

HIGH STREET UNITING CHURCH NEWS

30 November 2020

Dear friends,

The Israelites spent 40 years in the wilderness, between the time when they were rescued from their slavery in Egypt (and the plagues!) and their entry into the Promised Land. We are also on the long road, but with the vistas starting to open out again. During the Traditional worship this week we will have a reading from the beginning of Joshua, as the Israelite prepare to enter the new land, and a thanksgiving from Psalm 107. We aren't quite in the Promised Land yet – our ways of meeting remain limited for now – but it's a relief to get past the hard lockdown stage and for the community to have achieved such success in suppressing the pandemic here.

Meanwhile, during the Contemporary Worship this week we will be especially praying for year 12 students. The service will include significant leadership by the young people and will have some good creative aspects for people to participate in as they feel able – there's a note about that below.

For both services this week we will be sharing in Holy Communion, so please have with you a piece of bread and a small drink (wine, grape-juice, or whatever you can manage) if you would like to share in this way.

God's peace,
David

NOTE FOR CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP (Not the 9am service)

On Sunday we will use breakout rooms during worship. There will be a time for creative response to the bible reading, instead of a spoken sermon. And you will be invited to participate as you are able.

You will need:

- a big piece of paper or card (newspaper is fine as you're going to glue things all over it); glue; scissors; pen; 'bits and pieces': you could go for a walk in the backyard and collect a bag full of leaves, grass, seeds, sticks and feathers, or you could cut up old magazines or bits of cloth and wool from home
- table and tablecloth; candle; paper; scissors; coloured pens; plates; something you'd like to eat...
- a bit of space inside or outside; some imagination
- elements for communion – bread and cup

PILGRIM COLLEGE VALEDICTORY SERVICE

The Pilgrim College Valedictory Service was held over Zoom on Thursday night. It included the celebration of **Juli Lincoln's Graduate Diploma in Theology**. Congratulations, Juli!

SOUP KITCHEN

Starting this week! Thank you to all who are helping as volunteers. We are working on a roster, and currently contacting people as we go; a more complete roster will be organised soon.

PRESBYTERY PRAYERS

Port Phillip East Presbytery encourages congregations this week to pray for Uniting Agewell. Pray for Andrew Kinnersly, Chief Executive Officer and the General Manager team, Clare Brockett, Director of Mission, and Alisha Fung, chaplain at Noble Park.

OFFERINGS

If you are not connected to regular direct debit, one-off or regular offerings can be made to the church by transfer to FRANKSTON UNITING CHURCH BSB **063 133** Account **00800128** Description **OFFERING**. Alternatively, keep a bowl for your offerings at home, or mail a cheque to **the Treasurer, Keith Holmes**, at 31 Lucerne Crescent, Frankston 3199.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LINKS

TRADITIONAL (9:00am)

Phone **(03) 7018 2005**; Meeting ID **616 254 006**; Participant ID (none); Password **3199**.

If you want to join on a computer or iPad, go to zoom.us and "join meeting" using the Meeting ID details above, or use the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/616254006?pwd=MkhoWjdXemFiUjAyVmN3bXBzSURqUT09>

CONTEMPORARY (children from 10:25, main worship from 10:40)

Zoom Meeting ID **556 610 676**; Password **3199**. Join meeting from zoom.us or use the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/556610676?pwd=T3k4RmVUV0NldGR2eEswZVlvVUIXUT09>

or phone **(03) 7018 2005**.

WEBSITE: Reflections accessible in text format at <https://www.frankstonuniting.org.au/>

PRAYER TEAM: The Prayer Team can be contacted on 9781 5351 (Marlene) or email HSUCPrayer@googlegroups.com

THIS WEEK

Thursday 5 November, 7:30pm – Bible study group

For those who dress up for Halloween... (maybe we'll see some costumes still on Sunday morning?)

Holy God, giver of life, we know you are ruler over all things that make us fearful. You triumph over the evils in our world, and you raise your people to life again after death. As the One who created us, we know it makes you glad to hear us laugh, and to watch us play. So, we ask you to bless all who dress up in their Halloween costumes. Let their laughter and the wholesome fun they enjoy be a sign to all who do not know you, that your Love reigns over all things in heaven and on earth. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.