

Preaching

8.30am Graham Huth
10.15am Graham Huth

Lectionary Readings

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33



Welcome to AUC!

Please join us after the service for refreshments in the 'breezeway'.

Contact Us

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Please Pray For:

- ✓ Combined Churches of Townsville
- ✓ City of Townsville governance and community leaders
- ✓ Those experiencing unemployment and financial hardship

The Hour Has Come

Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." (John 12:23).

You may be familiar with the song 'I Have Decided to Follow Jesus'. According to tradition, the lyrics are based on the words of a Christian martyr called Nokseng who was executed in the Assam district of Northern India about 150 years ago. When the village chief and elders demanded he renounce his faith, he responded 'I have decided to follow Jesus'. When he was forced to watch as his wife and children were killed he declared, 'Though none go with me, still I will follow'. And in the face of death, boldly refusing to deny Jesus he uttered the words, 'The world behind me, the Cross before me. No turning back!' just before he too was killed.

As I look at our Gospel reading for today (John 12:20-36) I can't help but think that something similar to these last words of Nokseng were going through the mind of Jesus. Some Greeks (or simply non-Jews) came looking for Jesus. Their simple request to Philip, 'Sir, we want to see Jesus' seems to have been a trigger-point for Jesus. It's as if Jesus has seen the inevitability of his future. God's plan, centered on his obedience and sacrifice, was now upon him. The Cross lay inevitably ahead. There was now 'no turning back'. The hour had come, just as prophesied by Jeremiah, "*The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah...It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt...I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people...for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more*". (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

In Jesus words as recorded by John, there is almost a sense that Jesus was at war within himself against the weakness of the human part of his nature

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Church Picnic **TODAY** in the Breezeway after 10.15am service

Please find the foyer copies of a 'personal report and words of thanksgiving' from Enoka

Join the dark side! Gather a group to pray for our Earth.

Register to win a GBR Turtle cruise at:
<http://em.wwf.org.au/Az0V00GX30ufj5000B0C0pX>



Combined churches
Prayer for our City
Celebration Service
Ross River Dam
Thursday 22nd March 7-8pm

Meet the Pastor and his Wife

It is always hard for an incoming minister to get to know their flock, particularly if the congregation is the size of Aitkenvale. Ann-Louise and I are reaching out With an offer to meet with those who would particularly appreciate an opportunity to meet. Please find at the back of the church a contact sheet so we can arrange an appropriate time.



Church Golf

Roy Backer memorial game
17th March
6.30am @ Lavarack Golf club
9.45am morning tea @ AUC

Bring ID with you
Please be prompt

**L I V E
L O V E
L E A D**

Final study
Friday 23rd March

6.30-7.30pm meal, please bring
a plate to share
7.30-9pm study

GO GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 21st March commencing with morning tea in the breezeway at 10am.

After this we will move into the church to watch a short documentary called 'Bec's legacy' which was shown on TV a few weeks ago.

Bec was our GO GROUP member Isabel Winton's 30 year old granddaughter who passed away in the latter part of 2017.

If you have any queries please ring VI or Bill Radcliffe 47752657 or Ron & Beryl Quelch 47799346.

Continued from front cover, **The Hour Has Come**

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say— ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” (John 12:27-28). The hour had come, he was past the point of no-return. God had sent him as the sacrifice that would be the substitute for the punishment of human sin. In Jesus, God was about to fulfil his promise of a new covenant with God; one in which God would forgive the iniquity of His people and remember their sin no more. It all hung on him allowing himself to be hung on the Cross. Jesus therefore, turned his back on the world, and his face towards the Cross.

We are nearing the end of our Lenten journey, and next week we celebrate Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem. This Easter, as we again count the cost of discipleship; of taking up our own cross, may you have the strength of faith and conviction to declare anew, “I too have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back, no turning back”.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Graham Huth

Roster Ruminations – Part 5

(<https://newspring.cc/articles/8-blessings-we-get-from-serving>)

Remember – many hands make light work. It’s important to share in each other’s lives through serving.

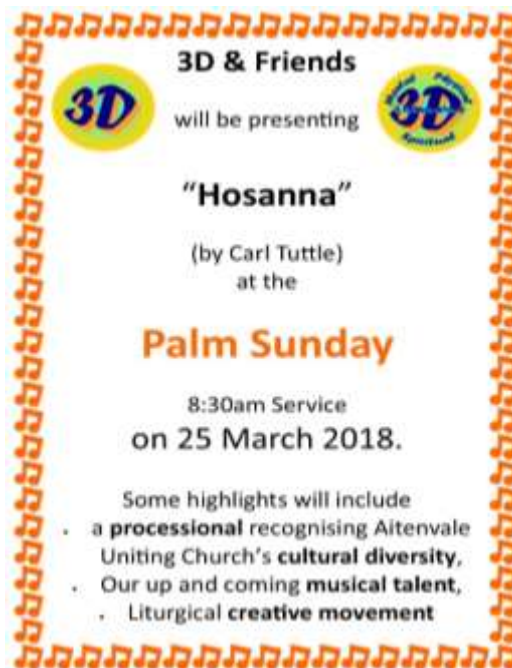
Blessing # 4 - Serving helps us to be more like Jesus.

We shift our focus off of ourselves onto others through serving. We begin to see others as Jesus sees them. And we see Jesus IN others (Matthew 25:40).



Thank you
Neville Devete,
Matthew Devete
Ian Savage
Who mowed the lawns this
week

Church council meeting
Monday 19th March
7.15pm
@
AUC



Dates in March

Friday 16th March Live, Love, Lead 6.30pm @ AUC

Saturday 17th March Church Golf 6.30am @ Lavarack gold club

Sunday 18th March Church picnic After 10.15am service

Monday 19th March Church council meeting 7.15pm @ AUC

Thursday 22nd March combined churches Prayer 7-8pm @ Ross River Dam

Easter Services

Thursday 29th March Maundy Thursday Service 6.30pm @ AUC

Friday 30th March Good Friday service 8am @ AUC

Sunday 1st April Easter Sunday Combined Churches of Townsville Dawn service 6am @ Castle Hill

Sunday 1st April Easter Sunday service 9am @ AUC

Rosters & Readings for 25th March 2018

8.30am Service

Preacher: Graham Huth
Reader: Achamma Joseph
Stewards: Lynne Tang & Achamma Joseph
Minister's Steward: Fred Annesley
Sound Desk: Grace Frankling
Data Projector: Joan Gist
Organist: John
Flowers: Beryl
Morning Tea: Jillian Bond & Ruth Morris

10.15am Service

Preacher: Graham Huth
Reader: Helen
Stewards: Izzy & Hannah
Sound Desk: Dave
Data Projector: Helen
Musicians: Scott & Rachel
Children's ministry: Rachel
Morning Tea: Judy & Kate

Lectionary Readings

Isiah 50:4-9a Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 11:1-11