

# Outreach 8 May 2022



Readings Acts 9:36-43, Psalm 23, Rev 7:9-17, John 10:22-30



WELCOME TO AUC!

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

#### CONTACT US

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#### Please pray for:

Leaders at Assembly, Synod and Presbytery for wisdom and discernment in making decisions affecting the wider church.

Our elders and members of the Church Council as they make decisions affecting the life of the church.

The Joint Nominating Committee and Presbytery as they seek to discern the calling of a new ministry agent for our congregation.

God's love and presence for our members who struggle with illness. Pray for recovery, strengthening and rest for Fred Annesley and others known to you.

Stable on the Strand preparations and fundraising.

Pray for the people of Ukraine who are seeking refuge from war and for those offering shelter and food.

Pray for all those who assist in worship



9am Rev Richard Wallace

"My sheep recognise my voice; I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27 (NIV)

Late one afternoon a visitor to the Middle East sat on a rock and looked at the countryside around her. Across the fairly stark looking land she

noticed two traditional looking shepherds moving their sheep along a low slope. As they came to a rise she noticed the mouth of a cave. One of the shepherds stood beside the opening and made a low call. About half the sheep, from what she assumed was a single flock, started toward the cave and entered their pen for the night. She watched in surprise as the flock divided itself. And then the remaining sheep continued walking along with the other shepherd toward their pen. Over the time, as the shepherd had tended the flock collecting their wool over the seasons the sheep learned the call of the shepherd's voice.

The imagery of shepherds and sheep is well represented in the Scriptures. The serenity of the above scene is similar to the peaceful pastoral scene of the Twenty Third Psalm, where God is the shepherd of the people of Israel.

Not all of the Scriptural images are of serene pastoral scenes. There is tension and anger in the prophet Ezekiel's work as he decries the neglectful priests, "Son of Man prophesy against the shepherds, the leaders of Israel. Give them this message from the Sovereign Lord: Destruction is certain for you shepherds who feed yourselves instead of your flocks... you abandoned my flock and left them to be attacked by every wild animal (Ezekiel 34: 2 & 6b).

The Gospel reading for today (John 10: 22-30) also is characterised by tension and conflict. This follows Jesus affirming that he is the Good Shepherd (10:14) who will give his life for the sheep, while identifying himself with God (v 30). Now the Jewish leaders seek to destroy him. The sheep would then scatter; but Jesus affirms that his followers recognise his voice and know where their eternal safety lies. He also declares that God will not let the sheep be taken away.

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This passage reflects the struggle of the early Christian community. NT scholar Bill Loader writes, "We also have a story read in first century Christian communities confronted by dissent from fellow Jews and probably also by divisions caused by dissenting Jewish Christian leaders. The communities would have seen the conflict of their day mirrored in the conflicts of Jesus' day. It is a power struggle for the leadership of God's flock."(https://billloader.com/LkEaster4.html) But there are the faithful who remain. They have heard, really heard deep down, the voice of their shepherd, a voice of grace, of unconditional love that is not heard anywhere else. This is a hearing of another dimension from those of a flock of sheep on a Middle Eastern hillside. And they cannot be snatched away. In this One is their ground, their true being. Hey, this is where it's at for me, and I trust for you, too. - Richard

## Sunday Service 8-5-2022

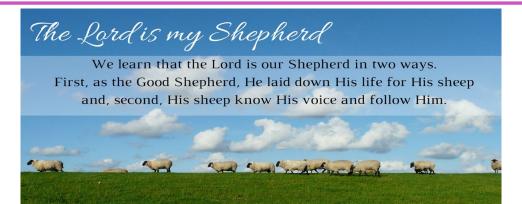
#### Live Streaming: Holy Communion

We welcome and thank **Rev Richard Wallace** for bringing the message to us today.

Welcome to our service here and to those at home. To participate in worship, please click on the link below and sit back and wait for the service to start.

If you are at home be sure to prepare your sacrament for your partaking.

<u>https://www.youtube.com/channelUCM\_yuTGxZEXsdQPd3XEQbtA/live</u> If you miss it, or would like to share it with someone, the recordings are on our website.



## Fellowship Stream Date Claimer Mystery Tour with a lovely surprise ending.

Saturday 28th May 1-5pm

Meet at the church 12.45pm ready to be able to leave at 1pm.



Bring a small plate of afternoon tea food to share and a chair.

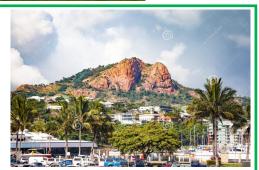
Tea and Coffee etc will be provided.

Please advise Margaret Finter, Joan Gist, Jayne Jackson or Glenda Dodge if you will be attending and can we please have names of folk willing to be drivers so that we can allocate passengers to each car.

We will carpool as much as possible to enable as many of our congregation to be able to come and enjoy a fun filled afternoon of fellowship.

For any information see either of the team members listed above.







#### AITKENVALE STATE SCHOOL GARDEN PROJECT:

Do you like getting your hands dirty? Come and be connected! Do you like working with others? Come and enjoy fellowship! Do you have a green thumb? Come and share your wisdom! Do you like making a difference? Come and be a change maker! Aitkenvale State School Community Garden needs you!

When: Time: water bottle Every Thursday during school term 4.00 to 5.00pmBring: Gloves, willing heart,

## Go Group

Go Group will meet at the church on



#### May 18 at 10am.

Following morning tea a morning of table games will be enjoyed.

New members welcome.

#### **Office Notice:**

We have experienced some problems with the office computer.

The problem has now been rectified. Thanks Paul for all his efforts.

If you use the computer, please shut it down after you have finished.





frontierservices.org/news-media/ our-resources/frontier-news/

## The May 2022 Edition of Frontier News is Out Now!

You can download your copy of Frontier news by going to their website.

"I hope you've stayed safe in all the floods and rain. We have some incredible stories in this edition of Frontier News that I hope you will enjoy reading as much as we enjoyed putting it together for you. We have spoken with so many people across the country, and unfortunately a lot of the stories have a similar theme. They have spoken to us about how this year's unprecedented weather events have impacted their lives. All this is compounded by the isolation and hardships of living in rural and remote areas across the country. I wanted to share with you how your kindness enables us to stand with people in the bush, and support them during tough times.



Stable invites you to join us to celebrate our 21st Birthday!

For more information or to buy tickets go to :

https://www.stableonthestrand.com.au/

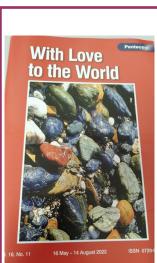
Offerings to date 3rd May 2022 Week \$1,911.22 Budgeted income year to date. \$34,596.00 Offerings Year to date

\$35,848.96

Difference \$1252.96

#### Rosters & Readings for 15 May 2022

9am Service	
Preacher	Rev Richard W
Reader	Val D
Door Stewards	Raquel
Offering	Greg S, Raquel
Livestream	Grace F
Data	ТВА
Organ	Carmel
Morning Tea	Jillian B
Lectionary Readings	
Acts 11:1-18, Psalm 148 Rev 21:1-6, John 13:31-35	



The latest version of 'With Love to the World' are available for you to pick up in the

foyer.

#### AUC Bank Details: Bank: ANZ



BSB: 014-010 Account Number: General Acc - 287295271 Distress Fund Acc - 287295327 Account Name: UCA Aitkenvale Reference: Offering, Donation

#### AUC Prayer Network. (aucprayer@bigpond.com)

If you wish to have a prayer request circulated across the AUC Prayer Network, or



would like to be included in the prayer network notices, please email your request to our direct email address: <u>aucprayer@bigpond.com</u>, or phone Kate on: 0429 609 509. (Important: requests for prayer on behalf of others requires their personal permission. This is due to confidentiality requirements and government legislation. Please ask first.)