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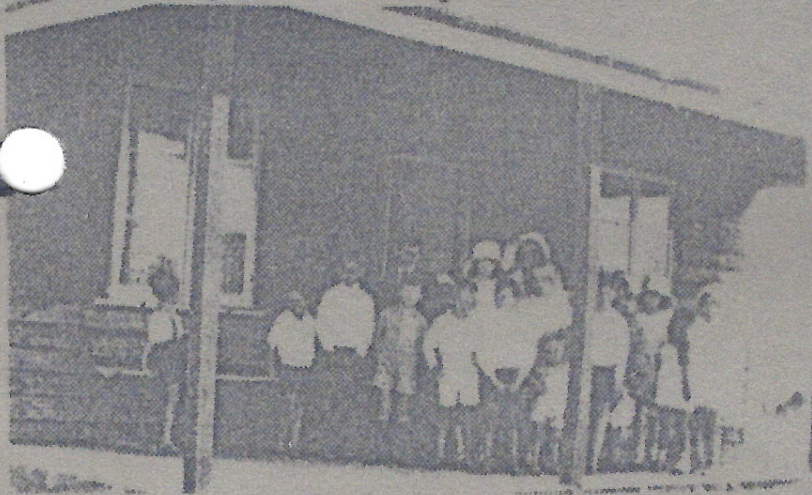


UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

Synod of Western Australia

ROCKINGHAM PARISH

Rockingham Sunday School 1933



Parkin Street 1980



Church Anniversary and Thanksgiving

9 September 1984

* CHURCH ANNIVERSARY *
* WITH THANKSGIVING FOR OUR PAST *

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Break forth into exclamations of joy and gladness, you who serve the Lord!

All: *Arise, come to your God, sing him your songs of rejoicing.*

Leader: God is not dead! He is ever our God! He made us; we belong to him; we are his children and servants. And his love for us never runs out; his care and concern for us will go on forever.

All: *Glory to you O God!*

Leader: Let the world see the signs of our joy! Let us lift up our voices in songs and praise and surrender our lives as offerings of thanksgiving!

All: *Let us bless his name forever! Amen.*

(Adapted from L. Brandt's paraphrase of Psalm 100)

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OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 55:1-9, page 718

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONFESSION

Leader: Almighty God, you built your church on the rock of human faith and trust; we praise you for Jesus Christ, the foundation and cornerstone of all we believe.

All: *We praise you God.*

Leader: For the apostles and martyrs of the church through the ages, who gave their lives, that we in our day, might receive the good news of grace and forgiveness;

All: *We praise you God.*

Leader: For all the ways in which you have led us

Leader: and brought us to this hour; for the gradual development and the faithful witness of the Rockingham/Safety Bay Circuit of the Methodist Church; for our growth in faith as a Uniting Church; for a widening of our vision and relationships in your one holy catholic church, and a deepening of love,

All: *We praise you God.*

Leader: Yet most holy and merciful Father, we confess to you and to one another, that individually and together we have sinned against you by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

All: *We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength;*

Leader: We have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves;

All: *We have not had the mind of Christ in us, we have grieved your Holy Spirit.*

Leader: You alone know how often we have sinned and grieved you, by wasting your gifts, by wandering from your ways, by forgetting your love.

All: *Forgive us, we pray you, merciful Father, and free us from our sin. Renew in us the grace and strength of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your son, our Saviour. Amen.*

Leader: Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith, pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you to do his will, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: *Amen.*

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THE GREETING OF PEACE

Minister: We are the body of Christ

Left Side: His spirit is with us.

Right Side: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Left Side: And also with you.

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THE EPISTLE: 1 Peter 2:1-10, page 290

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20, page 26

THE PROCLAMATION: Reverend Arthur Meyer

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OFFERING AND ACT OF COMMITMENT

Leader: God's call to Israel in Egypt to leave the security of the known, was not a call to an isolated experience, a time of self-congratulation or an orgy of remorse that would send them back to slavery at its end. It was a call to a new way of life that would only begin as they moved in faithful obedience, and as they worshiped him in spirit and in truth.

All: Like them, may our moving and our worship be the beginning of dynamic new life, enriched and vitalized by our worship, sustained by our encounter with God and the call to be his people.

Leader: Let us leave this temple built of stones, knowing that we are living stones of the temple which is Christ's Church.

All: Let us go forth to live out new lives of purpose and service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.