

Services – Sunday 5 May, 2024

Easter 6

9.30am Five Dock

Preacher: Rev Wattson Pualilo

Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 57-58; Hebrews 3:13-14

Theme: "We shall not be moved"

We are glad to have you with us today in worship.

It is our hope that you will not only learn more about God, but that you will encounter Him and experience His presence, love and grace for you.

Diary Dates



Monday Afternoon Bible Study

will not meet this week.

Lent Event Report

\$1100 has been forwarded to Lent Event. Thanks to the Congregation for raising this amount of money for work in the Pacific region

Sunday 12 May

Mother's Day will be acknowledged in the service.

Wednesday 15 May at 11.30am

A Property and Administration Committee

meeting will be held in the Church foyer. Minutes of the meeting will be available on the Church noticeboard, following the meeting.

Sunday 19 May 2024

Pentecost – when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Pastoral Carers Group will meet after morning tea.

Tuesday 21 May

Sydney Presbytery Meeting

Thank you to Cathy Ridge for her continued interest and attendance at these meetings and her reports back to the Congregation.

Wednesday 22 May 10am–12pm

Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea

Please see Kay if you can provide slices, biscuits and cakes for the Morning Tea. Volunteers are needed to help with the Morning Tea. Please invite your friends and neighbours to the Morning Tea.

Sunday 26 May

Trinity Sunday is one of the few celebrations of the Christian Year that commemorates a reality and doctrine rather than a person or event. Trinity Sunday celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three Persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Sunday 26 May after service

Church Council

Written reports covering the period Feb 2024 to May 2024 are required from the Minister, Treasurer, PAC, Congregation and Pastoral Carers Group. Reports are to be at the Church Office by Wed 15 May for distribution on Sun 19 May.



Praise and Prayer Points.

Pentecost brings hope

excerpts from a blog by Rev **Denise Liersch**
(Moderator, UCA VIC/TAS, 2022)

We are in a time of changing seasons. We're approaching winter, moving soon from the seasons of Lent and Easter, into the season of Pentecost, filled with life and hope for a long season of growth and green shoots and all the struggles of life that we know will emerge.

It was almost ten years ago that poet Maya Angelou died, at age 86. Maya was the author of *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* and *All God's Children Need Travelling Shoes*. Maya Angelou is known as a famed poet, civil rights activist, actress, director, professor and more. When her poetry collection *And Still I Rise* was republished in 2021, it was something we needed in the middle of the pandemic.

Here is an excerpt from one of her poems, *On the Pulse of Morning*, which she spoke at the presidential inauguration of Bill Clinton in 1993:

*Lift up your faces, you have a piercing need
for this bright morning dawning for you.
History, despite its wrenching pain,
cannot be unlived, and if faced with courage,
need not be lived again.
Lift up your eyes upon the day breaking for you.
Lift up your hearts.
Each new hour holds new chances
for new beginnings.*

There are echoes in the poem of the Pentecost story in Acts 2, where we hear of the shift from wrenching pain, fear and hiding in closed rooms, towards courage and life. Echoes too of our Communion prayer which we hear and pray together each time we gather as a community around bread and wine.

We remember that death and failure cannot hold us back from the gift of love and life that God's Spirit calls us into. We are called to "lift up our hearts" as the "horizon leans forward" toward us. We remember who we are. We are "re-membered": brought together to be more than the sum of our individual parts.

victas.uca.org.au/pentecost-brings-hope/