



UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
Rockingham Congregation
4 Erindoon Way, Waikiki 6169

UPDATE

SUNDAY 22nd October 2017 at 9:30am

Today's Service conducted by
Rev Toby Keva

Please join us for morning tea following worship

Welcome to Rockingham Uniting Church

Our hope is that all who come through our doors find Spiritual rest and nourishment, and that you will experience the presence of the living God in our midst.

Minister Rev Toby Adhityas Keva	Minister's Hours: 10:00am - 6:00pm Wed - Sun Mobile: 0411 831 695 E-mail: toby.keva@hotmail.com
Office Staff	Margit Hanisch
Office Hours	Monday: 9:00am to 11:45am Friday: 9:00am to 12:00noon
Postal Address	PO Box 263 Rockingham WA 6168
Contact Details	Phone: 9527 1014 Email: RockinghamUniting@gmail.com
Website Address	rockinghamuniting.org
Opportunity Shop	169 Parkin Street, Rockingham Monday to Friday: 10:00am to 3:30pm Saturday: 9:00am to 12:00noon Phone 9527 4660

Last Sunday's Bible Readings: Psalm 23, Exodus 32:1-14

Psalm 23 is by far the most well-known psalm. Using the image of a shepherd with his sheep, Psalm 23 talks about God's presence in our life that guides and leads us to sources of life and healing. God is with us, always. This is a theme that is consistent in the Bible both in the Old and the New Testaments. Before he died, John Wesley - the originator of the Methodist movement and church, which was one of the founding church traditions of the Uniting Church - said, "The best of all is: God is with us."¹

But God is with us not only in good times, but also in not-so-good times. God is with us like a shepherd guiding his sheep on the hills and as they walk through the darkest valleys. No, we are not sheltered from problems in life when God is with us. We will still face difficulties, just like everyone else. But God's presence will not abandon us. We may not be aware of the presence of God in our midst, especially in our darkest hours, but God's presence is still there, guiding and nurturing us.

The people of Israel had failed to acknowledge God's presence in their midst as they travelled in the desert. They thought that God had abandoned them, so they created their own god whom they hoped would deliver to them their salvation.

We also may be tempted to do the same thing, especially in difficult times. We also may try creating or finding our own idol that can provide us with temporary salvation; idol such as wealth, possession, power, fame, popularity, obsession, fitness, celebrity, etc. But such idol cannot fully satisfy us by leading us to 'fresh water' and 'green grass'. Such idol will only make us want more and more. Only God's presence that can make us say, together with the author of Psalm 23, that the Lord is with us and we have everything that we need.

So, friends, what are the other gods that we are still worshipping today at the expense of our worship of the one true God? What are the things that have kept us from truly enjoying the banquet of life that God offers not only later, but now? We need to learn to let go of these things, gradually if necessary, so we can follow God, our Good Shepherd, leading us to streams of fresh water and green grass.

¹ James Howell, *Commentary on Psalm 23*, on www.workingpreacher.org (October 15 2017)

Bible Readings 29th October 2017:

Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Psalm 90:1-6,13-17; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8;
Matthew 22:34-46

WEEK'S EVENTS FROM 22ND – 28ST OCTOBER 2017

Today 9:30am	<u>Morning Worship</u> led by Rev Toby Keva
Today 5:00pm	<u>Afternoon Worship</u>
Prayers	<u>Remember</u> the people of The Caribbean.
Wednesday 10:00am	<u>Craft Group</u> meet in the Church Hall. All welcome, even if just for a chat and a cup of tea.
Thursday 10:00am - 11:30am	<u>MENS GROUP</u> Special Outing: Historic Perth
Saturday 8:00am	<u>Church Fete</u>

Coming Events

Sunday 29th October: Morning Worship Service at 9:30am & Afternoon Service at 5:00pm – conducted by Rev Toby Keva

ALL SAINTS DAY

On Sunday 29 October during our Morning Service members will be able to pause and remember those loved ones who have gone before us with the lighting of a candle

LOOKING AHEAD: The Annual Church Christmas Luncheon will be held on Sunday 17 December from 11.30am at the Meadow Springs Golf Club.

Notices

Do you have an Epson Printer taking 73N ink cartridges? Please see Peter Ogden for a no longer needed twin pack.

The Uniting Church Monthly Information Pack is on the atrium table for you to read.

ROCKINGHAM CONGREGATION

Weekly Worship with Children's Activities each Sunday 9.30am (with Communion on First Sunday of each month).

We aim to be a fellowship of Christians making the crucified, risen and exalted Lord Jesus Christ to be known, loved, worshipped and obediently followed. We aim to be always open to newcomers and to serve the community and the world, doing all this by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We aim to achieve this by committing ourselves to God in spiritual growth through prayer, bible study, and stewardship of time, talents and resources

Rosters – 29th October 2017	
Announcements	Gerry Ligtermoet
Bus Driver	Brian Williams
Reader	Jim Smeaton
Elder	Pam Harris
Stewards	Alison Poole & Jim Smeaton
Communion Stewards	
Morning Tea	Joan Willis & Pauline Harkup
Accompanist	Ken Paton
AV System	Jennifer Ligtermoet & Cameron Harris
KUCA	

Four week averages: Attendance 86: 10