



Supply Minister:
Rev Paul Turley
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Sunday 10th July 2022

Welcome to worship this morning.

A note from Paul

Our Bible text for this week is a familiar passage that we name, the Good Samaritan. Why does Jesus choose a Samaritan as the protagonist of his story? Clearly, he wants to shock and disturb his audience to think more radically about the answer to the question, who is my neighbour. So, in choosing an unlikely character, why did Jesus not choose a Roman centurion, or, while he was at it, since it was a story invented to make a point, even a Roman senator? If you are looking for a character who, in your listener's minds would display all the worst, uncaring aspects of human nature, Rome fits the bill to a tee.

It was Rome that exemplified to the Jews, on a daily basis, cruelty, despotism and a disregard for the lives of those whom the Romans saw as less than themselves.

But Jesus chose a Samaritan.

The Jews and the Samaritans were neighbours; basically cousins. They shared the same history, the same faith and many of the same traditions. Their differences amounted to the kinds of differences between Catholics and Protestants in our time. To outsiders, the differences between different parts of the one Church could seem trivial but to insiders, they can, and have at various times in our history, been vast, deadly, and immensely tragic. (See John 4:20 for an insight into the conflicts between Jews and Samaritans).

In mythology, especially in Norse and Celtic mythology, the conflicting elements of human nature, that are evident not only between humans but within each individual are often represented by twins. Twins, in these myths, represent the war that rages in the spirit/soul/mind of each of us; between whom we are and who we wish to be, between what we say and what we do, between what we believe and how we live.

All great works of literature invite many readings and explorations. Perhaps one of the reasons Jesus chose a Samaritan for his story is to remind us that the tragic rift in community on display in Jesus' story, is a battle in our own souls too...

Paul

Attending in person

Please continue to care for the safety of others and don't attend worship or large group activities at church in person if you are unwell or if you have been notified that you are a close contact for covid-19. Masks are not mandatory but still strongly recommended by SA Health for indoor crowded spaces. You are encouraged to continue with hand sanitizing and social distancing (no hugging or handshakes).

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Please email newsletter items to newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au by 5pm Wednesday.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Worship Online or at Home

If you wish to join in our online Zoom service on Sunday morning at 9.30am, you can view the service as it is happening, using the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88191652947?pwd=M1pMZCtXY2FGOENtaGN3M3EwcVh6Zz09>

or enter this Meeting ID: 881 9165 2947 and passcode: 7777

Worship resources are emailed out each Saturday. Services are recorded each week.

To request a copy please contact the church office.

9.30am Worship/Music Team Gathering with Paul Turley

Tuesday 12th July 7.30pm – 9.00 pm at the church

For all those on the music/worship team and anyone else interested, please join us for a meeting where Paul Turley will share with us his thoughts and insights around music and worship.

For more info, contact Di Curtis (0419-862-606)

Di Curtis

Music Service – 31 July, 2022

Do you have a favourite song or hymn you would like to sing one Sunday???

I am coordinating a Music Service on Sunday 31st July, and looking for people to share their favourite song and why it is special for them. Then we will sing the song. If you would like to be involved, please let me know!

Looking forward to sharing together. Contact Di Curtis (0419-862-606)

Di Curtis

CONNECT GROUPS

At Athelstone Uniting Church we encourage everyone to find ways to find connections within our church community. Here are some of the Connect Groups you might consider joining.

Connect Group	When/Where	Contact
Book Club	1 st and 3 rd Tues at 9.30 am at the church	Linda Driver
Fellowship Group	2 nd & 4 th Wed at 1.30 pm. Indigo Espresso Café	Nola Pearce
Threads	2 nd & 4 th Tues 2-4 pm. Indigo Espresso Café	Linda Driver
Triple Cs - Men's Group	2 nd Wed of the month at 10.30 am. Cafe Settebello.	Ray Walter
TOFs Fellowship Group	1 st Tuesday of the month, 2 pm – 4 pm. Venues vary	Sheralyn Robertson
Stay & Play @ Home	Enrol on the church website for play ideas at home, to make new friends through Facebook and Buddy Play dates, or to enjoy some nature play at Wirra Play Days.	Joy & Bruce Stewart
Wirra Play Days	20 th Sept & 6 th Dec. 10am – 11.30am. In the wirra!	Joy & Bruce Stewart

Triple C's

This coming Wednesday July 13 is Lucky Day 'cos it is the big gathering for the above timed for 1030hrs at Settebello, across the road from Target car park. Free up the time and take a break for an hour or so to get up to date with whose where and why. Newly retired especially welcome! Need a lift contact Ray or Bob.

Wirra Play Day

The sun shone on us for our winter Wirra Play Day on 28th June, exploring "Around my world", finishing with "Whoever you are" by Mem Fox at story time and snack on the logs.

Joy and Bruce Stewart



MISSIONAL

Uniting Communities – Food Donations

Please keep bringing in your donations and let's fill the giving table! *Brenton Summers*

What do you do with plastic bread tags?

Bring them to church to support the charity Aussie Bread tags for Wheelchairs.

You'll find a container in the Church Entry. More details here: <https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/>.

WIDER CHURCH

NAIDOC Week

This week is NAIDOC Week, a celebration of the history, culture, resilience and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Reflecting on the theme, *Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!*, Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) Interim National Chairperson Rev Mark Kickett said it was a reminder of the call of God upon our lives and an invitation to reflect on the journey we have been on as First and Second Peoples.

Check out the Assembly's website: <https://uniting.church/naidoc2022/> as they are sharing links to resources that are part of the 'Living the Covenant Locally' initiative, and a number of other stories and reflections affirming our commitment to walk together as First and Second Peoples.

Two takes on the Census data

The 2021 Census figures released last week found Australians are less interested in Christianity. More than 670,000 people identified with the Uniting Church, a decline of around 22 per cent since 2016. You can read two takes on this outcome and what opportunities lie ahead given by UCA President Rev Sharon Hollis who considers the call to be creative, courageous and hopeful and Assembly National Consultant Rev Dr Apwee Ting who considers how a more culturally and religiously diverse Australia might expand and enrich our life.

To read Rev Sharon Hollis's view on the census data go to here: <https://uniting.church/respondingtocensus2021/>

To read Rev Dr Apwee Ting's view on the census data go to this link: <https://uniting.church/census2021-diversity/>

Wider Church News

Uniting Church in Australia: <https://uniting.church/>

Uniting Church in South Australia: <https://sa.uca.org.au/>

To receive SA UC E-News personally, subscribe at <https://sa.uca.org.au/uc-e-news/>

The New Times is available online at: <https://sa.uca.org.au/new-times/new-times-print-edition/>

Wimala Presbytery website: <https://wimala.ucasa.org.au/>

NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

Prayer Requests

Can we support you in prayer? Here's how:

Prayer Chain - send an email to, or call Brenton Summers, who will pass your prayer request on to a group of people who faithfully pray in response to Prayer Chain emails.

Confidential Prayers - if the issue is more personal you are invited to contact Paul Turley for individual prayer or one of the members of the Pastoral Care Oversight team (Lee O'Connell, Brenton Summers, Ann Brown, Bob Stevenson and Linda Driver). All prayer requests going to the team will be kept strictly confidential within this team.

Prayers for Others (Sunday Worship) If you have something you would like to be included, please contact Paul. "We are all called to pray for one another, and so we are all encouraged to offer to pray for, or with others, especially if they share a concern with you." (James 5:13-16)

Offering

Why do we give? We give to support the ministry and mission of the Church. We give in response to all that God has done for us. Giving is an act of worship.

How much do we give? We give as we are able. Pray for wisdom on how generously you are called to give. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV)

How do we give? Regular electronic giving and one-off donations can be made using the following details:

Account name: Athelstone Uniting Church Account **BSB:** 704 095 **Account number:** 110043

Application forms for setting up regular e-giving through UC e-give are available at: <https://ucinvest.com.au/forms-and-information#page=page-1>.

Cash Offerings are received on Sunday mornings in the Offering Box on the Giving Table. Contact Glen Luestner for more information.

CHURCH BUILDING - BOOKINGS

Special Event or changes to regular bookings or location are highlighted in bold.

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Pilates
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Mondays	Morning	Main building	VIP Cleaning Service
Mondays	4.45 - 6.45 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Mondays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Tuesdays	9.30 – 10.30 am	Auditorium	Pilates
Tuesday 12th July	7.30 – 9.00 pm	Auditorium	Worship Music Team Gathering with Paul
Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Wednesdays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Thursdays	7.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
Friday 15th July	12.30 – 3.00 pm	Meeting Room	Wimala Presbytery Standing Committee
At all times	At all times	Top hall & Top car park	Medical HQ – Covid & Vaccine Clinics

Note to chair stewards and auditorium users: Calisthenics Classes will still be running through both weeks of these July school holidays (Sat 9th July – Sun 24th July) because their competitions are just around the corner!

SUNDAY WORSHIP ROSTER

Role	10th July	17th July	Role	10th July	17th July
Prayer with Preacher	Tara S	Robyn F	Tick & Flick	Trevor C	Trevor C
Worship Leader	Jeff D	Paul T	Door	David R Jenny R	Robyn F Stella W
Preacher	Paul T	Paul T	Notices	Lee O'C	Don B
Singer	Jeanine D Allan A Lyndon R	Friederike A-W Janet L Eric H	Count Offering	Sylvia M Friederike A-W	Paul H Gus R
Sound Desk	Noel M	Don B	Bible Reader	Lee O'C	Jayne N
Data Projector	David W	David W	Flowers	Di C	Di C
Chair Steward	Scott T Sharon T	Bernie O'H Trevor G	Communion Prep	N/A	N/A
Building Steward	Noel M	Eric H	Communion Servers	N/A	N/A
Zoom Production	Tara S	Paul H			

It is very important during this pandemic that you do not attend services when you are unwell. Please swap with someone, or if late notice on the Sunday morning, contact Paul Turley or the worship leader for that service as appropriate. Thank you.