



**Supply Minister:** Rev Ken Wright (0.6 FTE)

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## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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

### Scripture Focus

Ephesians 2:8: “It is by grace you have been saved through faith—and this is not of yourselves; it is the gift of God—not by works so that no-one may boast.” It is a verse that is at the heart of the reformation and at the identity, theology and culture of the church. But what *is* the gospel? The gospel... The Good News... is that we *have been* saved.

Because of sin we are separated from God, but God throws a life line to us—Jesus—and when we grasp hold of Him, he holds onto us and we are saved. We are truly among those who need saving because we cannot save ourselves and we need saving from ourselves. The Old Testament story... and the story of our world in strife today tells us we can't save ourselves.

It's the gospel we hear in our text today: “we have been saved.”

For it was while we were dead in our sins that God showed his rich and unconditional mercy and lavish love to us through his Son. It was while the human race was unable to reach out to Jesus that God reached out to us by sending Jesus into the world, not to condemn the world—but to save the world through him.

Jesus kept the law for us perfectly then traded places with us to take the Father's wrath on our sin *for us* and save us from his just sentence of death that we might have his very own righteousness and experience his Kingdom come...


Totally undeserved: “by *grace* you *have been saved*.” We could never do anything to deserve God's love, never contribute anything to life with God or earn a pat on the back from him.

We are not saved because of our kindness to our neighbour or by our service in the church or how often we donate to community service programs or by how much we put in the offering plate. We are not saved *because* of our faith as if our faith were a work by us that is pleasing to God; we are not saved *because* of any decision we make, or our piety, or the eloquence or frequency of our prayers.

Scripture tells us that we are saved *by* Christ alone, and we receive all his saving work *through* faith alone ... all to the glory of God. Thank you, Jesus!

### UPCOMING WORSHIP

#### Easter service times

	Maundy Thursday Service	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30 pm
	Good Friday Service	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 am
	Easter Sunday Service	Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	9.30 am

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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 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/>

## **2024 Lenten Resource**

A daily prayer-action lent resource from the Uniting Church Synod of SA can be picked up from the pamphlet display in the foyer, or downloaded [here](#).

## **CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE**

### **Manse Update**

A recent visitor to the church manse has now been relocated to a new home. A large possum had taken up residence in the manse roof cavity and was creating a noisy welcome to Do Young Kim and his family. Fortunately, I knew a person (Tony) who is a possum catcher and he was able to successfully trap the possum and move it to a park somewhere away from the manse. Tony refused to take any payment as he was very happy to do it for the church. So to return his generosity Church Council suggested Tony's contact details be provided in the newsletter for any of our church members seeking help with the same problem. Tony can be contacted on 0420 545 989. Tell him you are from the Athelstone Uniting Church. His rates are very reasonable and we should support him as thanks for his job at the manse.

### **Special Events**

On Sunday morning March 24 following the worship service, a morning tea will be held to say farewell to some special members of our church community. You are invited to bring a plate of morning tea to share on this morning. More details to follow in future newsletters.

The Induction service for Rev Do Young Kim will take place on Sunday 7 April at 2pm and this will be followed by an afternoon tea. You should have already received your personal invitation.

### **Community Garden**

I am pleased to inform the church community that Leanne Shirlock has very kindly volunteered to look after the community garden once Lyndon and Wendy make their move to Murray Bridge. Huge thanks to Leanne for taking on this important community service. In coming weeks we will be saying farewell to Wendy and Lyndon and thanking them for their commitment to the community garden and Peace garden.

*Jeff Dry, Church Council Chairperson*

## MISSIONAL

### Lent Event 2024

UnitingWorld is challenging us to take 40 days of faithful action for God's creation this Lent.



In the face of climate change, we need Urgency, Solidarity and Faithful Action.

Join us for Lent Event and support the churches of the Pacific and SE Asia in the action they are taking.

Heaps of resources are available for individuals – find out more at [www.lentevent.com.au](http://www.lentevent.com.au)

More details and donation envelopes are available in the church entry. You can also donate online using this link: <https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/donate-now>

### 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.

### 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 your <u>plastic</u> bread tags 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.
Packing Day	Save the date – June 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2024 and start collecting clothing and household goods suitable for a tropical climate. Ask your friends to do so as well!

## CONNECT GROUPS

### Triple C's

Only seems like last month since we last met, so let's meet again on this Wednesday 13 March at 1030am. Venue is Fine Foods Cucina 5 Meredith Street Newton - off Graves Street. Aim for Chaps to indulge in Chat and Coffee. C u there, need a ride contact Bob or Ray.

*Regards Ray*

### Wirra – Watch and Wonder

Warlati/Summer is still with us and won't the birds and insects enjoy the two new flower spikes on our Xanthorrhoea/grass tree! Take time to visit, to watch and wonder as they grow and flower. Don't forget to view the display in the lower hall and take up the challenge to make changes to your lifestyle during Lentevent 2024 that will benefit all of God's creation.

*Bruce & Joy*



### 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 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues of the month at 9.30–10.30 am in Indigo Espresso Cafe	Office
Threads	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues of the month at 2-4 pm in Indigo Espresso Café	Office
Triple Cs – Men's Group	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed of the month at 10.30 am. Venues vary.	Ray W
TOFs Fellowship Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Tues of the month. 2 – 4pm. Venues vary.	Sheralyn R

## NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

### 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 L 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
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	4.45 – 6.00 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30 – 7.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 – 10.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	6.30 – 7.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	7.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	9.30 – 12.00 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Mon, Wed, Fri	9.00 – 3.00 pm	Top Hall	AGPN

**Athelstone Uniting Church Postal Address:** PO Box 307, Athelstone, And SA 5076: **Office Hours:** Tues/Thurs: 9.30am – 12.30pm: **Office Phone:** (08) 8336 9905: **Office Email:** [office@athelstonechurch.org.au](mailto:office@athelstonechurch.org.au) : **Web:** [athelstonechurch.org.au](http://athelstonechurch.org.au): **Newsletter Items:** Please submit to the office by Wednesdays at 5 pm for next newsletter.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP ROSTER

2024		Sun/10/Mar	Sun/17/Mar
<b>Preaching &amp; Liturgy</b>	Worship Leader	Di Curtis	Meg Edwards
	Preacher	Ken Wright	Ken Wright
	Pray with Preacher	Meg Edwards	Robyn Fry
	Notices	Lee O'Connell	Brenton Summers
	Bible Reader	Jayne Nicholas	Melissa Denison
<b>Music Team</b>	Piano / Keyboard	Celine Leslie	Shelley Walker
	Singers	Lynton Nicholas	Friederike Ashby-Weiss
		Allan Amber	Eric Hurrell
		Janet Luestner	Jean Richardson
	Guitar	Chris Pritchard	Chris Pritchard
	Bass / 2nd Guitar	Shelley Walker	
Drums / Percussion	Glen Luestner		
<b>Technical</b>	Sound Desk	David Walker	David Walker
	Data Operator	Samantha Walker	Samantha Walker
	Zoom Production	Tara Shirlock	David Walker
<b>Engagement</b>	Flowers	Marie Hickman	Raelene Anderson
	Door Greeters	Jan Robin	Jenny Riggall
		Gus Robin	David Riggall
<b>Administration</b>	Building Steward	Eric Hurrell	Richard Read
	Chair Stewards	Janet Luestner	Bob Stevenson
		Glen Luestner	Brenton Summers
	Tick and Flick	Brenton Summers	Brenton Summers
Count Offering	Friederike Ashby-Weiss	Bob Stevenson	
	Lynton Nicholas	David Walker	

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