



Werribee Uniting Church

We acknowledge the people of the Kulin alliance, the original custodians of the land which was never ceded and on which our buildings for worship stand and we gather.

28 June 2026 Pentecost 5



28 June 2026: Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Reflection

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers in Christ!
Welcome to Worship!

Today, we will be reflecting on **Matthew 22: 40-42**

In our reading today, Jesus says, *“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.”* What does this mean? Some of the most powerful moments in the Christian life are not loud, dramatic, or public. They are quiet. Hidden. Ordinary. A cup of cold water. A word of encouragement. A small act of hospitality. In Matthew 10:40–42 Jesus lifts these small acts out of obscurity and places them on the stage of eternity. He tells his disciples, and he tells us, that nothing done for him is ever wasted.

Then Jesus gives the simplest example possible: “And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones... will certainly not lose their reward.” A cup of cold water. Not a feast. Not a donation. Not a heroic sacrifice. Just water.

Jesus is teaching us that the size of the act does not determine the size of the reward. What matters is the heart behind it. Why does God value small acts so highly? Because they reveal genuine love, because they require no applause, because they are accessible to everyone, because they reflect the character of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. In the kingdom of God, greatness is measured not by platform, but by compassion.

The mission of the disciples is an extension of Christ’s own mission, and Christ’s mission is the revelation of the Father. In ministry, it’s easy to measure success by numbers, programs, or visible impact. But Matthew reminds us that God works differently. This passage calls the church to be a community of radical hospitality, where every person, whether a seasoned preacher or a quiet servant, is received as bearing Christ’s presence. It also reassures those who serve in hidden ways that their labour is not forgotten; God sees, and God rewards.

Let me tell you about an experience I had when I was a member of another church. I used to arrive at church early on Sunday mornings. One Sunday, I noticed a man coming from the back of the church, walking towards the road. I

TODAY AND NEXT WEEK

Worship services

28 June: Raymond Surujpal

5 July: Bruce Watson

Pastoral Care: Please contact Raymond Surujpal, convenor, pastoral care team on: 0432 619 184.

Bible readings

This week Genesis 22:1-14, Psalm 13, Romans 6:12-23, Matthew 10:40-4

Next week: Genesis 24:34-38, Psalm 45:10-17, Romans 7:15-25a, Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

What’s on this week

Monday: 9.30am Playgroup

Tuesday: 9.30am Bible Study

Wednesday: 9.30am Property Group;
1.00pm UCAF

Thursday: 9.30am Gardening Group;
5.45pm Choir Practice

Friday: 6.30pm Youth Group

Rosters 28 June (5 July)

Greetings: Elizabeth Barnes (Kur Mag)

Audiovisual: Faith & Chelsea (Noel Savory)

Morning Tea: Judy Khor & Margaret Dent
(Lauina Levave)

Music: Angela Murnane (Wendy Barnes)

Prayers: Fa Tuipea (Tulua Seulupe)

Reader: Fa Tuipea (Anemorie)

Werribee UC on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/621987747878234/>

Church office

Open 9.30am to 12 noon. Phone 97411084

Email office@werribeeunitingchurch.org.au

PO Box 2156, Werribee, Vic 3030

WUC Newsletter

Please send information for inclusion to the church office by Wed on 97411084 or email office@werribeeunitingchurch.org.au

Bank Account & Boom Gate (0459#)

BSB 083-909 A/c 516109795

To book facilities at WUC:

Email: (Elizabeth Barnes)

bookings@werribeeunitingchurch.org.au

Samoan service

3rd Sunday, 12pm, in the Church: All welcome.

greeted him and he told me that he was homeless and had no alternative but to sleep the night in the area where we kept the rubbish bins since it was sheltered and dry. As we started talking, a few other members of the church arrived. This man then started to ask us if we could spare him some cash so he could pay for his train fare and buy some breakfast. I gave him some money and he left us. Immediately, the others who were with me started to tell me that it was not a good idea to encourage such people by giving them money .

“They will probably spend it on drugs or alcohol. We can’t help everyone who comes our way, and we should look at closing our back gate to stop people like him sleeping here.”

I thought to myself, why stress yourself with that burden? You are a follower of Jesus Christ. Our job, therefore, is simply to share out of the wealth of God's abundance. As Christians we should simply love others as God loves us. Our job is simply to give. Hospitality frees us to offer a cup of water to someone who might be in a situation completely foreign to our experience. We welcome others because Christ welcomed us. Every act of kindness in the Christian life is a response to the kindness of God. In the kingdom of God, nothing done for Christ is ever small. **Amen.**

Blessings Raymond Surujpal

UCAF

1.00pm Wednesday 1 July 2026. All welcome.

Uploading of Service to YouTube and Facebook

We are looking for a person or persons who have the knowledge, time and would be willing to edit the recording of the service for uploading onto YouTube and Facebook. Unless someone is able to undertake this task, the uploading of services will not happen for the foreseeable future.

Instructions for the process that has been used are available, but we would also welcome suggestions of other ways it could be done.

So if anyone is interested, please speak to either Margaret Bull or myself. Thanks, Liz

Worship PowerPoint

Every week Robert Renton has been preparing our PowerPoints for worship. When he was not able to prepare them I filled the gap.

Since Robert’s death I have done the PowerPoint each week. That is fine but we need at least one back-up person. There will be occasions when I am on holiday or need a break so we need a person who understands the task and can fill those gaps. I am now looking for one or two people who would be willing to assist. If you are really keen about doing PowerPoint you might like to offer to do it once a month

Or you might just want to say you will do it occasionally when I am not available.

If you can help with this please text me on 0474 075 554. Bev Lambie

Books

Marg Tolliday has left some books in the bookshelf, if you would like to read please do so and when you have finished bring them back so that others can read them or share them with others that you know.

Blanket/Knee rug drive for Uniting



For the last 3 years members of our congregation have supported Uniting’s Winter appeal by holding a 'blanket/knee rug' drive where we either collected new rugs/blankets (or \$15 donations to purchase same) for those not able to keep themselves warm during our colder months. This year our Justice Task Group is again coordinating the event. It commenced last Sunday June 7th and will conclude on Sunday June 28th when a representative from Uniting will come to morning worship to accept the blankets.

Big W or similar stores have rugs/blankets (1.2 x 1.5m) like we have donated in previous years. This photo shows some of the blankets we collected last year. Contact either Armando or Luciana for more information or to make a donation.

Newsletter Articles

If in future anyone has an article that they think would be interesting or appropriate for the newsletter, please email it to the Church Office by Wednesday.