

2022 Lent Resource

Daily Prayer-Action Calendar



Our Guide to Lent

In Lent, we reflect on Christ's ministry, death, and resurrection.

We slow down and examine our internal spiritual lives as well as the way we live out our Christian faith in the world.

As we journey through the season of Lent following Jesus, may we recognise the lament, grief, and despair of the world around us. War, Climate injustice, poverty, and human suffering seem insurmountable. May we pray and cry out to God, as Jesus taught us, trusting that God hears us.

This Lenten prayer and action guide will help individuals and congregations take time to learn, lament, repent, advocate, and take concrete steps to transforming justice of God for coming reconciliation and renewal of the whole creation.



The Uniting Church in Australia
Synod of South Australia

March 2022

2 March: Ash Wednesday

Lament and pray for peace in Ukraine, and for all those impacted by the violence taking place.

<https://uniting.church/praying-for-peace-in-ukraine/>

3 March

Pray for a First Peoples Heart – Voice, Treaty, Truth. Listen to cry of First Peoples and read the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

<https://ulurustatement.org/the-statement/>

4 March

Pray for the healing and flourishing of the whole of God's Creation and all its creatures. Download *Just Earth* app on your devices ([Android](#), [Apple](#))

There is a short Biblical text followed by a reflection on the passage, a variety of quotes closely related to the passage (wisdom from many traditions and ages), a 'to do' suggestion that includes a practical action, and prayers.



5 March

Pray for Australia to be a compassionate nation, where every person who seeks refuge here is treated fairly and made to feel welcome and safe – regardless of their country of origin or mode of arrival.

<https://uniting.church/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/F3-A-Welcoming-Compassionate-and-Diverse-Nation.pdf>

6 March

Pray for an Economy for Life – Our government makes economic decisions that put people first: decisions that are good for creation, that lift people out of poverty and fairly share our country's wealth. Check out the UCA statement, [Toward an Economy of Life](#)

7 March

Pray for an Inclusive and Equal Society – where all are equal and free to exercise our rights equally, regardless of faith, cultural background, race, ability, age, sexual orientation and gender identity. Read UCA President's pastoral letter on the Religious Discrimination Bill <https://uniting.church/pastoral-statement-religious-discrimination/>



8 March

Celebrating the *International Women's Day*, pray and advocate for women's safety, gender-equality, and an end to gendered violence. Check out UCA resource on Domestic and Family Violence: *BEYOND VIOLENCE* https://uniting.church/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/DFV-Report_FINAL_web.pdf

9 March

Give or take up something in solidarity with those who live with less and raise money for projects including clean water, education and climate change advocacy. Join UnitingWorld in 2022 lent event: <https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/event/lent-event/home>

10 March

Lament Aboriginal deaths in custody and pray for reducing incarceration of First Peoples through meaningful, effective, culturally appropriate and research-based policies and programs.

11 March

Pray for an end to mandatory and indefinite off-shore and on-shore detention programs.

<https://sa.uca.org.au/justice-advocacy/refugees-and-asylum-seekers/resources>

12 March

Watch a series of seven short videos, '*Lessons from COVID 19 for the Climate Emergency*' <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2KelfQhz4XY-sjDb-dcJjg>

Share it with your family, friends and start a small group in your congregation for discussion and taking Climate actions together.

13 March

Ask your local political candidates about their housing policy: What commitment will you make to increasing social housing? Will you increase funding to programs that more adequately support people experiencing homelessness?



14 March

Pray and join *Christians United For Afghanistan* in calling on the Federal Government to act swiftly to protect people from Afghanistan, reunite families, and welcome a special refugee intake of 20,000 men, women and children to Australia. Sign at the link here: <https://www.unitedforafghanistan.com/#sign>

15 March

Ask your local political candidates about their refugee policies: Will your government improve access to state services for asylum seekers living in poverty in South Australia? Will your government fund to address the homelessness and disadvantage experienced by asylum seekers?

16 March

Pray for Flourishing Communities, Regional, Remote and Urban – Housing and Mental Health in the Bush. Donate to Frontier Services <https://frontierservices.org/donate/>

17 March

It's National *Close the Gap* Day. Advocate for sufficient funding to achieve the Closing the Gap targets, prioritising Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations to deliver services wherever possible. Join the Close the Gap Campaign <https://antar.org.au/close-gap>

18 March

Pray for State and Federal Elections.

19 March

On this State Election Day, cast your vote for a just society with the needs of the most vulnerable and protection of God's creation in prayer and mind.

20 March

Consider planning with others at church for an Earth Day/Easter Sunday celebration, on 17 April. (Earth Day is 22 April). Resources available at www.creationjustice.org/earth-day-Sunday

21 March

Marking the *International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination*, pray for racial justice using an [ecumenical prayer](#). Check out UCA resource for [anti-racist worship](#). <https://uniting.church/towards-intentionally-anti-racist-worship/>



22 March

Marking [World Water Day](#), try taking shorter showers, installing water-efficient shower heads, installing rain water tanks, limiting lawn sizes and only planting native plant species.



23 March

Pray for UAICC, Indigenous communities and leaders of Raukkan, in the APY Lands, Oodnadatta, Port Augusta, Salisbury and Synod Covenanting Committee.

24 March

Pray for culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) neighbours, seasonal workers and international students.

Check out [Mapping Intercultural Neighbourhoods in SA: CALD & Intercultural Ministry Survey](#)
<https://sa.uca.org.au/cald/cal-d-events-and-resources>

25 March

In solidarity with young people, pray and support *School Strike for the Climate*.

Watch "[Why does the Uniting Church support the School Strike 4 Climate Movement?](#)" video.

26 March

Join 2022 [Earth Hour](#) by switching off at 8:30 pm.
<https://www.earthhour.org.au/>

27 March

Learn about how your congregation might grow and strengthen its response to Climate change with a new NCLS report, *They Shall Inherit the Earth*. Register to receive a copy of the full research report [here](#).

<https://www.tearfund.org.au/news-and-events/they-shall-inherit-the-earth-report-on-christian-attitudes-to-climate-change-subscribe>

28 March

Watch short videos for raising Christian-global awareness of Climate change:
<https://www.tearfund.org.au/living-faithfully-in-a-changing-climate>

29 March

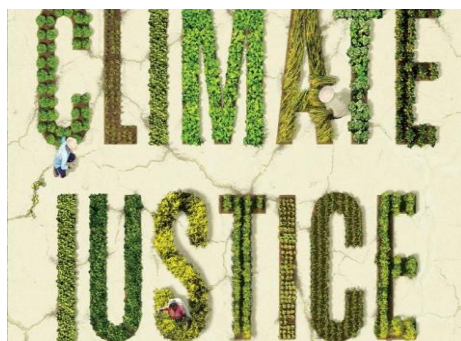
Grab a copy of your home energy bill and calculate your carbon footprint. Watch Household Calculator Video:
<https://vimeo.com/599859595>

30 March

Check out *TOWARDS ZERO EPISODE* videos and accompanying resources
<https://uniting.church/towards-zero-2/>

31 March

Check out [Climate Action Kit \(Group Guide\)](#) for your community and congregation.
https://assets.tearfund.org.au/files/TEAR_Climate-Action-Kit-Group-Guide.pdf



April 2022

1 April

We can see through the biodiversity of all God's creation that God loves diversity. God loves diversity among people, too. Yet, it is easy to only associate with people most like ourselves. Go out of your way to contact a person who differs from you by gender, culture, nationality, creed, faith, economic resources, or life-style. Read Ephesians 2:11-22.

2 April

Consider adopting a new spiritual practice that makes you more attuned to God's creation. Find ideas at [Get outside for lent 2021 whole course](#) (arocha.org.uk), www.centerforspiritualityin-nature.org/practices

3 April

Remember your baptism today. What does it mean to you to be baptised? Spend some time praying or journaling about what happens to this sacrament when the world's waters become polluted and inaccessible?

4 April

Learn about how to be a good global neighbour with UnitingWorld's Bible Study series: <https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/event/lent-event/bible-study>

5 April

Donate to help put power in the hands of ordinary people to earn an income, keep their children in school or get access to clean water:
<https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/event/lent-event/lent-event-donate>

6 April

Spend sometime problem-solving on reducing food waste at home and at church.

7 April

Choose a reusable water bottle and commit to using it instead of purchasing individual, disposable water bottles.

8 April

Plan or plant seeds for a garden, even a window garden, to support a local food system, and to remember hope and new life in Christ:

9 April

Pray for peace in Israel and Palestine. You're invited to attend a joint Palestine/Australia online service, '[Voices of Hope: journeying toward Easter](#)'



10 April Palm Sunday

Read Psalm 31. As we think about Christ's journey this Holy Week, may we recognise the lament, grief, and despair of the world around us. War, Climate injustice, poverty, and human suffering seem insurmountable. May we pray and cry out to God, as Jesus taught us, trusting that God hears us.

11 April

Connect with people who share your passion for justice and compassion for refugees: [Circle of Friends Justice for Refugees SA](#)

12 April

Visit the Environmental Action Group's website, <https://www.environmentalaction.org.au/> Consider donating to the work <https://www.environmentalaction.org.au/donations>

13 April

Choose one of the practices from this Lent that may be meaningful to you to adopt for the year ahead. Write down your choice and share your commitment with a family member or friend.

14 April Holy Thursday

Read John 13:1-17, 31b-35. How does creation participate alongside humanity as Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper and washes the disciples' feet? How can we love one another—and God's whole world—as Christ has loved us? Write down your commitment to show love to a person or a part of God's creation today.

15 April Good Friday



Read Hebrews 4:14-16. In confidence of God's presence and attention, may we confess all that we have done and failed to do, willing to be made new in Christ for a reconciled and reconciling world.

16 April

Subscribe to our [Justice e-News](#) to get the latest about Social Justice matters from Uniting Church in SA. <https://sa.uca.org.au/justice-advocacy/>

17 April: Easter Sunday!

Read Matthew 28:1-10
Do not be afraid!

Go out into God's good world, holding onto God's Steadfast love and joyfully answering the call to be Christ's disciple.

Our Vision for a Just Australia

We see a nation where each person and all creation can flourish and enjoy abundant life.

The Uniting Church in Australia believes the whole world is God's good creation. Each person is made in God's image and is deeply loved by God. In Jesus, God is completing the reconciliation and renewal of the whole creation.



Our vision, grounded in the life and mission of Jesus, is for a nation which:

- is characterised by love for one another, of peace with justice, of healing and reconciliation, of welcome and inclusion.
- recognises the equality and dignity of each person.
- recognises coexistent sovereignty of First Peoples, has enshrined a First Nations voice and is committed to truth telling about our history.
- takes seriously our responsibility to care for the whole of creation.
- is outward looking, a generous and compassionate contributor to a just world.

<https://uniting.church/a-vision-for-a-just-australia/>