



# The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

Welcome to our Sunday Service of worship,  
commencing at **9-30am** every Sunday

## Palm Sunday 2 April 2023



Welcome: Keith & Jaren Picking  
Flowers: Kerry Lawson  
Coffee/Tea: Sherryl Smith & Frances Davy  
Reader: Jaren Picking  
Kids Church: Julie Lehmann  
Church Rep: Jenny Anderson  
Worship Leader: Ken Lehmann  
Speaker: Piet Speyers

## Easter Sunday 9 April 2023

Welcome: Peter Punch & Kerry Lawson  
Flowers: Peter Punch  
Coffee/Tea: Raelyn Punch & Kerry Lawson  
Reader: Frances Davy  
Kids Church: Raelyn Punch  
Church Rep: Andrew Telfer  
Worship Leader: Andrew Telfer  
Speaker: Rev. Mike Fawcett (Communion)



### Readings from the Lectionary

Is 50:4-9  
Ps 118:1-2, 19-29 or Ps 31:9-16  
Phil 2:5-11  
Mt 21:1-11

Acts 10:34-43 or Jer 31:1-6  
Ps 118:1-2, 14-24  
Col 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43  
Jn 20: 1-18 or Mt 28:1-10



## South Mandurah Uniting Church

2-4 Rees Place Wannanup  
PO Box 5290 FALCON WA 6210  
Website: <https://southmandurahuc.org>

### For pastoral needs please contact:

Rev. Mike Fawcett M: 0412 243 677 E: [fawcettmichael176@gmail.com](mailto:fawcettmichael176@gmail.com)  
Or any member of the Leadership Team

Leadership Team Chair: Raelyn Punch 0429 685 908 E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)  
Small Group Coordinator: Raelyn Punch  
Editor of the Messenger: Peter Punch 0427 685 908 E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)  
Prayer Circle Leader: Frances Davy 0488 906 280 E: [2davyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:2davyfamily@gmail.com)

Members of the Leadership Team: Raelyn Punch, Jenni Anderson (Secretary), Sherryl Smith & Andrew Telfer

### Halls Head Bendigo Bank details for electronic transfers:

A/C Name: Uniting Church in Australia-South Mandurah Congregation  
BSB: 633-000 A/C No: 117072207

Please include your name as a reference for the payment.



## Palm Sunday - Surprising and Inevitable

At a pre-concert lecture, the conductor of a symphony orchestra told the audience about the major work the orchestra would be performing at that evening's concert. The conductor said that if they listened carefully to the music they would discover that it was both surprising and inevitable. On the one hand, the musical score would take a fair number of rather jarring and unexpected twists. There would be points in the concert when the blare of the trumpet or the sudden rolling of the timpani would seem to come from out of nowhere in a surprising fashion. On the other hand, however, the conductor noted that in the long run these surprises would themselves become part of a larger coherence. Once listeners heard the entire piece from start to finish, they would find in the music an air of inevitability and wonder how could it ever have been written any differently.



Surprising and inevitable. Palm Sunday and the events of Holy Week are both surprising and inevitable. The truth is that we are not completely sure what to make of Palm Sunday. After forty days of Lenten travel that have often focused on serious and sometimes dark subjects, we suddenly arrive at a day that seems at first blush to be surprisingly cheery. The Palm Sunday parade has colour and spectacle, cheering and singing, festive voices and joyful exuberance. This seems like a happy day. Yet it would be completely appropriate if you were to ask, "What in the world is this day doing here, given how close we are now to the cross!?" Is Palm Sunday a bright spot in the midst of the otherwise darker hues of Lent? Are we, for just a little while this morning, supposed to forget about all things dreary so that we can cry out some full throated "Hosannas!" or is there also a sadness to this day that we must bear in mind?

Scott Hoezee, *Comments and Observations* (Edited)



*Our Vision: "United in Christ we reach out to build loving relationships that deepen faith and enrich lives."*

## Can You Please Help ?

As of 1st May, due to holidays, maternity leave etc., there will only be 2 Sunday School teachers on the Enablers' List (and sometimes only one).

**VOLUNTEERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED** for the Sunday School roster. This is one of the most rewarding Roles on the Enablers' List and we need your help. If you are willing to volunteer or would like more information please speak to Raelyn Punch E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au) or M: 0429 685 908, or any member of the Leadership Team.



## A Palm Sunday Prayer for Joyful Worship

Thank You, Father, for the life You have given us to live. For the sun rising to start another day, and the reminders of Your creation surrounding us. When we witness a beautiful mark of Your creative hand, let us recall that Christ was with You, too, when the world began and the sound of Your voice. He came to earth, and watched the same sunrise we now see. He looked into the stars in the sky, and now looks down upon us, prayerfully, with love. With grateful hearts we praise You, God, for who You are and who we are in You.

Let the Peace of Christ's Palm Sunday entrance remain in our memories. When we are fearful and anxious, help us to recall the Peace in which Jesus rode into the city, so soon after to be crucified. God our Father, help us to act in grace and peace in the face of fear, both known and unknown, knowing You are incredibly close. In Jesus' Name we pray, **Amen**

<https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/> (Edited)



## Journey of Love Prayer

Son of God, we bow down before you as we gather to mark Palm Sunday – your triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We wave and lay down our palm branches as we declare you the King of kings and Lord of lords. On this day, you set out on a journey of love. It was a journey to set us free from sin and make us acceptable before God. It was a journey to make us the children of God and we can never thank you enough for your sacrifice. **Amen.**

<https://connectusfund.org/10-powerful-prayers-for-palm-Sunday> (Edited)



# WELCOME

*A very warm welcome is extended to any visitors. We trust that you will be blessed during this time of worship and invite you to fellowship with us after the service.*



## Easter Services

Father Chris, Saint Damien's new minister, has extended an invitation to the South Mandurah congregation to continue the tradition of joining them for the Stations of the Cross service and morning tea on Good Friday. Please note the dates in your diary and we look forward to seeing you at the services listed below:



**Good Friday: April 7 Stations of the Cross**  
**At St Damien's Catholic School Oval,**  
**1 Nyabing Pass, Dawesville,**  
**Commencing at 10-00am,**  
**followed by hot cross buns for morning tea**

**Easter Sunday: April 9 Sunday service**  
**At SMUC Commencing at 9-30am,**  
**followed by morning tea**

## Ladies Coffee - Change of Venue

Ladies bring your neighbours and friends to our weekly coffee Mornings which are held every Wednesday from 9-30am.

**Please note:** as of 5th April the venue is changing to  
Seven Trees Café, 11 Galbraith Loop, Falcon.

**For more information** please contact Robyn Speyers  
M: 0417 962 435 or E: [crspeyers@gmail.com](mailto:crspeyers@gmail.com)



## Towels & Sheets Please

Thank you to everyone who has already donated sheets and towels for the Uniting Aid appeal. Uniting Aid is one of the caring agencies of the Uniting Church, and provides support to the homeless and disadvantaged in our community. Their current appeal is for good quality used towels and bedsheets for their clients. If you have some surplus towels or sheets and would like to donate them, please bring them to the church. As Easter is rapidly approaching, please consider donating some Easter Eggs too.

**For more information** speak to Jenni Anderson M: 0429 120 658  
E: [jenni.anderson@internode.on.net](mailto:jenni.anderson@internode.on.net)



## Pastoral Care

For pastoral care or spiritual guidance please contact:

**Rev. Mike Fawcett**

M: 0412 243 677

E: [fawcettmichael176@gmail.com](mailto:fawcettmichael176@gmail.com)

**OR** Any member of the leadership team  
(their names are overleaf)



# Happy Birthday

**Jenny Dunning** Thursday 7 April  
**God Bless and warm wishes**  
**To you upon your birthday**