

Mark Your Calendars  
  
**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**1st April**  
 7.00 pm House Group  
 Teesdale

**2nd April**  
 11.00 am Communion  
 Estia Health, Bannockburn

**4th April**  
 7.40 pm Geelong v Melbourne  
 GMHBA Stadium

**5th April**  
*School Holidays Commence*  
 9.00 am Devonshire Tea  
 Parish Ministry Centre

**8th April**  
 3.00 pm Cinema Fitout  
 Epiphany Meredith

7.00 pm House Group  
 Teesdale

**15th April**  
 7.00 pm House Group  
 Teesdale

**17th April**  
**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
 7.00 pm Community Meal  
 Parish Ministry Centre

**18th April**  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
 9.00 am Liturgy of the Cross  
 St Paul's Inverleigh

**20th April**  
**EASTER DAY**

**21st April**  
*Schools Return*

**22nd April**  
 7.00 pm House Group  
 Teesdale

**23rd April**  
 7.00 pm Parish Council  
 Parish Ministry Centre

**25th April**  
**ANZAC Day Public Holiday**

**Parish Directory**

**Parish Office** 5281 2553  
**Vicar**  
 Revd Timothy Smith  
 0412 673 152  
 revdrtim@hotmail.com

**Wardens**  
 Darrell Blackman 0457 338 678  
 Carol Newlands 0409 654 527  
 David Bannister 0477 564 268

**Parish Council Secretary**  
 Carol Newlands 0409 654 527

**Parish Treasurer**  
 David Osborne 0419 398 455

**Assistant Treasurer**  
 Luanne Thornton 0437 667 011

**St John's Op Shop**  
 Naomi Peel 0418 346 484

**Surprise Op Shop**  
 Luanne Thornton 0437 667 011

**Parish Roster for April 6**

**Church Cleaning:**  
 Inverleigh: Luanne Thornton  
 Bannockburn: David and Jenny Bannister

**Reading:**  
 Bannockburn: Lynette Oates

**Communion Assistant:**  
 Inverleigh: Geoff Morgan  
 Bannockburn: Ivan Marsetti

**Morning Tea:**  
 Bannockburn: Ivan Marsetti  
 Lynette Oates



# Golden Plains Anglican News

*Living the Gospel in Our Community*

Inverleigh†Bannockburn†Meredith Anglican Parish  
 30th March 2025—FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

## HOPE: FROM JESUS' WORDS

Rosie Maxwell reflects on how Jesus is the true living hope that has shaped her life in a world that has grown dark.

**C.S. Lewis** once said, "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else". Jesus is the true living hope, and this hope has shaped my life. He has been so faithful to me throughout my life guiding and leading me in the way I should go. If we remain in His presence and surrender to Him in all things we will more easily be able to follow the path of life that God desires for us. The more we manage to do this the more we will feel the fullness of His joy and true contentment. True hope is trusting God even when the circumstances are difficult. Jesus is my hope because all he requires of us is faith and trust in him. As the Bible states, true hope is invisible, "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see" (Heb 11:1). If we can have hope for something that is likewise unseen, like our salvation, then we can have hope for other things as well.



The last few years have been significant for me with many different life changes, uncertainties, heart break and trying to find my place and purpose in this world. Through the pain and the tears Jesus remained my hope, taking me on a journey that I didn't know I needed. He used different people, dreams, the bible and many other different ways to encourage me and spur me on during a time where I felt I was in the wilderness alone. Looking back I can see that with every step I

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 (03) 5281 2553 revdrtim@hotmail.com  
 www.goldenplainsanglican.org  
 www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100094651898435

**Worship Today: FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**Sentence:** While he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Luke 15:21

**Collect:** God of compassion, you are slow to anger, and full of mercy, welcoming sinners who return to you with penitent hearts: receive in your loving embrace all who come home to you, and seat them at your bountiful table, that, with all your children, they may feast with delight on all that satisfies the hungry heart. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Readings:** Joshua 5:2-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:11-32

**Hymns:** *Great is the darkness*; Great is thy faithfulness; Help us, O Lord, to learn; Community of Christ; *Be still*; Put all your trust in God; *All I once held dear*


**Intercessions:** God of grace, hear our prayer.

**World:** in the world that is grown dark without the hope of your light we pray for renewed hope for all peoples in conflict, war, or threat of war, especially: Sudan, Ukraine and Russia, Israel and Palestine, for renewed hope for all developing nations, especially South Sudan, and all nations suffering from lack of security, housing, education, employment, medical intervention, food, freedom, and clean water, those displaced from homelands, suffering poverty, hunger, loss, injury; refugees or asylum seekers; for the orphans, widows, poor and oppressed; for all national leaders and those in authority that they may work together for justice and peace in the world; seeking revitalisation through actions that bring hope your light to all.

**Church:** for all church leaders and the unity of the worldwide Church; our Diocese in this time of leadership transition; the Board of Nominators and the election of a new archbishop; the establishment of the Youth and Family Community Cinema at Meredith, to identify our hopes in the nature and person of God and be inspired to be a faith community bringing your light to a darkened world, seeing others come to faith through us; may all we do and say nurture our hope as we see Christ at work growing our church.

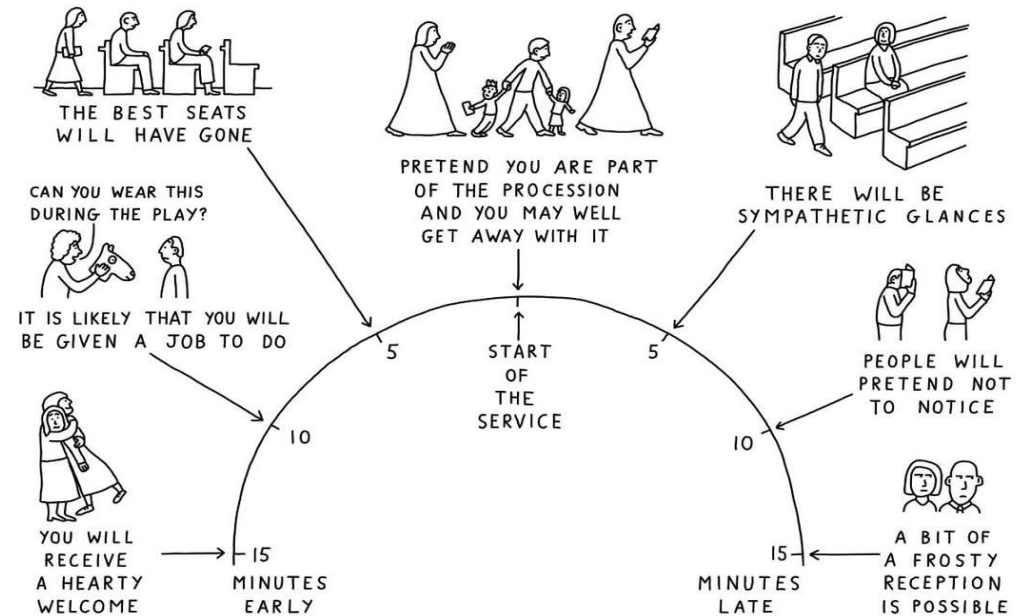
**Community:** the Wadawarrung and all our first nations peoples, their elders; those working toward reconciliation and treaty, recognition of the country on which we live, work and play; for all who come into our communities of any race, creed, colour, faith, or no faith that they will experience welcome; for who are struggling with life; that our neighbours will be find a new and better hope.

**Those in need:** Matt Bellchambers, Shirley Musgrove, Melinda Gregory, Karen Schulze, John Thornton, Jenny Bannister, Margaret McLaren, Mary Simpson, Sarah Rees, Jayden Rees, Fay McFarlane, Timothy Deng.



Experiencing the Story of  
**EASTER**  
 at Inverleigh ☩ Bannockburn ☩ Meredith Parish  
**GOOD FRIDAY**  
 Liturgy of the Cross  
 9.00 am  
 St Paul's Inverleigh  
 The Way of the Cross  
 11.00 am  
 from  
**St Mary Mackillop Catholic Church**  
 concluding with hot cross buns and a cuppa.  
**EASTER DAY**  
 Holy Communion  
 with lighting of the Easter Candle and Renewal of Baptismal Vows  
 8.00 am St Paul's Inverleigh  
 10.00 am St John's Bannockburn  
 5.00 pm Epiphany Meredith

**ARRIVING AT CHURCH**



(Continued from page 1)

took and every breath I breathed He was orchestrating and making way for far greater things than I could have ever imagined.

As a result of pressing into Him very hard He has shown me what my gifts are, what studies to undertake, provided work in the exact field I've studied and that is a perfect fit for me and even provided me with a potential lifelong partner. I have learnt that all I need is to remain in him and knowing that he will remain in me and that is my hope and assurance in the times of pure joy and the times of pain and suffering. Placing my hope in Jesus gives me a peace that surpasses understanding and a hope for all circumstances knowing that He has a plan for every breath that I take. Surrendering my life and allowing Jesus to work and use me for his glory has allowed me to serve, live a life that is God honouring, achieve and see miracles to an extent I didn't know was possible. Jesus is the true and living hope, by him we can see everything else and hold a true hope in a dark world.

**Questions for reflection:**

1. Simeon (Luke 2:25-32) spent his whole adult life hoping for the appearance of one to be Saviour fulfilled in Jesus. What have you been hoping a long time for? And how can Jesus words give you strength to keep hoping?
2. What things do you persistently pray for, or struggle to be persistent? What gives you hope to keep praying?
3. What promises of God have been fulfilled in your life? How does this give you hope for things remaining to be fulfilled?
4. Can you think of someone who is feeling hopeless regarding things taking place in their life or in the world? Can you think of some words of Jesus that would give them?

**Pray:**

God of hope,  
 you call us to be your witnesses in this uncertain world.  
 By your Spirit awaken in us  
 a true vision of your kingdom,  
 a greater certainty of our salvation,  
 and a deeper dedication to your service.  
 Through our words and actions may the same Spirit  
 bring many who are lost to be found,  
 and for them to celebrate the hope  
 that we can only have in Jesus Christ,  
 in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

**Bible Readings**

**Prayer for the week:**

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Monday**

Abp Oscar Romero (d.1980) *Martyr*  
 Paul Couturier (d.1953) *Saint*

**Morning:** Pss 148 & 149  
 Exodus 1

**Evening:** Pss 140 & 145  
 Jeremiah 36:1-19  
 Hebrews 12:1-11

**Tuesday**

**Morning:** Ps 74  
 Exodus 2  
 Luke 18:15-30

**Evening:** Pss 75 & 76  
 Jeremiah 36:20-32  
 Hebrews 12:12-24

**Wednesday**

**Morning:** Ps 77  
 Exodus 3  
 Luke 18:31-43

**Evening:** Ps 78:1-15  
 Jeremiah 37  
 Hebrews 12:25-29

**Thursday**

Bishop Richard of Chichester (d.1256) *Bishop*

**Morning:** Ps 78:16-38  
 Exodus 4:1-23(24-26)  
 Luke 19:1-10

**Evening:** Ps 78:39-70  
 Jeremiah 38:1-13  
 Hebrews 13:1-6

**Friday**

**Morning:** Ps 80  
 Exodus 4:27-6:1  
 Luke 19:11-27

**Evening:** Ps 81  
 Jeremiah 38:14-28  
 Hebrews 13:7-17

**Saturday**

**Morning:** Pss 82 & 84  
 Exodus 6:2-13, 6:28-7:7  
 Luke 19:29-48

**Evening:** Pss 85 & 87  
 Jeremiah 39  
 Hebrews 13:18-25



**BANNOCKBURN FIRE BRIGADE**

**100 YEAR**

**COMMUNITY CELEBRATION**

🕒 6pm-8:30pm Sat 5th April 2025

📍 25 High Street Bannockburn

Join the Bannockburn Fire Brigade as we celebrate 100 years of volunteer service to the community!

- ✔️ Vintage fire truck display
- ✔️ Food Vendors
- ✔️ Brigade History Display
- ✔️ Skills challenges
- ✔️ Fire simulation demonstration
- ✔️ Meet Captain Koala

Torchlight Parade from 8pm along Milton Street



**Next Sunday 6th April  
 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT  
 HOPE from 1 Peter**

**8.00 am Holy Communion**  
 St Paul's Inverleigh  
**10.00 am All-Age Communion**  
 St John's Bannockburn  
**5.00 pm Prayer and Praise**  
 Epiphany Meredith

**Readings**

Isaiah 43:16-21  
 Psalm 126  
 Philippians 3:3-14  
 John 12:1-8