



ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

“Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus”

roseville.unitingchurch.org.au



@530worship



@rosevilleuniting

What of our relationship with God?

This past week I have been reflecting with my meditation groups on a sermon given by our Minister at Roseville, Chris Goringe, a few Sundays ago. The sermon in part was about how the psalm writers expressed their thoughts and feelings and the imagery they sometimes conveyed. Some of this imagery could be considered as unchristian and quite confronting. Psalm 137 was read as an example of that. As Chris said the psalms don't hold back when expressing thoughts and feelings to God.

The point being made was that our relationship with God is a very personal one. In fact it is a primal relationship in which we can express our true feelings and thoughts in the knowledge of our faith that God is a compassionate God who knows how we feel and that honesty is safe with God. We can express ourselves without the fear of rejection or worry that we will be judged because God already knows our thoughts and how we feel. There is never a need to remain silent before God. He is always listening to us. Anything we say to God does not cause division, violence or hate in the public arena. It is personal to us and God. It is a mistake to think that this is a one-sided conversation.

As Christians we can always ask God for advice, share our problems, issues, opinions and the like, as we believe in a compassionate God and trust that he is always listening to us. That belief allows God's compassion to be received in our hearts. However, from a contemplative perspective we need to create a space of stillness in our hearts and minds to be in God's presence to receive it. That compassion is a doorway to peace. With that peace we have entered a state of silence and are then open to receive God's other blessings that can sometimes surprise - as God sometimes works in mysterious ways- that helps reconcile our mental and emotional states. Our personal relationship with God is a journey and found within our own being - not a mental construct - and should be one of our most treasured relationships because we are always loved unconditionally. This relationship allows us to love God in a way that fulfills the first and great commandment: ref..Matthew Ch22 Vs 37-38.

In Christian meditation, when we come to meditate and seek to quieten our minds it can be an opportunity to surrender all our thoughts, feelings, frustrations, hate and everything else to God and rest in peace, in our hearts, in the present moment.

There are three quotes I found from the bible to share with you that help us to understand this special relationship with God:

Sunday September 28th

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

- 9.30am **Worship Service with Rev. Aeryun Lee**
In person and online...
Organist: Jillian Cranney
- 10.45am **Healing & Wholeness Service**
- 5.30pm **Boomerang Bags**

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Jeremiah 32: 1-3a, 6-15
Psalm 91: 1-6, 14-16
1 Timothy 6: 6-19
Luke 16: 19-31

What's on this week

- Tue Young Adults Small Group 7.00pm
- Wed Book Club 10.15am
- Fri Christian Meditation 2.30pm

Sunday October 5th

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

- 9.30am **Worship Service with Holy Communion with Chris Goringe**
In person and online...
- 5.30pm **Worship Service**

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Lamentations 1: 1-6
Lamentations 3: 19-26 or Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1: 1-14
Luke 17: 5-10

Cont'd over.....

Links

[Service live \(or replay\) streaming](#)

[Zoom \(for meetings\)](#)

[Church website](#)

[Chris' sermons](#)

The first quote is from Matthew 11: 29-30

" Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"

The second is from John 14: 27: The promise of the Spirit, in which Jesus ,addressing his disciples ,says:

" Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you.

Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

And the third is from Psalm 46:10

" Be still, and know that I am God."

Practice coming into stillness

Every day, take time to close your eyes and take one minute to physically relax and then simply sit in stillness. Let go of thoughts and listen with your whole body, firstly to the sounds that you can hear, the space between the sounds and then to the silence within.....notice the stillness in your body, the quietness of your mind and the peace in your heartJust be in this momentnotice a sense of Being, a sense of presencewhilst watching your breathing in and out as if you were breathing in and out from your heart centre

Michael

More dates for 2025

12th October: Uniting Churches Family Picnic, Pymble Ladies College, after morning service

14th October: Young Adults' Dinner 7.00pm

2nd November: All Saints Service 9.30am and 5.30pm

8th November: Working Bee

12th November: Young Adults' Dinner 7.00pm

22nd November: Lindara Market

26th November: Heralding Advent Service, Killara Catholic Church 7.30pm

11th December: Reflective Christmas Service, Roseville UC 6.00pm

Join us in Prayer ...

O Lord of grace, whose mercies flow,
To You in faith, for them I go.
I lift the weary, worn, and weak—
The silent hearts too tired to speak.

For those who walk in shadowed days,
Shine on their path Your warming rays.
For those who grieve with aching cries,
Be near, O God, and dry their eyes.

For hands that tremble in their fight,
Grant courage, strength, and holy light.
For minds that wrestle fear and doubt,
Let peace, not panic, dwell throughout.

For all who hunger, Lord, provide.
For those cast out, stand by their side.
For broken homes and shattered ties,
Restore, redeem, and make them rise.

Your cross has borne the weight of all,
You hear the faintest voice that calls.
So now I pray—Your love extend,
To every soul, to foe and friend.

Use me, O Lord, to be Your hands,
To walk in faith, where mercy stands.
Until the day all tears shall cease,
Make me a vessel of Your peace.

Amen.

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Roseville Ministry Contacts

Office Address

7a Lord Street
PO Box 44, Roseville 2069

Church Office

Cath Pinchin 9416 5185
office@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Office Hours Typically Tue, Wed and Fri

Website roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Ministry Team

Rev. Dr. Chris Goringe
0402 012 418

Rev. Aeryun Lee
0403 491 610

Congregational Chairperson

Sue Drury

Direct Giving

treasurer@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Asylum Seeker & Refugee Support

Gwyn Denton gwyn@dentons.id.au

Church Council Chair

Pauline Callan
0417 419 671

Church Council Secretary

secretary@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Treasurer

Simran Dryden
treasurer@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Safe Church Officer

Di Knowles 9498 4736