

PIONEER VALLEY UNITING CHURCHES

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



'The Window' *20th September, 2020*

**MORNING TEA IS NOT BE SERVED FOLLOWING WORSHIP UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE.**

Bible Reading: Matthew 20:1-16 N I V

The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard.

2 He agreed to pay them a denarius[a] for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

3 "About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing.

4 He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'

5 So they went. "He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. 6 About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'

7 "Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

8 "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'

9 "The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius.

10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius.

11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.

12 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'

13 "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius?'

14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you.

15 Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

16 "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Discipleship Thought: *Have you ever been in the situation when expressing your appreciation for a musician or an author, someone in the circle says, "Well, I was a fan from the start", with the implication that you're a pretender or queue jumper?*

Suspicion of and/or contempt for those who have come to a revelation late in the day seems to be part of our human nature, particularly when it comes to things that we hold dear.

The church is called to a generosity blind to timelines. We are to be like the artist who steps out of the stage door, or the writer who sits at the table at a writer's event, who is appreciative of every person in the line and makes sure everyone lining up for a signature and a selfie gets their moment, regardless of how long they've been a fan.

Prayer: God of good things, we give thanks for your eternal kindness to us.

We praise you for the love and compassion you extend to us throughout our lives.

You have been with us from before our birth and journey with us until we return to dust.

There has never been a time when you have not been for us.

We give thanks for your gift of the earth, the mothering planet that nourishes and sustains us, the beauty and wonder that is ours to behold.

We rejoice in the ever-changing sky, the reliable cycle of the sun and moon, eucalypt forest and coastline bush, rock wallabies, cockatoos and orcas, artesian rivers and coral seas.

We are in awe of all of this and your hand by which it is made.

You are beyond our imagination and worthy of all praise, thanksgiving and adoration. Amen





Each week during Worship we pray for families from our congregations. This week we **Pray for....**Kevin, Robyn & Rob, Morelle & David, Lyn & Family, Sam, Stephen, Amresh and Aadesh.

....those receiving or recovering from medical treatment – Carl, Len, Rev Nathan, Kate, Debbie, Ray, Stephen's father, Ruth, Kevin, Angus, Megan, Esther, Margaret, Pastor Jeff, Lynne H and David Meeks.

A Prayer for Comfort and Healing: Lord Jesus, heal me in whatever You see needs healing. Heal me of whatever might separate me from You. Heal my memory, heal my heart, heal my emotions, heal my spirit, heal my body, heal my soul. Lay Your hands gently upon me and heal me through Your love for me. Amen

....our Church Members who are unable to return to Worship in our Churches just yet.

....Athol MacKenzie and Judith Ferguson as they prepare for their marriage on Saturday, 10th October, 2020 in St Andrew's.

....safety for the many workers in the sugar industry as the crushing season proceeds.

....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.

....people in Australia and all over the world as they cope with the restrictions, those who have contracted COVID-19, for those who are recovering and for those who have lost loved ones.

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

....Ian and Lynn in their missionary work. Pray for their health and that of their co-workers as COVID-19 causes them a great deal of concern.

....Parish Elders - Bruce, Beth, Morelle, Sam, Colleen and Lyn.

....members of our Parish who are travelling - Lyn & Estrellita and those who are travelling during 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 and Property Committee.

....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**.



....**Pastor Allen Soxsmith, Outgoing Moderator – Rev David Baker, Rev Suzy Sitton** who is the Interim CQ Presbytery Minister and for **Rev Scott Ballment** as he prepares to be inducted as the CQ Presbytery Minister.

....**for retired ministers** who are doing supply ministry and for the **lay people** who are working to keep Parishes functioning.

....**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.

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

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

A Little Humour: Sunday School Teacher: “You missed church last Sunday, didn’t you?”

Boy: “No, I didn’t miss it at all!”

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

Monday Morning Prayer with Moderator Rev David Baker: Loving God, as we live in uncertain and trying days, ground us in the life of your son, open our hearts to one another in grace and forbearance. Amen

Alleyné Sant (20th)

Esther McNichol (20th)

Thomas Higham (26th)



September Income \$4965.50

September Expenditure \$3920.80



ZOOM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING, FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER, 7.00PM. ZOOM LOGIN DETAILS WILL BE ADVISED LATER IN THE WEEK.

A Quick Prayer: Forgive me my worldly attachments and anxieties, Lord. Help me seek Your kingdom so I may live as a good example of Your never-failing care and concern.



**WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY GROUP at the
Mirani Medical Centre, 42 Victoria Street, Mirani
6pm - Tuesday**

**You are also welcome to login via Zoom
Zoom login number is: 858 155 77576**

Please phone Simon (07 4959 1140) each Tuesday to ensure the Bible Study is meeting.

Mottos for Success: Embrace change when it comes your way. You'll be happier riding the wave of change than feeling it come crashing down on you.



**Bruce's new pride
and joy. He'll be
all fired up and
ready for the next
'smoker'
competition now!!!**

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

Call to Worship: Sometimes life can seem unfair, because we are unable to see the big picture. But God always sees the big picture and always does what is right for us. Today, let us consider a story which Jesus told and which at first glance seems unfair.

Jesus, I get angry when I think I've been treated unfairly. Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, I get resentful when I think I've been treated unfairly. Christ, have mercy.

Jesus, I'm not always aware when I treat other people unfairly. Lord, have mercy.

Story: In this parable, we tend to feel sympathy for the early workers and agree with them that it was unfair for the late workers to be paid the same as them since they hadn't worked for anything like as long. But Jesus is telling us that we can't judge God by our own mean standards, for God is overwhelmingly generous and loves to give his gifts to all his children. And nobody earns or deserves God's gifts, they are simply free for all.

In this story, Henry learned that what seemed unfair to someone else was the one thing that changed Henry's life.

Henry's Hurdle - Henry was the best swimmer in his class at school. His mother laughingly said that he was like a fish as soon as he got into water. Henry only knew that he loved swimming, for the water made his body feel as though it worked perfectly. He was never clumsy in water, as he was on land. And he was fast in water, but so slow on land. For some reason, although Henry was useless at running, he was terrific at swimming.

Henry had no sooner joined the local swimming club than he was picked for the team. They were to compete against a club from the next town and they were driven in a coach to the swimming pool in the next town. It was all very exciting.

By the time Henry was undressed and in his swimming trunks, he was feeling a little nervous. By the time he was standing at the head of the pool, glancing at his opponents, he was feeling very nervous. There were only six in the race, one for each lane of the swimming pool, but the other five were all much bigger than Henry. He reckoned that he was the youngest and he feared that the others were all much stronger than him.

But he shrugged and determined to do his best, even if it meant he came last. When the starter gun sounded, Henry was in the water in a flash and soon swimming for all he was worth. He swam faster than he had ever swum before. He put his whole self into the race. He gave it everything he had. He was concentrating so hard that he had no time to see how he was faring. He just kept his head down and swam.

Henry only looked up when he felt his fingers touch the rail at the end of the pool. Then he discovered to his shame that he was last. Everyone else had finished long before and they were all looking at him and grinning. Even though the spectators clapped (especially his mother) Henry felt that he never wanted to swim again. He was hopeless. He'd never be fast enough to swim in competitions. He felt a complete failure.

But when the medals were given out, to his surprise, Henry heard his name called. He was presented with a medal just for competing and finishing the race. Henry heard the winner mutter, "It's not fair! It's stupid when everyone gets a medal. What's the point in winning if everyone gets a medal? I should be the only one with a medal!"

But Henry didn't care. He was very proud of his medal and suddenly realised that he did want to go on swimming after all. He was so encouraged that he decided to train and train until he could be a winner. And when he did become a winner, he vowed that he would always be glad if everyone received a medal, because Henry's medal had changed his life that day.

Blessing: May you be so overwhelmed with gratitude for God's gifts to you that you cannot help but reflect God's generosity in the whole of your life. 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>
20 th Sept	Kathryn	Kerith	Val	Bruce
27 th Sept	Colleen	Lyn	Kerr Family?	Margaret
4 th Oct	Michelle	Lyn	Thelma	Beth

Make Words

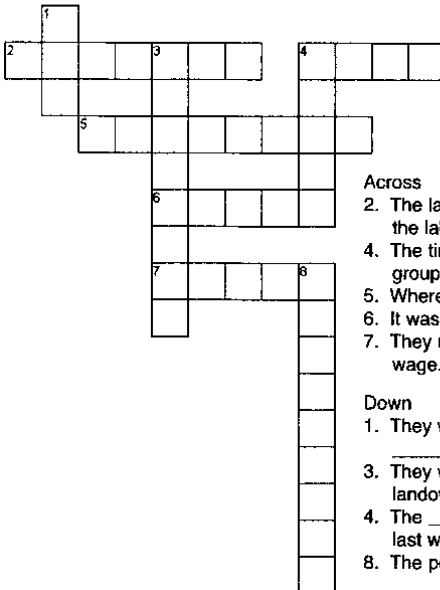
Using the letters in the phrase below, see how many words you can make from this phrase from our Gospel story today: You may use each letter only as many times as it appears in the phrase.

“The first will be last.”

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 16. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 17. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 18. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 19. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ |

Crossword Puzzle

Complete this crossword puzzle using the clues from today's Gospel story. Read the clues. Then fill in the squares below with the answers to the questions.



Across

- The landowner told him to call in the laborers
- The time of day when the last group was hired
- Where they were working
- It wasn't wrong, it was _____
- They received the _____ daily wage.

Down

- They were hired to work for one _____
- They were envious because the landowner was _____
- The _____ will be last and the last will be _____
- The person in charge of everything

Contact Details: P.O. BOX 152, WALKERSTON 4751

Website: www.pioneervalleyunitingchurch.org.au

Email: allensox42@gmail.com or glen.noy@bigpond.com



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

20th September, 2020

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's 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:

20th September, 2020 – Pentecost 16 – Exodus 16:2-15: Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

27th September, 2020 – Pentecost 17 - Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

4th October, 2020 – Pentecost 18 – Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philemon 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

11th October, 2020 – Pentecost 19 – Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

CLi 386034

Crossword: Across 2. Manager, 4. Five 5. Vineyard 6. Right 7. Usual Down: 1. Day 3. Generous 4. First 8. Landowner