



**Bible Readings**

**Luke 10: 1-11**

**Response after Bible Readings**

**Leader:** Hear the word of the Lord

**Response:** Thanks be to God



**Welcome to St. Matthew's Community Room.**

Children are very welcome at St. Matthew's and that means their noise is welcome too. This room is here if you feel the need to step out of the service or would like some more privacy but still want to see and hear what's going on in the service.

**OPEN FROM 9.30AM**



**Livestreaming at  
8am & 9.30am only**

**8am—Worship**

Led by Roland Bryant  
and Christine Palmer

**9.30am—Worship**

Led by Daniel Gibb  
and Christine Palmer

**KUCA** in Recess

**6.45pm—Worship**

Led by Barbara Gibb  
and Nicola Lawless

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

**What's happening this week at St. Matthew's**

**MONDAY 17 JULY**

**9am—Sorting  
& Pricing for Op Shop**

lower hall

**TUESDAY 18 JULY**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop  
9.30am—Christian Meditation**

in the church

**WEDNESDAY 19 JULY**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop  
10am-12pm—In Stitches**

upstairs hall

**THURSDAY 20 JULY**

**9am-2pm—Op Shop**

**FRIDAY 21 JULY**

**No Scheduled Events**

**SATURDAY 22 JULY**

**No Scheduled Events**

**SUNDAY  
23 JULY**

**9am—Combined Worship**

**KUCA** Preschool, Years K-2 & Years 3-8

**Followed by  
Church AGM**

**Followed by lunch**

**5pm—Shine**

**6.45pm—Worship**



**CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS  
MINISTRY WORKER**

**DANIEL GIBB** *Part Time*  
Email: daniel@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

**SENIORS PASTORAL CARER**

**MICHAEL STRONG** *Part Time*  
Email: mike@stmatthewsuniting.net.au

**CHURCH OFFICE SECRETARIES:**

ROBYN MORRALL AND LYNN SAMUEL

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** 9AM-3PM MON-FRI

**OFFICE :** 9686 3003

**LOCATION:**

CNR CHARLES & EDGAR STREETS  
BAULKHAM HILLS

**POSTAL ADDRESS:**

BAULKHAM HILLS UNITING CHURCH  
PO BOX 773 BAULKHAM HILLS 1755

**WEB SITE:** www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au

**Weekly newsletter available on website**

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SONALI WANIGESEKERA  
PO BOX 321 BAULKHAM HILLS 2153

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Thank you to all who have  
contributed to this publication.

# Lectionary Notes

## Pentecost 7

### July 16

#### **Genesis 25:19-34**

In these traditions that trace the family from Abraham through Isaac to Jacob and the origin of the twelve tribes who would become the nation of Israel. Through one of those tribes, that of Joseph, the families come to Egypt setting the scene for the birth of the nation. In the book of Exodus, the great exodus from Egypt happens. In the book of Exodus, Moses leads the people from bondage in Egypt to freedom on the way to the promised land under Moses. The rest of that story follows in the next four books. It is these first five books that are called the Torah. The Torah is that narrative of God's calling this nation into being, not as many think just the ten commandments. This passage highlights the birth of Rebekah's twins, Esau and Jacob. Jacob born, minutes after Esau, later seeks his brother's first born blessing of his Father Isaac for his future.

(Next Week Gen 28:10-19a Jacob flees for his life and discovers the presence of God in a dream)

#### **Psalm 119:105-112**

Psalm 119 is an alphabet acrostic, with the first line of 8 lines starting with the Hebrew alphabet. So 22 letters x 8 lines per letter gives 176 lines. Verse 105 is a summary of much of the psalm. "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." The next 7 lines reflect further on the centrality of the word of God. This verse has been the profound experience of so many people.

#### **Romans 8:1-11**

Beginning with "There is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus", the apostle shows how God has reframed life through the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus. No longer need we live our life as captives in the realm of sin, now in Christ we are set free to walk in the realm of the Spirit. This passage is a glorious declaration of God's way to life. "If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ will give life to your mortal bodies also through the Spirit that dwells in you." One needs to read that again. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead, dwells in you. Mind-blowing. There is much more to come in this colossal declaration of life in another dimension next week. The Lectionary has us spend three weeks in all in this one chapter.

#### **Matthew 13:1-9,18-23.**

The parable of the sower is found in Matthew, Mark and Luke. In Matthew Jesus speaks the parable from a boat to crowds on the shore. The disciples then ask why he speaks in parables. As in Matthew there are always overtones of one here greater than Moses. Jesus the teacher then shares with them the fuller meaning of the parable. "To you has been given to know the secrets or mysteries of the kingdom." The focus in the explanation is not so much on the soils, but the various ways of responding to the sower's generous broadcasting of the seed, the kingdom of God. In Matthew the forces against Jesus have already rejected him. The parable indicates that whatever resistance the kingdom of God will be generously proclaimed - and there will be a response. The four types of response to the seed of the kingdom, the path, the rocky soil, the thorny soil and finally the good soil incorporate the growing active resistance and passive response to the kingdom of God.

*In grace and peace,*

*Dean*

# Guest Preacher

## Christine Palmer

Christine will be known to some at St. Matthew's as she spent some time providing pastoral care to the congregation in the early 2007-2011. We welcome Christine as guest minister on Sunday 16 July.

Prior to being ordained in the Uniting Church in 2014, Christine worked in primary teaching and pastoral care, and all these skills play well into supporting the community in her current role. For the past four years or so, Christine has led 'Suburban Seeds' as Community Minister, in a role involving community engagement and development, along with working towards growing, resourcing, and equipping a local network of faith communities.

Suburban Seeds in an innovative ministry, 'putting relationships front and centre', and 'making connections at the grassroots' as Christine supports local people through online channels, local projects, and through 'a lot of listening'. Essentially, Christine responds to the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of the community, and 'connects faith with life'. Mission and ministry are shaped by the character and needs of the community.

Based in the south west of Sydney, Suburban Seeds programs include 'Play in the Park', an outdoor playgroup meeting the needs of young families, Kids Hope mentoring, pastoral care support, and coordination of events at Easter and Christmas, with several other initiatives in the pipeline.

### *Prayer Days for St. Matthew's*

Please take some time on Wednesdays to pray for St. Matthew's during our time of transition. Knowing that we are all praying together on this one day is an uplifting experience. The church will be open for anyone who would like to pray onsite.

### *A time of prayer*

Thank God for his generosity by answering our prayers and leading Jon to our church. We give thanks for the members of the JNC Committee for their faith, commitment, and time as they trusted you to lead them to your vision for St. Matthew's - Karen, Helen, Alexander, Mike, Dean & Eulalie, for Grant and Carmel. For Jon as he transitions from Chaplin to Congregation minister. As he says 'goodbye' to the people and routines that are familiar. His work colleagues, students, and parents with whom he has made connections.

We pray for our Congregation as we navigate the next few months without a minister.

We give thanks for the guest preachers and lay ministers who will share with us in our worship services during this time. Pray for the Worship Oversight committee as they continue to find ministers and lay preachers to fill our preaching rosters.

Continued growth for all church groups and their faithful committed leaders. Prayers for our church family members who have recently lost loved ones. Help them to feel loved and supported at this time.

*Barbara and Christine*





## PEOPLE NEWS

Susan MacWilliam  
Daniel van Kruyssen  
Ida Batten

Fran Courts  
Chris Bunn

*Our very best wishes to all the St. Matthew's community who are celebrating their birthdays this week.*

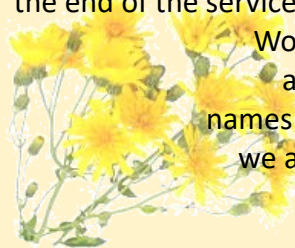
### Welcoming everyone at St. Matthew's

**Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Romans 15:7)**

How do you feel when the liturgist asks the congregation to greet one another with "The peace of the Lord be with you" "And also with you"? At first we feel a little shy, but if we overcome our initial reluctance, this is a very easy way to be welcoming to the people who are worshipping nearby. How about looking out for a person with whom we haven't had much to contact, and engaging them in a few words to show that you have noticed them and are happy to have them at worship. A quick exchange during this part of the service may lead to an opportunity to follow up with a little more conversation at the end of the service as you are leaving.

Wouldn't it be great if we were able to say that we know the names of every person with whom we are worshipping on this day?

Sandra Gordon



### THROWS

THE OP SHOP STAFF ARE DONATING A COUPLE OF THROWS TO BE USED BY ANYBODY FEELING COLD AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.

*PLEASE FEEL FREE TO USE THEM.*

## Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

16—22 July

*Djibouti, Somalia*

**AGM**  
Annual General Meeting

### CHURCH AGM SUNDAY 23 JULY

*Our Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday 23 July following a combined 9.00am service. This is a great opportunity to catch up with friends from all worship services and to keep up to date with what is happening at St. Matthew's. This will be an opportunity to hear from our Focus Groups and our finance Committee. There will be time of fellowship after the meeting with a shared meal. If you are interested in staying for lunch, please provide a plate of ready to serve finger food to share.*

**Please pick up a printed copy of the 'Minutes of the Annual Congregational Meeting 31st July 2022' from the church foyer in preparation for the AGM.**

### JULY SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

at the church

2 July - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm  
includes Communion

9 July - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

16 July - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

23 July - 9am Combined  
followed by AGM

23 July - 6.45pm

30 July - 8am, 9.30am & 6.45pm

*Live streaming morning services only*

**The St. Matthew's Uniting Church weekly Newsletter is available to view at the end of each week for the upcoming Sunday on the St. Matthew's website [www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au](http://www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au) Click on the metal dove image / publications or find in recent posts.**



# The Galston Concerts



## Virtuoso Violins .... Strings Stars!

Galston Uniting Church  
11 School Road – Galston

Sunday 23 July 2023

1.30 prelude, 2 pm concert

### Violinist Evgeny Sorkin

Russian-born, Moscow-trained but long term Sydney-resident violinist Evgeny Sorkin is a prolific prize-winner, recording concert performer. Mentored by the great Yehudi Menuhin Isaac Stern to concerts in the UK, USA & Europe, from Amsterdam, Evgeny is the first ever Doctor of Musical of Sydney University Conservatorium, where he now serves as lecturer. A master teacher/mentor Evgeny brings to three young talents from the Con's Rising Stars project, pianist Rachel Lin, in a program of virtuoso violin favourites passionate melodies, flying fingers & bows with Italian, Polish Russian, Spanish & Gypsy flair plus some jazzy Jerome Kern.



### Organ Prelude 1.30 pm: Kian Chan (A.Mus.A & Rising Stars)

Followed by Afternoon Tea  
your chance to meet the  
performers  
and chat with friends

Bookings [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com)  
(search Galston)  
or tickets at the door (cash only)  
\$30 Adult  
\$25 Seniors  
\$10 Uni/Secondary students  
FREE for 12 & under

