

We are called to be evidence of
God's love breaking into the world

Nambour Uniting Church

37-39 Coronation Avenue, Nambour QLD 4560

Rev Maile Molitika - Minister's Message

Prayer matters for it can change us for better

Last year during Covid-19, I had the opportunity to write a little encouragement in Tongan every week for our congregation. Our church was still closed and we rarely met face to face. I then used a Tongan Proverb to be the heading of my writing every week. The name of the proverb is "*Holo pe tu'u he ko e ngalu 'e fasi*" meaning, stay where you are (lit. stand) for the waves will break). It's a Tongan proverb about surfing. And you know the best time for surfing is when you have big waves so you can surf from the deep end until you reach the sand.

In Tonga, the surfers usually stand on the rock and watch the waves so they can pick the perfect wave to take them to the beach. Sometimes, they can stand there for a long time. So this proverb is really an encouragement not to give up easily, for the opportunity will come and you will be able to ride on a beautiful wave to the beach.

This is my reflection number 42 and it's about prayer from Psalm 20.

The Theme of my reflection is about Prayer. **Prayer does matter** because, like the sunflower, we too need sustenance if we are to survive in our spiritual lives.

Without regular intake of nourishment from the Source of our lives, we like the sunflower, will begin to wither and die. When I read **Psalm 20:7 - "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."**

This is a psalm of David and was probably composed before going to war.

David knew that without God, we failed in our lives.

David knew that the best preparation for any wars was praying.

Prayers show our allegiance to God. We trust God to help us be victorious in our different wars in life. David would have known it well when he went out to fight the Giant Goliath. He said to Goliath, "**You come against with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty,** (1 Sam17:45)

In our key verse today, some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. Prayer matters because it can change a sinner to become a person of God. Last week, we learned about Zacchaeus changed as a result of his fellowship with Jesus. Let us be reminded that God in our lives, we will be able to face the future with hope despite the troubles in our life journey.



Origins of Remembrance Day

Why is this day special to Australians?

At 11 am on 11 November 1918 the guns on the Western Front fell silent after more than four years of continuous warfare. The allied armies had driven the German invaders back, having inflicted heavy defeats upon them over the preceding four months. In November the Germans called for an armistice (suspension of fighting) in order to secure a peace settlement. They accepted allied terms that amounted to unconditional surrender.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month attained a special significance in the post-war years. The moment when hostilities ceased on the Western Front became universally associated with the remembrance of those who had died in the war. This first modern world conflict had brought about the mobilisation of over 70 million people and left between 9 and 13 million dead, perhaps as many as one-third of them with no known grave. The allied nations chose this day and time for the commemoration of their war dead.

On the first anniversary of the armistice in 1919 two minutes' silence was instituted as part of the main commemorative ceremony at the new Cenotaph in London. The silence was proposed by Australian journalist Edward Honey, who was working in Fleet Street. At about the same time, a South African statesman made a similar proposal to the British Cabinet, which endorsed it. King George V personally requested all the people of the British Empire to suspend normal activities for two minutes on the hour of the armistice "which stayed the worldwide carnage of the four preceding years and marked the victory of Right and Freedom". The two minutes' silence was popularly adopted and it became a central feature of commemorations on Armistice Day.

On the first anniversary of the armistice in Sydney, NSW, 11 November 1919 a large crowd gathered in Martin Place to celebrate Armistice Day. The clock on the GPO building said twelve o'clock and a replica sailing ship float was set up in the centre.

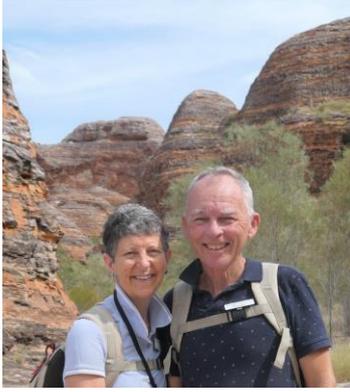
On the second anniversary of the armistice in 1920 the commemoration was given added significance when it became a funeral, with the return of the remains of an unknown soldier from the battlefields of the Western Front. Unknown soldiers were interred with full military honours in Westminster Abbey in London and at the Arc de Triumph in Paris the previous year. The entombment in London attracted over one million people within a week to pay their respects at the unknown soldier's tomb.

After the end of the Second World War, the Australian and British governments changed the name to Remembrance Day, Armistice Day was no longer an appropriate title for a day which would commemorate all war dead.

In Australia on the 75th anniversary of the armistice in 1993 Remembrance Day ceremonies again became the focus of national attention. The remains of an unknown Australian soldier, exhumed from a First World War military cemetery in France, were ceremonially entombed in the Memorial's Hall of Memory. Remembrance Day ceremonies were conducted simultaneously in towns and cities all over the country, culminating at the moment of burial at 11 am and coinciding with the traditional two minutes' silence.

This ceremony, which touched a chord across the Australian nation, re-established Remembrance Day as a significant day of commemoration.

Four years later, in 1997, Governor-General Sir William Deane issued a proclamation formally declaring 11 November to be Remembrance Day, urging all Australians to observe one minute's silence at 11 am on 11 November each year to remember those who died or suffered for Australia's cause in all wars and armed conflicts.



Reflections: Dr Wayne Troyahn

I have decided to share a little about myself in the context of a Christian life. I was raised in an Anglican household and my mum, who is 91 years old and going well, still enjoys getting up and switching the church services on the television on Sunday morning. I had virtually no connection with the Uniting Church before I met my wonderful, better half, Lynn and she is still educating me each day.

All the way through my career and my life in general I have had a belief in being cared for by a greater power than I, and that has been so comforting in the Christian heritage. As a school principal, and school teacher earlier, there were some great times and some challenging times. I probably did not focus on the good times enough in my prayers and tended to focus on difficulties. However, I knew all the way through that God was there beside me. I think the basic Christian approaches have been with me in all that I did in schools as I cared for and supported students and teachers. This continues even now in my retired 'relaxed life style'. God continues to guide me to use my skills with one example being my mentoring of a young boy diagnosed with ASD in a local school.

There were many times where I thought of others who had passed away or had left the area of education and yet I was still going on and supporting people. I questioned why I was still here, and they were not. That showed me that I was placed on this earth to do some important things. One of the saddest times I can recall was when each year for about five years a student or some other young person linked to the school passed away. I could not understand that and had a good discussion with the chaplain at the time that helped me to accept and understand what was occurring.

I have a wonderful family guided by my wonderful wife. Her Christian beliefs certainly help us very day. Her belief in the power of prayer is so strong and I see it each day in what she does.

Recently this was very important when her sister's husband had a double bypass heart operation. These times are sent to try us and test us, but I guess but we seem to continue on very strongly and happily with the strength of belief.

The **NeXus** between our mission and our spiritual power is the gathered congregation. While God comes to us by His Spirit thus transforming us by his grace, we are drawn into precious fellowship with each other. As a congregation gathers for worship, it is being strengthened, then sent out again for a missional purpose.

In times such as these, this copy of **Nambour NeXus** is provided so that you may have resources to assist you in your personal or household worship of God, to assist you in growing your faith, and to encourage your concern and prayers for others.



DAILY PRAYERS

DAILY PRAYERS FOR NOVEMBER 2022

Jesus wants us to be persistent in our prayers.

Pray always and do not lose heart.

*Please read the verses indicated in each prayer, then read the chapter too.
Prayers written by lay minister and missionary Mary Fletcher

Day 1

Come before the Lord with praise and thanksgiving.
Praise Him for His goodness, mercy and for His love for us today.

“Know that the Lord is God. It He who made us and we are His.” (Psalm 100:3)

Day 2

Let us pray today for our Nambour Uniting Church: for our Minister, Rev Maile, for our musicians, for our IT Volunteers and our fellow worshippers with their individual needs.

“Let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds.” (Hebrews 1:25)

Day 3

Today we can pray for the whole of our Australian Uniting church, for the elected Moderator and all who work at the top level.
Pray for the Uniting World staff as they encourage us to care for and support our neighbours in the Pacific Island churches.

“So do not fear for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God.” (Isaiah 4:10)

Day 4

Let us bring to the Lord the Uniting Church ministry to the Outback of Queensland, for those ministering and encouraging people, for those flying the planes or driving through long, rough and lonely roads.

“Do not be anxious about anything but in every situation by prayer and petition with thanksgiving present your requests to God.” (Phil 4:6)

Day 5

We remember before God today the Methodist churches in Tonga, Samoa, Fiji and Papua New Guinea, and bring them to God for His continued guidance and blessing.

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be discouraged for the Lord you God will be with you wherever you go.” (Joshua 1:9)



Day 6

Scripture Union Queensland needs our support and prayers as they continue to bring hope to the young people in our schools. Pray for the school Chaplains at work each day.

“... and walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. (Ephesians 5:2)

Day 7

Our family and our friends need our prayers, so today we bring them to God our Heavenly Father, praying that they will continue to know His rich blessing in their lives.

“For this is how much God loved the world: He gave his one and only unique Son as a gift. So now everyone who believes in him will never perish but experience everlasting life.” (John 3:16, The Passion Translation).

[Prayers by Mary Fletcher; Scripture quoted above from the NIV Holy Bible.]

Why the Saviour Came

(words by Wycliffe Wyndam; music composed and sung by Ken Warland).

The God who made the Universe is still with us today
A new heaven and new earth he'll make, that will not pass away.
And so while here we walk by faith, controlled from up above
For the God who made the Universe is still the God of Love.
God's Grace provides us safe haven, for the fallen soul of man
He sent His Son to die for us, His everlasting plan.

(Refrain)

Ransomed, we're healed restored, forgiven;
ransomed, in love he bore our pain.

Many of us will remember Eva Donaldson in our lives as a wonderfully caring person with the love of God throughout her very being. Eva gave so much to her Church, her dear husband Alan, and to her family. But so much more love did Eva have, that she shared this love from God with the all people including the Crossroads family, endeavouring to change things for the good of the individual person. Below is a poem penned by Eva, as we remember her as a good and faithful servant of our Lord.

JOURNEYS

Life is the biggest journey that each of us will take –
its beginning and its ending are not our choice to make;
It's the middle that makes the journey so worthwhile day by day -
with our doing - and our daring, our laughing - and our crying,
our caring - and our sharing, our hurting - and our healing,
our doubting – and our trusting, our giving - and forgiving,
our living - and our loving - that's what makes life
the richest journey that anyone could take. *Eva, rest in God's peace, Amen*

Sameness and Change



Waterfalls have a magnetic attraction for me. If there's one around, I'll search it out, tramping through the bush if necessary to find it. When you come to think about it, the basic elements are quite simple: water flowing over a rock face. Yet, the variations are endless. Some falls may be simply a fine, wispy spray of water falling gently over a small cliff, drawing a white curtain across it. Others may be roaring rivers plunging massive torrents of water into deep chasms, such as Niagara and Victoria Falls. The former provides a place of calm soothing refreshment, while the latter inspire us by their sheer power and energy. Yet, whichever we find, we never cease to be amazed at such beauty. I never cease to stand in awe.

The elements of the picture are so simple: water and rock, but their forms so radically different. Waterfalls are constantly changing, yet ever the same. Perhaps that is why we are attracted to them. There is an eternal, un-changeableness about them; the rock faces stand rigid and immovable. And yet the water passing over them is in constant motion, whether moving gently or thundering over them in a raging torrent. They are always the same, yet they are not.

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Human beings crave stability and security. That is why we cling to our traditions, order and daily routines. Yet surely, we recognise that nothing is ever the same. The Greek Philosopher Heraclitus (544-483 BCE) said, *"No one steps into the same river twice, for its not the same river, and it's not the same person!"*

Today is not yesterday. Even the very cells which comprise our body's skin are in constant flux and being replaced daily. Time doesn't stand still. Every moment, we age a little more, grow a little greyer, become a little more weary and worn. We find ourselves caught in the tension between a craving for stability in a world of constant change.

The little school where I taught many years ago is still there, sitting empty in the same paddock, deserted and derelict. There are no children's voices there now; it stands alone, empty, silent and vandalised. There are elements which remain just the same as they always have been, but there is no life there anymore. The world around, and the people who were part of it (including myself) have all moved on.

So, I guess this is why I find waterfalls so refreshing. I am confronted with a reminder of constancy in the midst of an ever-changing environment. The perpetual flow has an eternal dimension to it, yet it appears to stay the same. Here, then, is the enigma: constancy within change, always different but always the same. That's the way it is with life!

**Change and decay in all around I see
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.**

Rev Graham Warne

The **Montville Reflections Gallery** had a display of Rev Graham Warne's recent photographs entitled "Pathways" throughout September and October at the **Montville Uniting Church**.

The same display will now be presented at **Nambour Uniting Church** on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th November (morning only).

God bless, Rev Graham Warne

DAILY BIBLE READINGS NOVEMBER 2022

CLICK on the 2 to 3 underlined readings for each day to access the daily verses on the Vanderbilt Lectionary website for the Daily Bible readings

- Tuesday, November 1, 2022: [All Saints Day](#) [Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18](#); [Psalm 149](#); [Ephesians 1:11-23](#); [Luke 6:20-31](#)
- Wednesday, November 2, 2022: [Psalm 142](#); [Habakkuk 3:17-19](#); [Luke 19:11-27](#); [Psalm 50](#); [Amos 5:12-24](#)
- Thursday, November 3, 2022: [Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21](#); [Zechariah 1:1-17](#); [Acts 22:22-23:11](#); [Psalm 17:1-9](#); [Deuteronomy 25:5-10](#)
- Friday, November 4, 2022: [Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21](#); [Zechariah 6:9-15](#); [Acts 24:10-23](#); [Psalm 17:1-9](#); [Genesis 38:1-263](#)
- Saturday, November 5, 2022: [Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21](#); [Haggai 1:1-15a](#); [Luke 20:1-8](#); [Psalm 17:1-9](#); [Exodus 3:13-20](#)
- Sunday, November 6, 2022: [Proper 27 \(32\)](#) [Haggai 1:15b-2:9](#); [Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21](#); [Psalm 98](#); [Job 19:23-27a](#); [Psalm 17:1-9](#); [2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17](#); [Luke 20:27-38](#)
- Monday, November 7, 2022: [Psalm 98](#); [Haggai 2:10-19](#); [2 Peter 1:16-21](#); [Psalm 123](#); [Job 20:1-11](#)
- Tuesday, November 8, 2022: [Psalm 98](#); [Haggai 2:20-23](#); [2 John 1:1-13](#); [Psalm 123](#); [Job 21:1, 17-34](#)
- Wednesday, November 9, 2022: [Psalm 98](#); [Zechariah 8:1-17](#); [John 5:19-29](#); [Psalm 123](#); [Job 25:1-26:14](#)
- Thursday, November 10, 2022: [Isaiah 12](#); [Isaiah 57:14-21](#); [Romans 1:18-25](#); [Psalm 98](#); [1 Samuel 28:3-19](#)
- Friday, November 11, 2022: [Isaiah 12](#); [Isaiah 59:1-15a](#); [2 Thessalonians 1:3-12](#); [Psalm 98](#); [2 Samuel 21:1-14](#)
- Saturday, November 12, 2022: [Isaiah 12](#); [Isaiah 59:15b-21](#); [Luke 17:20-37](#); [Psalm 98](#); [Ezekiel 10:1-19](#)
- Sunday, November 13, 2022: [Proper 28 \(33\)](#) [Isaiah 65:17-25](#); [Isaiah 12](#); [Malachi 4:1-2a](#); [Psalm 98](#); [2 Thessalonians 3:6-13](#); [Luke 21:5-19](#)
- Monday, November 14, 2022: [Psalm 76](#); [Isaiah 60:17-22](#); [Ephesians 4:25-5:2](#); [Psalm 141](#); [Ezekiel 11:14-25](#)
- Tuesday, November 15, 2022: [Psalm 76](#); [Isaiah 66:1-13](#); [1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1](#); [Psalm 141](#); [Ezekiel 39:21-40:4](#)
- Wednesday, November 16, 2022: [Psalm 76](#); [Isaiah 66:14-24](#); [Matthew 23:37-24:14](#); [Psalm 141](#); [Ezekiel 43:1-12](#)
- Thursday, November 17, 2022: [Luke 1:68-79](#); [Jeremiah 21:1-14](#); [Hebrews 9:23-28](#); [Psalm 46](#); [2 Chronicles 18:12-22](#)
- Friday, November 18, 2022: [Luke 1:68-79](#); [Jeremiah 22:1-17](#); [1 Peter 1:3-9](#); [Psalm 46](#); [Zechariah 11:1-17](#)
- Saturday, November 19, 2022: [Luke 1:68-79](#); [Jeremiah 22:18-30](#); [Luke 18:15-17](#); [Psalm 46](#); [Jeremiah 22:18-30](#)
- Sunday, November 20, 2022: [Reign of Christ - Proper 29 \(34\)](#) [Jeremiah 23:1-6](#); [Luke 1:68-79](#); [Jeremiah 23:1-6](#); [Psalm 46](#); [Colossians 1:11-20](#); [Luke 23:33-43](#)
- Monday, November 21, 2022: [Psalm 117](#); [Jeremiah 30:1-17](#); [Revelation 21:5-27](#); [Psalm 24](#); [Jeremiah 46:18-28](#)
- Tuesday, November 22, 2022: [Psalm 117](#); [Jeremiah 30:18-24](#); [Revelation 22:8-21](#); [Psalm 24](#); [Isaiah 33:17-22](#)
- Wednesday, November 23, 2022: [Psalm 117](#); [Jeremiah 31:1-6](#); [Luke 1:1-4](#); [Psalm 24](#); [Isaiah 60:8-16](#)
- Thursday, November 24, 2022: [Thanksgiving Day, USA](#) [Deuteronomy 26:1-11](#); [Psalm 100](#); [Philippians 4:4-9](#); [John 6:25-35](#)
- Thursday, November 24, 2022: [Psalm 122](#); [Daniel 9:15-19](#); [James 4:1-10](#)
- Friday, November 25, 2022: [Psalm 122](#); [Genesis 6:1-10](#); [Hebrews 11:1-7](#)
- Saturday, November 26, 2022: [Psalm 122](#); [Genesis 6:11-22](#); [Matthew 24:1-22](#)
- Sunday, November 27, 2022: [First Sunday of Advent](#) [Isaiah 2:1-5](#); [Psalm 122](#); [Romans 13:11-14](#); [Matthew 24:36-44](#)
- Monday, November 28, 2022: [Psalm 124](#); [Genesis 8:1-19](#); [Romans 6:1-11](#)
- Tuesday, November 29, 2022: [Psalm 124](#); [Genesis 9:1-17](#); [Hebrews 11:32-40](#)
- Wednesday, November 30, 2022: [Psalm 124](#); [Isaiah 54:1-10](#); [Matthew 24:23-35](#)