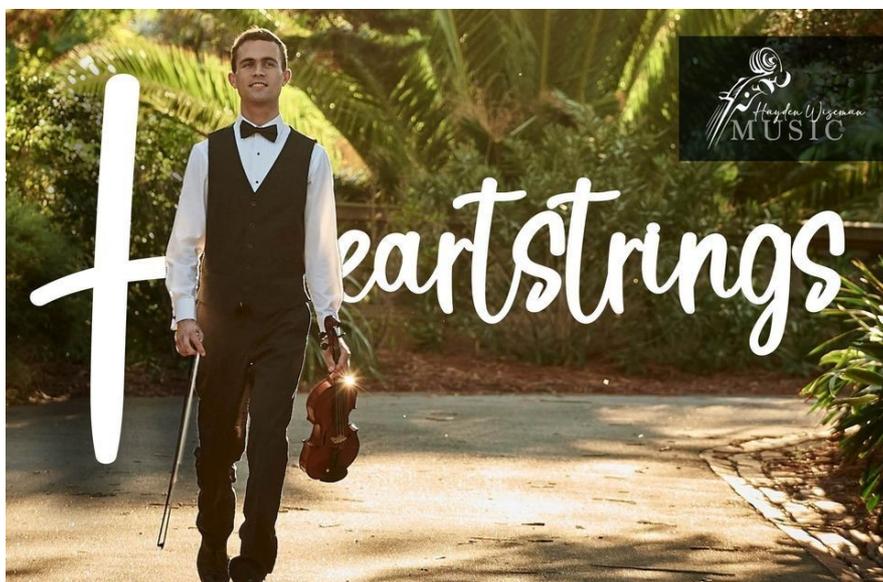


mainly music
Thursday
@ 9:30 am
During school term

Music Group
Fridays
@ 5:00 pm



Playgroup
Monday
@ 9:30 am
During school term



Scan to book or register

Sunday APRIL 21 7pm TRARALGON UNITING CHURCH

Having performed more than 400 concerts across Australia, New Zealand and also Canada, Hayden is now an international violinist.

He is passionate about bringing real live music to churches and communities around the world. The connection is greater, the experience is deeper than the online dynamic.

Come along and bring a friend to enjoy a truly uplifting and unique experience.

Tickets: \$25 ADULTS, \$20 CONCESSION/UNDER 18, \$10 CHILDREN UNDER 12
CD'S,DVD'S, USB'S AVAILABLE

Scripture

14th April

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

21st April

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

Uniting Church in Australia - Traralgon District

19-29 Park Lane (PO Box 1136) TRARALGON 3844 ph: 5176 1029

Administrative Assistant: Theresa Steyn **Office Hours:** Wednesday and Thursday 9am-1pm

Email Address: mail@traralgon.unitingchurch.org.au **Web Address:** <http://traralgonuc.blogspot.com/>