

PIONEER VALLEY UNITING CHURCHES

Mission Statement: *Sharing Christ throughout the Pioneer Valley and in
Worship Services at Walkerston, Mirani, Eungella*



“The Window”

14th/21st February, 2021

THERE WILL BE NO “THE WINDOW” NEXT WEEK.....THIS WEEK MAY END UP A BUMPER ISSUE WITH EXTRA BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES, CONGREGATION MEMBERS TO PRAY FOR ETC.

14th February, 2021 – St Andrew’s UCA – Rick Thomson

The Valley UCA – **Holy Communion** – Pastor Allen

21st February, 2021 – St Andrew’s UCA – Pastor Allen

The Valley UCA – Mrs Noela Thomson

28th February, 2021 – St Andrew’s UCA – Rick Thomson

The Valley UCA – Pastor Allen

14th February - Bible Reading: Mark 9:2-9

The Transfiguration

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them.

³ His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them.

⁴ And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus.

⁵ Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

⁶ (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.)

⁷Then a cloud appeared and covered them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!"

⁸Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Discipleship Thought: Hinges and High Points - There are hinge points in our lives; moments when we know life will never be the same again. Sometimes we know it at the time – weddings, the birth of a child, graduation. Then there are others that only become clearer as a hinge point in hindsight – the decision-making moment that made for a new life direction. Meeting someone for the first time who turned out to be a significant person in the future.

The story of the transfiguration is a hinge point in the church year. It is the moment where the humanity and divinity of Christ collide, where the mystery and reality of life are held in tension, where the story changes as we move out of Epiphany and into the Lenten journey towards Jerusalem. It is the moment of going up the mountain to places of divine, ethereal encounter and down the mountain to places of reality, suffering and service.

We are more like Peter than we care to admit. Peter offers to make dwellings, seeking to make permanent the experience. We, however, wanting to capture the moment, are more likely to reach for a camera for a selfie or photograph to remember the occasion, all the while missing out on the sacredness of the moment.

Prayer: God of mystery, we give thanks for moments of epiphany in our life: times when our faith was deepened, or certainty felt, occasions of revelation, or truth known, times when we knew we were in your presence, or the ground beneath our feet felt sacred and transformed.

We are grateful for the many ways you speak into our lives, for the ways you are revealed in the world – through Scripture, creation, music, science, art, meditation.

Above all – we are thankful for the gift of Christ who reveals you to us in unique and transformative ways. For the mystery of Christ's nature as human and divine. For the mystery of Christ's presence – contained in time and beyond all time. For the mystery of Christ's friendship and guidance – outside us and within us. With thankful and searching hearts, we pray. Amen.

Words for Worship 14th February, 2021

Prayers
please

Each week during Worship we pray for families from our congregations. This week we **Pray for....** Bill, Kristie and Brooklyn, Dal & Geoff, Morelle & David, Kevin & Marion, Margaret, Glenda, Stephen, Sam & Family, Lyn and Family.

....those receiving or recovering from medical treatment – Carl, Debbie, Stephen, Stephen's father, Bill, Angus, Ken & Colleen, Ruth, Kevin, Heather & Norman.

....our friends, relatives and acquaintances who have health issues that require them to be hypervigilant in this time of COVID-19.

A Prayer for Comfort and Healing: God, I pray for healing and comfort for anyone dealing with heartache and illness. I pray that they find refuge in You in the midst of their pain. May You continue to give them the strength to keep going. To push through these dark moments and know You are with them every step of the way. Amen

....**commonsense amongst members of our communities.** Pray that they take notice of the COVID-19 regulations in our country.

....the Leaders of our Country as they make decisions in these uncertain times.

....the safety of medical staff across the world as they provide medical treatment for those who have been in contact with the coronavirus and other diseases.

....**all who work in frontline services:** Hospitals, Schools, Residential Care, Emergency Services, Counsellors and our Community Services.

....**Ian and Lynn** in their missionary work.

....**members of our Parish and all people** who are travelling throughout the school holidays.

....**individuals and families** who are feeling stressed, sad and lonely, the homeless and for those who have lost their jobs.

....**individuals, families** to come to know the Lord and join our members in Worship as soon as we are all able.

....**an abundance of finances for our Parish.**

....**members of our Church Council, Property Committee and Elders.**

....**safety in the workplace.**

....**Reach Out Activities.**

....**those who are being affected by the violence in our community, in our nation and all over the World.**

....the members of **Local, State and Federal Governments.**

....**Scripture Union Queensland, Bible Society, Frontier Services and School Chaplaincy.**



....**for Pastor Allen Soxsmith, Moderator – Rev Andrew Gunton, CQ Presbytery Minister - Rev Scott Ballment.**

....**for retired ministers** who are doing supply ministry and for the **lay people** who willing give of their time conducting Worship Services.

....**for our families and friends** and for the **freedom** we take for granted in our Country.

....**for Teachers, RI Instructors, School Chaplains** and all those who work with children. May they return refreshed and ready for school next week.

....**for the many blessings** we receive in our daily lives.

....for the joy children and grandchildren bring to our families.

....for the easing of the COVID-19 restrictions in some areas and pray for continued vigilance so that the disease does not spread further.

CQ PRESBYTERY PRC Representatives will be in the Parish over the weekend of 27th/28th March. These representatives wish to meet with ALL MEMBERS of the Eungella, Valley and St Andrew's Congregations to discuss the future of the Pioneer Valley Parish. Please keep this weekend free so that you can attend. Exact times will be advertised as soon as they are known.

A Little Humour: Letters from Children: Dear Pastor, Please say in your sermon that I have been a good boy all week. I am Michael.

Dear Pastor, I'm sorry I can't leave more money in the plate, but my father didn't give me a raise in my allowance. Could you have a sermon about a raise in my allowance?

Dear Pastor, My mother is religious. She plays bingo at church every week even if she's sick.

Dear Pastor, I would like to go to heaven someday because I know my brother won't be there.

"From The Big Book of Church Jokes, published by Barbour Publishing, Inc. Used by permission."

Mottos for Success: Love is proof that magic is more than a myth.

Monday Morning Prayer with Moderator Rev Andrew Gunton: God of all wisdom, help us today to take the time and make the space for Your voice to be heard amidst the noise of the world around us. Amen

Olivia Gargano (16th)

HAPPY

Cody Stott (20th)

BIRTHDAY

13TH
ANNIVERSARY

Josh & Lisa Beckmann (16th)

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Sanea Peterson (21st)

Matthew Gargano (24th)

A Quick Prayer: In my own power, Lord, I know I'm too weak. But I have faith You will enable me to meet whatever challenges life brings. I'll wait for You, Lord, to empower me with Your Spirit. Amen

February Income \$1,119.00

February Expenditure \$551.86



21st February – Bible Reading: Mark 1:9-15

The Baptism and Testing of Jesus

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove.

¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness,

¹³ and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted^[a] by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

Jesus Announces the Good News

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God.

¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Discipleship Thought: In the Wilderness - *In the Bible, the wilderness is often the place of danger, uncertainty, and loneliness. A journey through the wilderness can leave us feeling adrift and unsure, but we can also find strength in places of isolation. This past year has been a wilderness experience for many people in our communities. We have been cut off from one another in so many ways, yet there have also been bright moments of connection and a clarity of what is truly important. Perhaps this is also the journey Jesus takes in the wilderness. Mark describes the movement from baptism, to wilderness, to ministry in a deliberately quick paced fashion. He doesn't dwell on these scenes, but they certainly inform one another. As Jesus emerges from the wilderness, he appears to have a clarity about what his baptism will mean and he declares the Good News of the Kingdom of God.*

Prayer: Loving God, to you we lift up our hearts and souls.

Your love is so complete that we are awestruck and speechless.

Yet even without words, in the presence of such a mystery we are moved to thanksgiving.

You sustain and uphold the whole creation, both its creator and redeemer, the one whose love makes all things new, whose steadfast presence is everywhere.

Today we rest in the assurance of your faithful love, ready to be made new, as we walk in your ways.

In the name of Christ, who showed us the way. Amen

Words for Worship 21st February, 2021

21st February – Bible Verse – The Lord your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you. Deuteronomy 20:4

21st February – Mottos for Success – Sometimes the greatest progress comes as the result of being still. A good idea developed in a few minutes of quiet reflection can go further than hours or days of frantic work without a clear objective.

S.H.I.N.E – (Seeking Him In Everything) **For the youth and young at heart**

14th February, 2021 – Read the Bible Reading on Page 1.

Jesus is God's beloved son. Let us listen to him.

Jesus, take away any fears and terrors which prevent you reaching us. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, enable us to hear you even when clouds overshadow us. **Christ, have mercy.**

Jesus, transfigure our lives. **Lord, have mercy.**

Story: Simon Peter has a complex mix of emotions on this incredible occasion of the Transfiguration of Jesus. He was terrified yet awed, unable to think coherently but wanting to hang onto the moment. He didn't know what to say and blurted out something ridiculous. This is a very human reaction, and one which is illustrated in today's story.

Jilly's Evening - *Jilly was incredibly excited, but also bewildered. It was her first visit to the circus, and she was the only person from the whole school to be there. What's more, she was the guest of honour. Jilly wasn't quite sure what that meant, but it sounded very important. Some famous person had drawn Jilly's name out of a hat, and that meant she was a competition winner. Jilly wasn't sure what competition it was, but she didn't mind. She was just thrilled to be there.*

Jilly settled down in her front row seat, watching open-mouthed as the trapeze artistes swung high above her head on the roof of the Big Top, and laughing out loud at the clowns. She loved the bareback riding and the acrobatics and all the fun and colour and music. And she was particularly impressed by the ring master in his scarlet coat and his black top hat and boots. He carried a whip which he cracked, making Jilly jump.

When the show was nearly over, the ring master came over to Jilly and held out his hand. Jilly didn't know what he wanted. She blushed deep red and hung her head, but the ring master caught her hand and pulled her to her feet. He led her to the centre of the sawdust circus ring, where Jilly wished the floor would open up and swallow her. She lifted her gaze just enough to see thousands of faces staring at her, and suddenly she felt sick.

Then she realised that the ring master was talking to her, and holding a microphone in front of her mouth, waiting for her answer. The ringmaster repeated his question, "What's your name? Will you tell the people why you're here?" and looked at her expectantly. Jilly couldn't speak. It was as if her brain wouldn't make

any sense at all of the questions. She began to panic and blurted out the answer she always used if she was in trouble, "Don't know!"

The audience tittered. Jilly felt very foolish, but the ring master winked at her and answered the questions himself. "This is Jilly, ladies and gentlemen," he said, "and she's a very important person today because she won a competition to be here this evening. Let's have a round of applause for Jilly."

Everybody clapped loudly and Jilly began to feel much better. As the ringmaster led her back to her seat, she wished the moment could go on forever, she felt so proud.

When she got home, her parents wanted to know all about her special day. But Jilly couldn't answer. It had all been so special and so overwhelming that for the moment, she needed to keep it deep inside herself. One day she'd tell her parents all about her special day, but not just now. For the time being she needed to keep it all to herself, and enjoy it inside herself, all over again.

Blessing: May each of us see our risen transformed Lord for ourselves, and may we experience his transforming love in the very depths of our being. And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now, be in your homes and in your families and with all those whom you love and for whom you pray, now and always. Amen.

21st February, 2021 – Read the Bible Reading on Page 5.

In Jesus, the kingdom of God has come near. Let us turn to him and believe in the good news.

Jesus, enable us to receive your Holy Spirit. **Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus, be with us in our wilderness times. **Christ, have mercy.**

Jesus, help us to turn to you, determined to lead a new life. **Lord, have mercy.**

Story: According to Mark, immediately after the "high" of Jesus' baptism, the Spirit drove him into the wilderness for a long time. This often happens with us, too. After a particularly wonderful time, we're plunged into the depths. We need to learn to see God in the depths as well as in the heights, and to know that both experiences are sent by him. This is a story of Roly the puppy to illustrate that.

Oh dear, Roly! - *Roly the dachshund puppy was very excited. He was so excited that his tail wouldn't stop wagging, and he kept turning round in tight little circles, trying to chase his tail. And he yipped and barked and yapped and tried to jump up at all the human beings who kept coming into the room.*

Surprisingly, no-one shouted at him or told him to get down. They all fussed him and petted him and made him feel very special, although he wasn't quite sure why. Perhaps it had something to do with the previous night, when he had suddenly woken from a deep sleep because his sharp ears had caught the gentlest of sounds. Roly couldn't help himself. He had started to bark loudly, and because he wanted to get to the sound and find out what it was, he had begun to frantically scratch and paw at the door.

The lights had gone on immediately after that, and Roly had heard angry, sleepy voices grumbling about him. But when Roly heard human footsteps running down the garden path, the voices had changed and suddenly everybody loved him. Roly caught the word "thief", but he didn't know what that meant. Then he caught his name, Roly, being spoken in the way he loved best, all warm and caressing.

Today, new people had come with flashing lights to take pictures of him and something called a television camera was following his every move. Roly somehow knew he was a hero, although he still wasn't sure why. But he began to show off in the best way he knew, and nobody said a word against him. It was a wonderful time, and Roly loved it.

Roly was so excited that although he was dimly aware he needed to go out into the yard, he couldn't bring himself to leave the party. Suddenly, to his horror, he felt his back leg lift all of its own accord, and felt a warm stream pour onto the floor. Roly looked. He had made a puddle - indoors! Roly was horrified. He hadn't made a puddle indoors for weeks, ever since he was a very tiny puppy. He prided himself on being nearly grown up now and always went out into the yard to make his puddles.

Roly felt his tail drop between his legs, and he slunk behind the sofa, hoping nobody would notice him. For a while they didn't, but it wasn't long before Alice, his special owner, spotted the pool on the floor.

"Roly!" she cried, "How could you! You naughty boy!"

Everything went quiet and Roly tried to squeeze underneath the sofa, he was so ashamed. But Alice had seen him and pulled him out. She began to scold him in front of all the strange people, and Roly felt terrible. He wanted to run away and hide, but Alice wouldn't let him. She made him gaze into the little pool on the floor until he was really, really sorry.

One minute things had been the best they'd ever been, and Roly was more excited than he'd ever been in his life before, the next minute he'd ruined it by his stupid behaviour.

But Alice's anger didn't last for very long, and when she saw how sorry he was, she put her arms around Roly and loved him. And Roly began to realise that Alice always loved him, even when she was cross with him. And he was so pleased with that thought that he began to lick her hand to show her how much he loved her. Alice hugged him tightly, and Roly knew he would never again make another puddle inside the house.

Blessing - May God the Father call you his beloved child, May God the Holy Spirit protect you even in hard times, And may God the Son give you strength and purpose. And the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now, be in your homes and in your families and with all those whom you love and for whom you pray, now and always. Amen.

	WALKERSTON		MIRANI	
<i>Date</i>	<i>Bible Reader</i>	<i>Prayers</i>	<i>Bible Reader</i>	<i>Prayers</i>
14 th Feb	Michelle	Lyn	Morelle	Beth
21 st Feb	Kathryn	Lyn	Kerr Family	Kerr Family
28 th Feb	Kerith	Lyn	Morelle	Margaret
7 th Mar	Colleen	Lyn	Thelma	Morelle

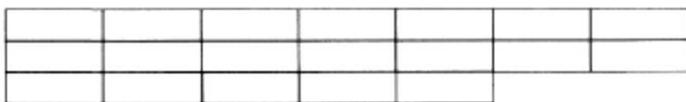
Picture Differences

In the Gospel story pictures below there are 10 differences. Circle each one as you find it.



Letter Tile Puzzle

Unscramble the tiles to reveal a message from today's Gospel story. Each tile has the same number of characters (letters, spaces, and punctuation). Spaces are shown as blanks in the letter tiles.



Crossword Puzzle

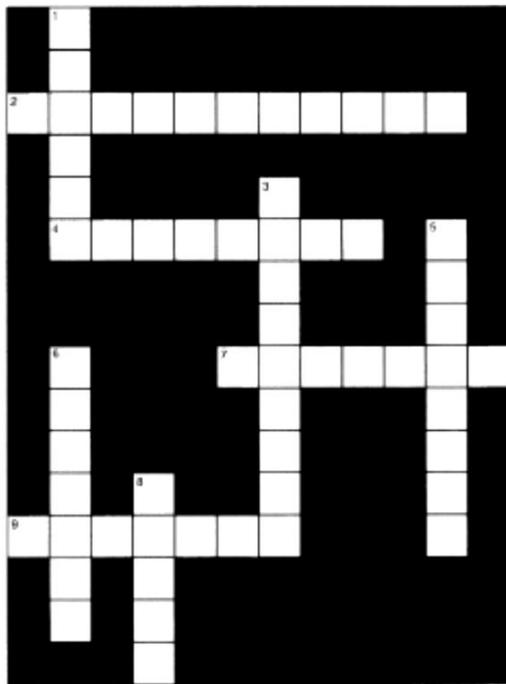
Fill in the blanks using the clues from today's Gospel story.

ACROSS

- Jesus was ___ the good news. (vs. 14)
- Jesus came from ___. (vs. 9)
- Jesus was ___ by Satan. (vs. 13)
- You are my son, the ___. (vs. 11)

DOWN

- Jesus was baptized in the ___ River. (vs. 9)
- The Spirit ___ from the heavens. (vs. 10)
- John was ___. (vs. 14)
- Repent and ___ in the good news. (vs. 15)
- Jesus was in the wilderness for ___ days. (vs. 13)



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Minister: Pastor Allen Soxsmith

Phone Number: 07 4959 3974



8.00am Every Sunday

St Andrew's UCA

Bold Street

WALKERSTON



10.00am Every Sunday

The Valley UCA

Victoria St

MIRANI

EUNGELLA
21st February, 2021

3.00pm

Holy Communion

ECDA Hall

EUNGELLA

Elders: Beth Higham 4958 3158: Morelle Coxwell 4959 1229: Bruce Kerr 4966 6924: Lynette Gargano 4951 4075: Colleen Brown 4954 5470: Sam Fernando 4959 3298

Electronic Banking Details - UCA Pioneer Valley – ANZ Bank - BSB: 014-010

Account No: 2115 57247

Containers for Change

ANYTHING ENVIRONMENTAL, 19 INTERLINK COURT, PAGET.

Parish Registered Number **C10195946**

Alternatively, collect the cash and drop it into the offering plate.

Newsletter: Kerith Noy: 07 4959 2328: **email:** glen.noy@bigpond.com or
P O Box 346, Walkerston Q 4751

Prayer Warrior: Vicki Kiem: Mob: 0408 767 331:

email: vakmoss@gmail.com

7.40am-7.55am – St Andrew's Vestry – Sundays

Lectionary Readings:

14th February, 2021 - Transfiguration Sunday - 2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

17th February, 2021 – Ash Wednesday - Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

21st February, 2021 – Lent 1 - Genesis:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

28th February, 2021 – Lent 2 - Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38 or Mark 9:2-9

7th March, 2021 – Lent 3 – Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22

CLi 386034

I APOLOGISE FOR THE PUZZLES APPEARING TO BE A LITTLE BLURRY. NOT SURE WHAT THE PROBLEM IS.