



Supply Minister: Rev Ken Wright (0.6 FTE)

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Sunday 11th February 2024

Welcome to worship at Athelstone! Our preacher this morning will be Rev Ken Wright.

Lenten Season

Any of us who have walked through the Lenten season in the church over the years knows that even in the pale observances in the Protestant traditions, it is not a festive time, but rather a reflective one, even sombre.

It is a season having to do with the darker side of human life, with betrayal, death, a tomb, fear, goodbyes around the table at a final supper.

This is a season for delving into the fears that are so powerful they may disable us in our walk of faith.

So today, on the final Sunday before we enter into the sombre season of Lent comes this glorious passage recounting the transfiguring experience the disciples had with Jesus on the mountain.

It is a preview of the resurrection to come at the end of our Lenten journey, a gracious glimpse into the final destination of this Lenten way, our Hope in Jesus for all eternity...

....and in this way it is a gift to the church and to us.

Messy Church

We are ready for another exciting year of Messy Church! Our first service is THIS SUNDAY 11th February from 4-6pm and we would love you to join us as we explore "a time for everything" and what God might have in store for us! We will then be taking a break until later in the year. If you have any questions or would like to come along please contact Meg Edwards or the church office.

WORSHIP

Worship Online or at Home

If you wish to join in our online Zoom service on Sunday mornings 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

Services are recorded each week. To request a copy please contact the church office.

If you are away or not able to connect with us on Zoom you might find the Worship at Home resource a helpful alternative to use. This self-guided resource has been prepared by Rev Cheryl Wilson of Ascot Park Uniting and can be accessed each week at the following link: <https://sa.uca.org.au/worship-at-home/>

Please be aware that our worship services are live streamed on ZOOM so if you are not comfortable in having your image captured then we encourage you to sit in the back row of the church in front of the creative tables.

Worship Rosters

It is time to start processing the worship rosters for March, April and May 2024. Please log in to Elvanto and update any dates that you are unavailable for the next few months (or email them to the office) ASAP, and definitely no later than TODAY (Sunday 11th February) so that the office can start the rostering process.

To enter your Unavailability Dates in Elvanto yourself

- 1) Log in to Elvanto
- 2) Go to your My Profile page and then click on the unavailability sidebar.
- 3) Once there, simply select the range of dates and times you will be unavailable, and click 'Submit'.
- 4) Your upcoming worship unavailability will appear in a table on the page. If you are not yet a worship volunteer then please consider where you can help. A summary of responsibilities for each worship volunteer role can be picked up from the pamphlet display. Once you decide, please email the office so Carol can add you to the roster.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Church Council wishes to advise all members of Athelstone Uniting Church that we will be holding our **AGM on Sunday 3 March 2024 at 10.45am**. There are up to 5 vacancies for Council to be filled, so we ask you to prayerfully consider whether this is for you and if you would like to nominate or nominate another member from the Congregation. Other vacancies will be Chairperson of Congregation and Presbytery Representative.

Nomination forms are available in the foyer and once completed, please place in the box next to the offering box. Nominations close on Sunday 18 February 2023. If you have any queries please contact Jeff Dry (Chairperson of Church Council).

Jayne N, Secretary Church Congregation

CONNECT GROUPS

Triple C's

Chaps Coffee and Chat we enter our 6th year of existence with our regular meeting at 1030hrs once again at Fine Foods Meredith Street Newton on Friday 14th February. Yes, it is Valentine's Day, so do not forget to pick up a sweet delight for your Sweetie! Need a lift contact Ray or Bob.

Regards Ray

WIRRA – WATCH AND WONDER



Wirra – Watch and Wonder Warltati/Summer is here and the butterflies, bees and other insects are active. Check out this blue-banded bee in the bee hotel in the Community Garden. View the new information on the display board in the lower hall and learn more about our native insects. We would love you to join us in 2024 if you are interested in discovering the wonders of God's creation while assisting with maintenance and promotion of the wirra

Joy and Bruce

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 in 2024.

Connect Group	When/Where	Contact
Book Club	1 st & 3 rd Tues of the month at 9.30 am in people's homes	Office
Threads	2 nd & 4 th Tues of the month at 2-4 pm in Indigo Espresso Café	Office
Triple Cs – Men's Group	2 nd Wed of the month at 10.30 am. Venues vary.	Ray Walter
TOFs Fellowship Group	1 st Tues of the month. 2 – 4pm. Venues vary.	Sheralyn Robertson

MISSIONAL

Packing Day 2024: Be excited, be involved!

Once again, AUC will be involved in Packing Day 2024. Packing Day is a chance for our church community to co-ordinate the packing of clothing and household items to remote northern aboriginal communities.

What you need to do:

- Save the date – Sunday June 2nd and Monday June 3rd
- Start collecting clothing and household goods – we pack for tropical communities so need clothing that is suitable for this climate.
- Ask friends and family to collect suitable clothing and household items – we have been particularly short of children and men's clothing in the past.
- Collected items can be brought along to church and placed in the shed.

Please speak to Jayne N if you have any queries.

Citizen Advocacy SA – seeking volunteer advocates

Citizen Advocacy SA is currently looking for volunteers to connect with someone with an intellectual disability in this area. Vulnerable persons with intellectual disability who are without family or friends are especially in need of at least one loyal long-term ally who is single minded committed to them. Volunteer advocates are matched and supported by the staff of a Citizen Advocacy office or program and many have been faithful companions to their protégés for decades. Please contact Joanne Christophersen on 0412 674 551 or email:

coordinatorcasa.jo@gmail.com if you can help!

Missions

Here are just some of our ongoing mission projects at Athelstone UC:

Uniting Communities	Please keep bringing in your donations and let us fill the giving table.
Aussie Bread tags for Wheelchairs	Bring them to church to support the charity Aussie Bread tags for Wheelchairs. You will find a container on the giving table.
Sally Stamp	Bring stamps to the office to help with this ministry.

NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

Congratulations

Congratulations to Jeff Dry for receiving an Order of Australia Medal in the 2024 Australia Day Awards for his service and dedication to community sport and the church. We are very proud of you! Thank you for all that you have done and still do!

Community & Peace Gardens – Volunteers needed

Due to selling, and moving in the near future, we will be unable to attend Athelstone Uniting Church, because of this we are looking for volunteers to attend to the Community Garden and the Peace Garden. They are both attached to sprinkler systems, which require being switched on. Timers will turn the taps off until the next time. The community Garden requires someone who is willing to take produce to the Campbelltown library when necessary, and also putting in and pulling out of seasonal vegetables. If you are interested in either or both, please see Wendy or Lyndon Rowe.

Spam Emails

The spam emails received by some members of our congregation pretending to be from Ken and Do Young, or other members have not come from their actual emails but from a fictional alternative. There is not much we can do about this, as they do not come from any email address we can control. All we can do is to advise you that these spam emails do exist and need to be ignored and deleted. Please make it a habit to ALWAYS check the full email address is correct (and not just the name) before clicking on any links in an email.

Unfortunately, with AI technology becoming increasingly available these types of issues will only increase and become harder to detect. Please continue to report these types of events to the office, so that we can warn people of the latest issue and determine if we need to investigate further.

Please remain vigilant.

Prayer Requests

Can we support you in prayer? Here is 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 Ken Wright for individual prayer or one the members of the Pastoral Care Oversight team (Lee O'Connell, Brenton Summers, Ann Brown and Bob Stevenson). 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 let Brenton Summers know. "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.

WIDER CHURCH

Wider Church News - Links

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/>

Frontier News: <https://frontierservices.org/news-media/our-resources/frontier-news/>

CHURCH BUILDING – BOOKINGS

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

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Friday 9 th February	3.30 – 5.30 pm	Whole Building	Church Cleaning VIP (Catch-up)
Saturday 10 th February	9.00 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Saturday 10 th February	9.30 – 12.00 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Sunday 11 th February	4.00 – 6.00 pm	Whole Building	Messy Church
Monday 12 th February	4.45 – 6.00 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Monday 12 th February	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Tuesday 13 th February	9.30 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Tuesday 13 th February	6.30 – 7.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Wednesday 14 th February	9.30 – 10.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Thursday 15 th February	6.30 – 7.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Thursday 15 th February	7.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
Saturday 17 th February	9.00 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Saturday 17 th February	9.30 – 12.00 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Mon, Wed, Fri	9.00 – 3.00 pm	Top Hall	AGPN

SUNDAY WORSHIP ROSTER

Role	11 th Feb	18 th Feb	Role	11 th Feb	18 th Feb
Prayer with Preacher	Jennifer C	Stella W	Tick & Flick	Trevor C	Brenton S
Worship Leader	Jeff D	Lynton N	Notices	Sylvia M	Worship Leader
Preacher	Ken W	Ken W	Count Offering	David W Glen L	Ray W Sylvia M
Singers	Jeanine D Ann B Sylvia M	Allan A Janet L Friederike A-W	Bible Reader	David W	Ann B
Sound Desk	Don B	Noel M	Flowers	Marie H	Raelene A
Data Projector	David W	David W	Zoom Production	Tara S	Paul H
Chair Steward	Janet L Glen L	Jeff D Trevor G	Communion Prep/Coordinator	-	-
Building Steward	Noel M	Richard R	Communion Helpers/Servers	-	-
Door Greeters	Robyn F Stella W	Carole W Ray W			

If you cannot take your turn, please swap with someone, or if late notice contact the worship leader or Rev Ken Wright for that service as appropriate. Thank you.