

Pastor David Kuss
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Holy Cross Office
Closed Monday
Tues/Wed 9.30am -1.30pm
Thurs/Fri 9am – 2pm
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*After hours please contact MVLC Council Chairperson:
Joanne Pfeiffer 0417 802 052 or
Pastoral Assistant Ian Kluge 0427 313 537*

Pastor Paul is on personal leave.
Pastor David is in Central Australia from 3-12th April

SERVICES

Sunday 7th April

Lay Reading service at all sites

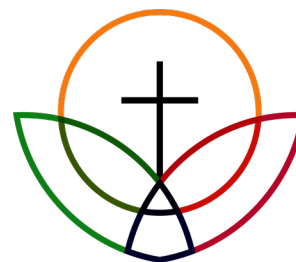
9am Monarto
9am Christ Church (Church)
10.30am Christ Church (Hall)
10.30am Holy Cross

Sunday 14th April
Blessing of Seed & Soil

10.30am Holy Communion *Coffee from 10am*
Colrae Farm, 333 Bremer Valley Road, Callington
Farmers bring jars of your own seed & soil to be blessed
Food, drink, wine for sale. Family activities.
NO OTHER SERVICES

Sunday 21st April

9am Monarto ~ morning tea after service
9am Christ Church (Church) ~ morning tea from 10am
10.30am Christ Church (Hall)
10.30am Holy Cross



Murray Valley Lutheran Community

Friday 5 April 2024

Christ Church

31 Swanport Rd
Murray Bridge

Holy Cross

31 Florence St
Murray Bridge

Zion Monarto

427 Schenscher Rd
Monarto

Welcome to all worshipping with us today

JOHN 20: 19-31: The first section of this reading deals with a post-resurrection commissioning of the disciples together with the gift of the Holy Spirit. The disciples are herewith empowered (as with Matthew 16) to impart or withhold the forgiveness of sins which the Lord has now made an accomplished fact by his death and resurrection. Hence Thomas's unreadiness to believe the fact of the resurrection is strongly reproved but graciously remedied by the risen Lord. The spiritual blessings which God gives so readily are not received except through humble faith. Indeed, 'Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed'.

ACTS 4:32-35: In those very early days of the church in Jerusalem the tremendous surge of vitality empowered by the coming of the Holy Spirit was coupled with the result of so many believers having witnessed the presence of the bodily risen Jesus (1 Cor 15:6). Their conviction engendered a deep sense of love for others which transcended their love and attachment to things material.

PRAYER: Risen Christ, You live again with Your scars. You come before us with the words, "Peace be with you." You embody healing and hope. You accept us with our wounds from the world, our scars that still haven't healed quite right, our questions and our doubts. You call us to follow. Help us to accept the invitation: help us to accept that we don't have to be perfect, that we will never have it all straightened out, that we will always be a bit of a mess, and that You love us exactly as we are. Amen

All Welcome – come along to events organised by the MVLC and form a close relationship with fellow members.

Cut off for notices sent to either Office is Wednesday 10am for the Newsletter and midday on Thursdays for the Bulletin.

Readings

Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 1:1- 2:2; John 20:19-31



Holy Cross: Please remember to bring fresh flowers each Sunday during the Easter season to decorate the cross in the church

FoLA Andrew Zilm, a retired teacher, has been recruited to audit, digitise & update the Lobethal Archives & Historical Museum's displays & collections. The preservation of the history of Lobethal was started by Jonas Vanagas after he arrived in Lobethal in 1949 from Lithuania. Come along to hear Andrew speak at the next Friends of Lutheran Archives gathering at the Nth Adelaide Lutheran Church on Thursday 18th April, 7.30 pm. All welcome, \$5 donation, supper. The evening will be live-streamed on:

<https://www.youtube.com/@friendsoflutheranarchives9644/live>

REG:

Murray Valley Lutheran Community
BSB 704942
ACC# 101026587

MUSIC MINISTRY

MVLC Mission & Outreach
BSB 704942
ACC#101028369
Reference: Music Ministry

If you would like to be included in our Prayers or have your Birthday, Anniversary, Bereavement or any other special occasion announced in the fortnightly Newsletter, please email or call either church office.

Diary Dates:

- Fri 5 6pm Youth in the Cave
Sat 6 8am 5G Men's Bible Study @ Ed Centre
DAYLIGHT SAVING FINISHES (Clocks - 1 hour back)
Sun 7 Lay Reading - all sites
Wed 10 9:30am CC Senior Care @ Ed Cen
1.15pm Women's Guild ~ Concordia Hall
Thurs 11 1.30pm Romani Lutheran HC Service
Sun 14 **10:30am Blessing of the Seed & Soil**
Colrae Farm, 333 Bremer Valley Rd, Callington
Tue 16 12pm Romani Ecumenical Service
Thurs 18 1.30pm ~ Monthly Communion Service @ Holy Cross
1.30pm Resthaven Lutheran HC Service
2pm Emmaus Friendship Group @ Eggers
Fri 19 6pm Youth in the Cave

Baptismal Birthday Celebrations

7th	Rosalie Beelitz Penne Lewis-Brown	12th	Gerry Korzeba Glenda Molineux
8th	Ashton Murray Grace Murray		Olivia Peach Kane Roocke
9th	Brianna Thompson		Holly Schiller
10th	Sheridan Piltz	14th	Betty Nulty Graham Schubert

Pray for:

- ✚ Pray for all those who are unwell, in hospital or recovering from surgery, for their carers, doctors, nurses and family members.
✚ Pray for Pastor David as he travels to Hermannsburg be with him and the faithful people of Central Australia that they may continue to spread the Good News of Jesus death and resurrection.
✚ Pray for all people visiting the Murraylands and for all those who are travelling. Keep them safe in their journeys that they may return home refreshed.

"LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



PEACE

At 6.45 am, Easter Sunday, the small Bookpurnong Lutheran Church members and assorted families and friends started gathering on the bank of the Gurra Gurra Creek in the Riverland of South Australia to celebrate this annual celebration of faith and friendship.

The morning was one of those for which The Riverland is renowned: calm, the merest hint of a breeze, postcard picture sunrise, and a flock of pelicans paddling past, nodding in agreement, "Yes! It's a great morning to be alive!".

With the worship service starting, it felt as if no one would have been surprised to see Jesus come wandering along the edge of the water, stop, light a fire and start cooking some fish to share with us, and offer the unique "Peace" he offered to all he met in his travels around the now war-torn Middle East.

As we, few in numbers, sang and prayed under that tin shelter, I thought about Jesus, the Son of God, and how he brought peace, healing and forgiveness to people, seldom in grand cathedral-like edifices, but as and where he met them. People like the blind beggar sitting in the dirt and crying out for help (**JOHN 9:1-12**), despised, shunned and cast aside lepers in their rags (**LUKE 17:11-19**), a deaf mute (**MARK 7:31-35**), a Roman Centurian's servant, (**MATTHEW 8:5-13**) a paralytic man brought to Jesus by friends and left carrying his stretcher (**MATTHEW 9:1-8**), and healed the daughter of a church leader who everyone thought was dead. (**MARK 5:21:-24, 35-42**)

Jesus still comes to where his offer of peace and love is needed; it has nothing to do with grand and glorious buildings with stained glass windows, fine, respectable locations, or well-dressed crowds of people. This same Jesus, son of the loving God, continues to offer his presence and peace. He offers it in the dirt and slums of wind-blown city streets and to the lonely, struggling single parent and her children in their cramped two-room flat. He comes to the lonely and unemployed figure huddled under a blanket in a parkland or under a bridge and, always in love, calls us to accept his offer of peace.

He hears our cries for peace and delivers no matter who we are or where we might be. He might do this directly by His Spirit bringing inner peace to you or through the actions of another obeying his call to love and care as he did for them.

May the peace offered by Jesus be in your life and always with you as promised.

Kevin.



Growing FAITH at home

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

The risen Jesus gives us peace.



Grow Ministries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



www.growministries.org.au



CONVERSATIONS

Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

1. How do you generally feel each morning? With more peace? Or more worry?
2. When Jesus appeared to his disciples he said 'peace be with you'. What did that mean? What does it mean for you?
3. How does the resurrection make a difference in your life?



BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	John 20:19-31	Jesus appears to the disciples
M	Acts 4:32-35	The sharing of goods
T	1 John 1:1-2:2	The word of life
W	John 14:23-31	Jesus speaks of peace
T	Romans 5:1-11	We have peace with God
F	Philippians 4:4-9	The God of peace be with you
S	Psalms 133	The blessing of unity

VERSE OF THE WEEK

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

JOHN 20:21



CREATIVE RESPONSE

There is a long history of Christians sharing a sign of peace with one another in public worship as a physical expression of the peace God gives to us through Jesus. It connects directly to Jesus' greeting his disciples in the resurrection. That public greeting also extended to personal greetings.

Romans 16:16 refers to Christians greeting each other with a "holy kiss."

Decide with others on a sign of peace that you can share together in daily life, such as a special handshake, hug, or kiss.

As you share this sign bless each other by saying, "The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you."



ACTION RESPONSE

Acts 4:32-35 says that the first followers of Jesus shared their belongings with one another and made sure that no fellow Christians were in need. The power of the resurrection had changed their understanding of what they owned and how they cared for each other.

This response is a confession of faith and a commitment to love your neighbour as yourself. Consider everything you own as a loan from God to love others. How might that influence your actions today?



MEALTIME PRAYER

Risen Lord Jesus, you give us food for the body and peace for the soul. May faith be our way and love be our goal. Amen.



PRAYER

Lord Jesus, open our minds to understand the Scriptures and our mouths to speak of you. Amen.



BLESSING

May the light of God's face shine on you and be gracious to you and fill your heart with joy.