



SUNDAY 4th Feb 2018
Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

Welcome to our worship this morning.

Children are especially welcome. We do hope that you will find the worship uplifting and that your relationship with Jesus Christ is enriched through it.

We seek to be a church that loves God, our local community and each other, in the same loving way that Christ loves us.

Please join us for morning tea after the service.

If you have any questions about what we do here or about the Christian Faith in general I would be happy to make time to discuss them or any other issues with you.

Gluten free wafers are available for Communion, if you require these please speak to the service leader.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

Saving God, whose Son, Jesus Christ, healed the sick and brought them wholeness of body and mind:

inspire us, his disciples,

so that we may constantly proclaim his gospel by our words

and by the dedication and integrity of our lives;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever. Amen.

LENT COURSE

This year Lent begins on 14th February or Ash Wednesday. It is the usual custom during Lent to prepare ourselves for Easter by studying something together through Gods word and our discussions.

This year I have found what promises to be a very good DVD course by Rick Warren entitled The Miracle of Mercy. It is only six sessions and I am proposing to run this on a weekly during the daytime between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. If anyone is interested in joining me for this short course please can you either let me know by next Sunday at the latest or sign up on the sheet at the back of church.

If I can get a minimum of 8 people to sign up between the two churches, we can then agree a day and give it a go.



PRAYERS

- For Christians still being persecuted for their faith, especially for the Christians in Cairo who recently lost their lives and forgiveness for our apathy towards our freedom to worship, proclaim and get involved.
- For our church finances, that we will have generous and giving hearts and hands.
- That all the resources we need to fulfil Gods mission in this community will be forthcoming.
- For good life, work balance, that we may have adequate time to get more involved in volunteering for Gods mission.
- For all who are suffering ill health or grief at this time
- For our Lent and Easter preparations, that we might reawaken our desire to serve Christ and know afresh His Spirit in our lives.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

This year our combined Ash Wednesday Communion Service will be on 14th February at 10.00am at St Michael's Church, Spearwood.

THANK YOU

To all who helped and supported the New 2 You Sale and the Bunnings BBQ on Saturday a huge thank you!

VISITING REQUEST CARDS

There are some new visiting request cards in the church. Please complete the details and hand to Revd Debbie if you know of a need in the parish.

Thank you

HOME FREED: the theology of decluttering - Decluttering Old Testament Style!

The story of creation, in Genesis chapter one, describes God bringing order out of chaos. God separates different things. God puts the right things in the right places. There is light and space and air, with enough to satisfy the needs of all creatures, and room to grow. This could describe the process of decluttering as well. So the first step in the physical process is to clear a space. This provides inspiration for the task ahead of you. Just look at the way things could be! Cleared space also offers a place to rest and think, until the chaos has been conquered. Decluttering always makes things worse before it makes them better, as the contents of overflowing cupboards, boxes, and drawers are spread out to sort in the light. It is tiring work too, with so many decisions to make about what to keep and what to do with the rest of it.

So - cherish your space!

Decluttering a whole home can be a long process, but don't let that intimidate you. Instead, get started soon! Remember that in the book of Exodus, salvation is shown as being brought out from slavery and oppression into freedom and open space.

As the Psalmist wrote: ‘We went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.’ Psalm 66:12

Those who market products for us to consume (even space-saving "storage solutions") want us to see space as something to fill – preferably with whatever they sell. Yet God is present in the space. We can ask our Lord, in prayer, to change our attitude towards the space in our home, so we see space as a valuable commodity, something to use creatively and to enjoy.

Again, the Psalmist thanks God because: ‘You gave me a wide place for my steps under me, and my feet did not slip.’ Psalm 18:36

Once we are set free from the burden of constantly having to sort and maintain our overflow of possessions, there will be room and time to use the creative gifts that God has given to you. What are your gifts? Baking, dancing, growing vegetables, painting, storytelling, wood carving? – the list of possibilities is endless.

Look closely at the things in your house. Does each possession help you in using your God-given gifts, or slow you down by encumbering you? Aim to be set free from them for CREATIVITY, to be like our Creator God, enjoying the freedom of a simplified, uncluttered life, with time freed for what is most important.

This Weeks Readings: Isaiah 40.21-31, Psalm 147.1-11, 1 Corinthians 9.16-23, Mark 1.29-39
Next Weeks Readings: 2 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:3-12, Mark 9:2-9

SPEARWOOD								
Date	Welcome	Reader	Prayer	Sacristan	LPM&LA	M/Tea	Musician	Counters
4th Feb	Karl	Lorraine June	June	Lorraine	Len Audrey	Sylv Merv	N/A	
11th Feb	Merv	Bern Audrey	Lorraine	Colleen	Colleen June	Maxine	N/A	
Contact Details								
Priest: Revd Debbie May					Parish Wardens			
Mobile: 0473 368 268					June Caunt: 9434 2745			
Email: revd.debbie@gmail.com					Maxine Smith: 0417 992 798			
15 Mell Rd, Spearwood WA 6163								