



# Surfcoast Uniting Churches

12th July 2020

Worship together is available via video services on our website each Sunday from 9:00am

[www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au)

Bellbrae is Live on Zoom at 11.00am

Airey's Inlet is Live on Zoom at 1:30pm Sunday

**Minister: Rev. Suzie Castle**

**Suzie is currently on sick leave until 6th August while she recuperates so please contact your congregation leader with any queries**

## A note from Rev Suzie...

Dear friends. I wish I had the words to express where we find ourselves as a country, a state, a region, a church. I wish I had answers for you regarding my own health battle. But I do not. I have never had sick leave so I feel there needs to be a plan on how to use it. I'm working on that plan at the moment. Good news is there's been a steady improvement and no backwards steps made in healing. It's just taking so long and is, of course, exhausting. But I am reassured Lord Jesus has his hand upon me for healing. He blesses me every day with rest, a wise medical team and a loving family. I wanted to thank Rev Jeanne Beale for her message last Sunday as sharing the yoke with Christ has been my focus this past week. I thank you for your prayers, kindness and care; and for respecting my time away to seek treatment and recover. I couldn't keep going at half capacity so I consider this leave a time to be strengthened, grow and pray. Jesus can help me use this time to come back brighter and better...more like my old self.

I hope you are all well and that you stay well. Looking forward to catching up and talking with you when I return back to serve on August 3rd. Peace be with you  
Rev Suzie

*A big thank you to members across all our Linked Churches who assisted with this week's service.*

*"Whoever has ears, let them hear."  
Matthew 13:9*

## Lectionary Readings:

### Pentecost 6 July 12th

Genesis 25: 19-34

Psalms 119: 105—112

Romans 8: 1-11

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

### Pentecost 7: July 19th

Genesis 28: 10-19a

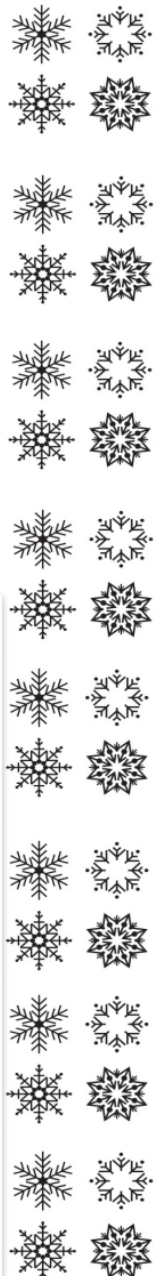
Psalms 139: 1-12, 23-24

Romans 8: 12-25

Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

You have  
searched me,  
LORD,  
  
and you  
know me.

—Psalm 139:1



Donations of food and toiletries are still being collected for UNITING. They need soups and liquid soap (not cakes), laundry powder, toothpaste and toothbrushes. No tinned spaghetti or baked beans at this stage but tinned vegetables will be very welcome, thank you.

Please deliver to  
Robyn & Alan Harper  
at 53 Cowrie Road,  
Torquay.



## Help stop the spread

Coronavirus  
(COVID-19)

Social distancing



Wash your hands



Cough or sneeze into  
your arm



No contact greetings



Use hand sanitiser



If you are sick stay home



Uniting Church in Australia  
SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

The Uniting Church VICTAS web site has loaded up new additional resources for churches and church groups to use re COVID. There are also answers to many frequently asked questions.

Check it out at <https://victas.uca.org.au/all-you-need-to-know-answers-to-your-frequently-asked-questions/>

## Out & About in Victoria : local and legal!

If you need an excuse to pack a picnic and jump in the car, try a trip to **Steiglitz Historical Park** in the Brisbane Ranges, less than an hour's easy drive from Geelong. There is plenty to see in the historic goldfield town, with well placed signs and picnic tables. Stop at Maude on the way through at the **Bunjil Lookout** - great views, very good toilets and picnic tables.

The Courthouse (pictured below) is open on Sundays 1 to 4pm. It is a lovely building & would have many stories to tell.



If you like to get a bit more active, try the Brisbane Ranges National Park which has different walks and even camping areas and an amazing range of wildlife and fauna. Check the website beforehand as some carparks are closed for winter maintenance.

If any readers have other trip tips—email the Newsletter Team!

## LOCKDOWN PRAYER.

Each morning we wake, another day consumed by the news of the coronavirus. Another day facing the same space, the same colours, the same sounds. We crave for the difference we had, the freedom we are used to, and the people we met. As the tears form, please Lord Jesus fill my uncertainties with peace and strength. We have always needed it, but now we know it.

We pray for all who are facing isolation, hardship, hunger, fear or anxiety. Lord let them know that you are close, and guide us, where we have time, energy or resources, to reach out and bring relief. We should have always done this, but now we know it.

We pray for all those who are sacrificing safety and comfort so that others can be saved. For Doctors and nurses, and care workers. Fill them with your spirit and let them know that they walk in your footsteps. It should have always been this way, but now we feel it.

Through this time, help us to draw together in spirit, even while we are apart. Help us to seek out the lost and the lonely, and to know that in all circumstances, however dark things may seem, we are loved and we are eternally safe. Your love has always been like this, help us to know it.

We pray this in Jesus name, Amen.

This prayer comes from Holy Trinity Church in Midsomer Norton, UK

**Airey's Inlet** St Aidan's Church, 29 Great Ocean Road, Airey's Inlet. [aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com](mailto:aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com)

**Bellbrae:** Bellbrae Uniting Church. School & Anglesea Roads, Bellbrae

**Torquay:** Torquay Uniting Church, 27 Anderson Street, Torquay

**BELLBRAE BRIC-A-BRAC OP SHOP & BOOK ROOM :** Uniting Church Hall, School Road, Bellbrae. Ph: 5261 5139

**NOTE: some of our churches are currently closed as per COVID 19 restrictions**

## Weekly offerings can be made via direct debit or credit to the congregation account :

BSB: 083-929 and Account Number 93-009-8403 Please add notes in the deposit area to identify your congregation:

Aireys Inlet:3231AI, Bellbrae:3228BB or Torquay:3228TQ

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS and all queries to: [newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com](mailto:newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com) DEADLINE: Thursday at 4pm