

## Preaching

8.30am Graham Huth  
10.15am Graham Huth

## Lectionary Readings

Acts 4:5-12  
Psalm 23  
1 John 3:16-24  
John 10:11-18



## Welcome to AUC!

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

## Contact Us

### Ps Graham Huth

Ann-Louise

4755 0952

0427495329

[graham.huth@bigpond.com](mailto:graham.huth@bigpond.com)

## Church Office

Kellie Worrell

Friday

[aitkenvaleuc@bigpond.com](mailto:aitkenvaleuc@bigpond.com)

[aitkenvale.unitingchurch.org.au](http://aitkenvale.unitingchurch.org.au)

4779 0060

PO Box 195

AITKENVALE QLD 4814

## Good Shepherd Sunday

**"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."**

(John 10:11)

This week is, as per tradition in the common lectionary, Good Shepherd Sunday. Each year on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter, we have readings with various references to sheep and shepherds. You don't need knowledge or experience with sheep or farm life to find comfort in these images of Jesus as shepherd. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm in particular, has been a source of reassurance, security and hope since King David first penned them thousands of years ago. We find a certain peace in visualising Jesus as the shepherd that leads his sheep through green pastures, past creeks and stagnant pools. Even when journeying through valleys of the darkest days of our lives threatens to overwhelm us, the staff and rod of the shepherd ensure we traverse the path safely.

While our Gospel reading this week seems to echo the words of the Psalmist, Jesus takes the analogy in a new direction. Jesus declares he is not just a shepherd – he is the **good** shepherd. *"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep...For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father"* (John 10:14-16, 17-18).

In terms of shepherding, Jesus is unique. He is no ordinary shepherd, he is 'one of a kind.' He is not like a hired hand who has no real investment in the lives of the sheep; one who runs away at the first sign of danger. Jesus has a genuine and immeasurable love for each member of the flock. He is not only prepared to lead, walk beside, comfort and protect us. He was prepared to even lay down his very own life for his sheep; and he did.

Such is Jesus' love for us, he threw away his shepherd's crook, and instead became one of us – a sheep, a sacrificial lamb, whose act of sacrifice has ensured the eternal safety of all that come under his care. But just as he has the power to lay down his life, he had the power to take it up again. Jesus indeed is the good shepherd. We can entrust our lives into the care of the one who has proven himself worthy of our faith.

Grace and peace, **Pastor Graham Huth**

## Please Pray For:

- ✓ Chaplains in our schools and the work they do
- ✓ Children's and Youth ministries as they begin for term 2
- ✓ Family and congregation of Ps. Viki Ashford from Thursday Island UC who passed away suddenly this week



We humbly thank the AUC Church Council for approving our request for the use of the Church to hold our monthly Fellowship meeting which replaces the weekly Thursday night prayer meetings. The PNG Fellowship group will start meeting at AUC on Sunday 2nd May and thereafter will continue to do so on the first Sunday of every month. The anticipated meeting times will be between the hours of 1.30pm -3.30pm.

Thank you.  
Neville and Margaret Devete

---

God as a purpose behind every problem. He uses circumstances to develop our character. In fact, he depends more on circumstances to make us like Jesus than he depends on our reading the Bible.

Rick Warren

---

Please find ion the pin board in the foyer:

- ❖ Thank you and update from Christmas Bowl appeal 2017
- ❖ 'Prayer burst' from SU Queensland

---

Please find a "AUC volunteer celebration dinner" sign on sheet in the foyer for the celebration dinner to assist with numbers



### Roster Ruminations – Part 10

We make all sorts of rational explanations for not serving:

*I don't have time.*

*I don't know what I would do.*

*I don't have any special skills to contribute.*

*They don't need me.*

But the reality is the Lord doesn't call the equipped; He equips the called. God used men and women with similar doubts to change the course of history. Moses didn't think he was a leader or speaker, but God worked through Moses to bring Israel out of slavery. David was the youngest (and therefore most insignificant) of all his brothers, but God worked through David to defeat a giant and eventually made him a king. Paul used to kill Christians before he met Jesus, but he went on to become one of the most highly-regarded and prolific writers/church planters in history. God doesn't just want to work through you, He wants to work **in** you.

## Church Council Members

In approximately 3 weeks' time there will be elections for Church Council members. This will occur at the completion of both the 8.30am and 10.15am services.

Anyone who may wish to discuss what is involved with being a Church Council member please see either Ian Savage or Graham Huth as a nomination process would need to occur.



Last Saturday group of AUC regulars enjoyed the Townsville multicultural festival at JCU where Ps. Graham opened and closed in prayer alongside Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah Salik, Imam of Townsville Mosque

### Psalm 23

GOD, my shepherd! I don't need a thing.  
You have bedded me down in lush meadows,  
you find me quiet pools to drink from.  
True to your word, you let me catch my breath  
and send me in the right direction.  
Even when the way goes through Death Valley

I'm not afraid when you walk at my side  
Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure.  
You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my  
enemies.  
You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing.  
Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life.  
I'm back home in the house of GOD for the rest of my life

Get your Entertainment Membership now to help AUC Play group raise funds for new toys and craft resources.

Last year we sold 14 books and raised \$169 for our playgroup this year we hope to raise money to buy dress-ups.

See Rachel this now about an exciting offer available this week

Rachel Mudge  
[rachelemudge@hotmail.com](mailto:rachelemudge@hotmail.com)

0407730088



Or visit <http://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/2y71815>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

## Church Golf

28<sup>th</sup> April

6.30am @ Lavarack Golf club

9.45am morning tea @ AUC

Cost: \$20

Please get name and ID number to Kay by:

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April

5pm

Bring ID with you

Please be prompt

At the 'Roy Backer memorial game' \$307 was raised for Mckay Patrol

The next ORANA Fellowship gathering will be on:

**SATURDAY, 5 MAY at 2 PM**

Beth Heron's home, 37 Manersley Place, Annandale (phone 47281123).

The theme is "Aprons", so beg, borrow, or steal an apron for the afternoon, and be prepared to speak about it!

Thank you

Frank Keech

Who mowed the lawns this week

### Dates in April

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April celebration dinner  
5.30pm @ AUC

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April Church golf 6.30am  
@ Lavarack Barracks followed by  
Morning tea 9.45am @ AUC

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 'Sow 2 grow' worship  
Intensive 9am-4pm @ Jensen Uniting  
Church

### Date Claimers

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May Coffee Chats 7.30pm @  
Max Brenners

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May ORANA 2pm @ Beth  
Heron's house

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May combined morning tea  
9.45am in the breezeway

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May Good Shepherd service  
11am

## Rosters & Readings for 29<sup>th</sup> April 2018

### 8.30am Service

**Preacher:** Graham Huth

**Reader:** Heather Dearness

**Stewards:** Peter & Lyn Phillips

**Minister's Steward:** Ian Dearness

**Sound Desk:** Joan Gist

**Data Projector:** Grace Frankling

**Organist:** John

**Flowers:** Heather

**Morning Tea:** M&K Abercombie & L&P Phillips

### 10.15am Service

**Preacher:** Graham Huth

**Reader:** Helen

**Stewards:** Hannah & Izzy

**Sound Desk:** Dave

**Data Projector:** Helen

**Music:** Kate & Rach

**Children's Ministry:** Margaret, Geoff & Naomi

**Morning Tea:** Judy & Kate

## Lectionary Readings

**Acts 8:26-40**

**Psalm 22:25-31**

**1 John 4:7-21**

**John 15:1-8**