



Bible Readings

Psalm 8
 Matthew 28: 16-20



Response after Bible Readings

Leader: *In this we hear the word of God*
Response: *Thanks be to God who speaks to us as spirit.*

Welcome to St. Matthew's Community Room.
 Children are very welcome at St. Matthew's and that means their noise is welcome too. This room is here if you feel the need to step out of the service or would like some more privacy but still want to see and hear what's going on in the service.
OPEN FROM 9AM



twitch.tv
 Livestreaming at
 8am, 9.30am and
 9am in January each year

8am—Worship
 Led by Jon Humphries
 and Dean Drayton
 Followed by morning tea

9.30am—Worship
 Led by Jon Humphries
 and Dean Drayton

KUCA — Preschool,
 Years K-2 & Years 3-8
 Followed by morning tea

6.45pm—Worship
 Led Jon Humphries

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

What's happening this week at St. Matthew's

MONDAY 1 JUNE

Garage Sale sorting & pricing
7.30pm—Christian Meditation

TUESDAY 2 JUNE

9am-2pm—Op Shop
9.30am-11am—Christian Meditation
 community room and church
11.30am—Care & Prayer
 community room and church

WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE

am-2pm—Op Shop
10am-12pm—In Stitches
 Upstairs hall

THURSDAY 4 JUNE

9am-2pm—Op Shop
12pm—Coffee & Discovery
 Church & Hall
7pm—Cricket Club presentation night upstairs hall

FRIDAY 5 JUNE
Setup for Art Sale

SATURDAY 6 JUNE

9am-12pm—Op Shop
9am-12pm—Garage Sale lower hall
9am-12pm—Art Sale
 upstairs hall

SUNDAY 7 JUNE

8am—Worship
 Includes communion
9.30am—Worship
 Includes communion
KUCA — Preschool,
 Years K-2 & Years 3-8
 Followed by morning tea
6.45pm—Worship
 Includes communion

2nd Sunday after

Pentecost



MINISTER

REV JON HUMPHRIES
 Email: jon@stmatthewsuniting.net.au
 jhumphries@nswact.uca.org.au

PASTORAL CARE WORKER

SARA WIENAND
 SUNDAY am , MONDAY, TUESDAY
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Something to think about

31 May

Trinity Sunday

Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

Psalm 8

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

Experiencing the Trinity

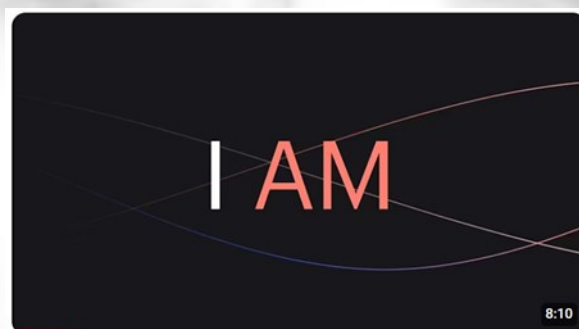
The Trinity is an important doctrine. Yet, the word 'Trinity' does not appear in the Bible, and the way God is named in Scripture extends beyond Father, Son and Holy Spirit. However, despite some people arguing about such teaching as not being strictly Biblical, there is a wealth of Scriptural justification for describing God that makes sense as a Tri-Unity – that is three-in-one and one-in-three = Trinity. However, more than a doctrine or theology to be understood or believed, the experience of God as Trinity is a reality to be experienced as the ground of our faith.

There are libraries-worth of books about the Trinity as a doctrine and theology. The Trinity *is* something to think about. However, the reality is that we will never truly get our minds around this reality. The reality is that God and God's reality transcends our physical reality. This is why the Trinity is a spiritual reality to be

experienced and this way of knowing God is the reason for our faith.

If you want to dive into a theological reflection on God as Trinity there is much to explore. There are theological books. There are great swathes of material on the Internet, a plethora of AI summaries to gather and many podcasts and YouTube videos to watch. Here are two videos which that I think are useful as starters or refreshers.

'The Trinity Explained (Without Pretending It's Simple)' by The Bible Project.



[https://youtu.be/eAvYmE2YYIU?
si=JaYjXv_n-oFoe4w5](https://youtu.be/eAvYmE2YYIU?si=JaYjXv_n-oFoe4w5)

And, 'We tried to make the best video on the Internet explaining the Trinity' by the channel, Christian Story.



<https://youtu.be/w9E0DYIXIVc?si=pwSbHoa8aI8dOY0j>

In terms of the Bible we have Jesus using the classic Trinitarian formulation of "Father, Son and Holy Spirit" in the Great Commission . [Matthew 28:19-20.] Jesus is God being the Word of God [John 1:1] and Jesus being one with God the Father, as the Son [John 10:30]. Then there is the statement that the Holy Spirit is "The Lord" and the Lord is the Holy Spirit just as the Holy Spirit is The Spirit of the Lord. [2 Corinthians 3:17] Given that the Lord is both God The Father/Creator and Jesus, the Christ, then we have good Biblical grounds for Thus, the Trinity is a doctrine founded in Scripture. Of course these are just a starting point and it is not hard to find other references in Scripture which support a theology of God as Trinity.

However, God is not "The Trinity." The better theological grammar is that God is Trinity, or is a Trinity. We, just as the people

in the Bible did, we experience God as Trinity. We know God as Creator/Father/Mother/Parent and as the ground of our being. This is what the theologian Paul Tillich is well-known for writing about based on Acts 17:28. We know that the Father is in us. [John 14:20] We know Jesus as the Christ and as God'-incarnate and as always present with us because he is in the Father and both are in us. [John 14: 20] We know God as The Holy Spirit who is also in us. [John 14: 17]

It is OK and appropriate to talk about 'The Father,' 'The Son,' and 'The Holy Spirit.' This language, like that of 'The Trinity,' is part of our theological tradition and the use of the article 'the' is common. However, I try to avoid splitting up God into persons in my prayers and theology, and in my language in sermons and liturgy. I try to remind myself, and all people, that God is personal and present. That is why I try to name God and God's persons in Trinitarian ways as personal.

My preference is to remind myself that God, as Father/Creator/Mother/Parent, God as Christ, and God as Spirit is all God and is always present. My language and thinking about God, that is my theology, is about helping me and others know that God is present and personal. God is with me, with you, with us, and with all people, and always working for good in all things. This is the good news and the reality that God, as Jesus, proclaimed, being that the Kingdom of God is at hand and amongst us and within us.

The Trinity is something to think about. However, the reality that God present and personal is something more importantly to experience and to have faith in.

God bless. Jon

PEOPLE NEWS

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



Barry Gregory
Lachlan Fear
John Kolosowski
Barbara Mallyon

Our very best wishes to all the St. Matthew's community who are celebrating their birthdays this week.

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

31 May — 6 June

Angola, Mozambique



SYNOD SPOTLIGHT

Uniting Church Synod of NSW and the ACT

Uniting Church Synod Spotlight Newsletter

For (22 May 2025) please see link to Synod weekly:

[Synod Weekly Spotlight 2026 - 22 May |](#)

Art sale

Mixed mediums, lots of stock

Saturday 6 June

9am-12pm

*Where: St. Matthew's
Upstairs hall*

Could you serve morning tea?

1. Bring 1L of milk
2. Arrive 15 minutes early to set up cups
3. Serve tea and coffee after the service
4. Wash the cups (dishwasher lessons provided!)



Please contact Lynn,
Amanda or Sara if
you can help!



Thursday 4 June 2026

10am—12noon

Guest speaker: Alan Wright



*I didn't know that about
and other stuff*

but now I know a little more

These informal morning gatherings include devotions, morning tea and guest speakers which cover a large range of interesting and informative topics.

***** ALL WELCOME *****

Parramatta Mission

We are collecting knitted and crocheted beanies and scarves, as well as soap, for the people who visit Parramatta Mission for meals and support.

The collection point at St Matthew's is the marked box at the top of the stairs

Please contact Christine Haines for more information.



Ness Williams-Henke and Jon are back with their all-age / intergen podcast, 'On the Way with Ness and Jon.' It has a new look to make it more appealing to all ages. This has taken some time to get set up. The latest season is ready for Pentecost and After Pentecost, looking at the Fruit of the Spirit.

Watch on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@OnTheWaywithNessandJon>

or listen wherever you listen to podcasts

LET'S CHAT ABOUT LIFE AND FAITH



On The Way with Ness and Jon

@OnTheWaywithNessandJon • 7 subscribers • 10 videos

On The Way is all about having great conversations about life and faith. Jon and ...more

 Subscribed 



Why Is Love A Fruit Of The Spirit?



What Is The Fruit Of The Spirit?

St Matthew's Social Action Missional Ministry Team

How doing little things makes a big difference.

Topic: Some good climate news – Operation Crayweed - how academics, community volunteers and partnering organisations are making a difference.

Kelp forests are found along coastlines in temperate waters and provide habitat, nursery grounds and vital nutrient absorption for coastal ecosystems, supporting everything from abalone and rock lobsters to carbon capture. Crayweed (*Phyllospora cosmos*) once formed vast underwater forests along Sydney's coast before it disappeared in the 1980s, most probably due to water pollution prior to the construction of the deep ocean outfalls in the early 1990's.

Christiana Jansen in her Earth.org article, describes how kelp is one of the tools that is being used to reduce the carbon in the atmosphere and the sea. 'During photosynthesis, kelp absorbs sunlight, carbon dioxide, and water to produce sugar and oxygen. Absorption of carbon dioxide and production of oxygen is important for living things and for reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in our oceans and atmosphere. Similar to forests on land, kelp will grow in concentrated areas with other kelp resulting in a kelp forest.' Crayweed can grow to 2.5 metres in height.

Caitlin Fitzsimmons states in her recent SMH article that 'Operation Crayweed is an initiative of the University of NSW and the Sydney Institute of Marine Science to restore crayweed'. The NSW government has licensed 20 sites for crayweed restoration. The earliest sites were restored up to a decade ago, with six sites now considered established, and seven sites still in progress.

The NSW Minister for Lands and Property's recent media release states that 'Operation Crayweed works by taking fertile plants from strong populations and fixing them onto barren reefs using biodegradable mats. Once settled they reproduce and create "craybies", young plants that regenerate underwater forests naturally. Restoration sites now span Maroubra, Wedding Cake Island, Dee Why and other key coastal locations, with some areas already experiencing crayweed booms. The project's success is fuelled not only by scientists but also by volunteers, local community members and partner organisations.'

Link to the articles:

Fitzsimmons, C. 'The underwater forests coming back to life off the Sydney coast'. (20th April 2026) Sydney Morning Herald. <https://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/the-underwater-forests-coming-back-to-life-off-the-sydney-coast-20260415-p5zo4p.html>

Jansen, C. 'Utilising Kelp Forests for Carbon Sequestration', Earth.org (1st February 2023) <https://earth.org/kelp-forests-carbon-sequestration/>

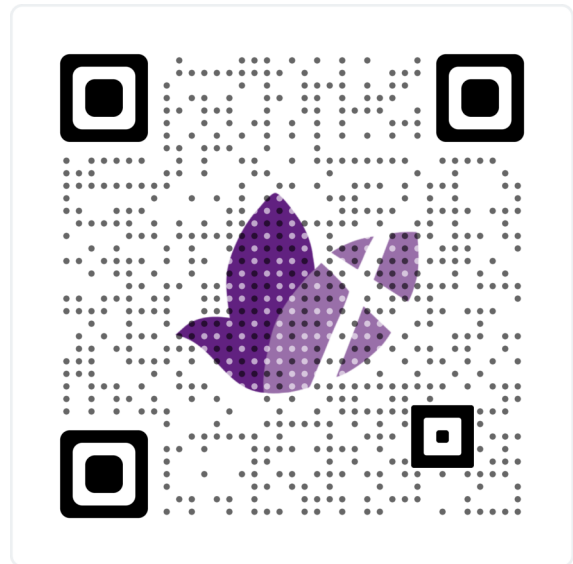
NSW Government Ministerial media release - Minister for Lands and Property 'Restoring Sydney's lost underwater forests' (10th April 2026). <https://www.nsw.gov.au/ministerial-releases/restoring-sydneys-lost-underwater-forests>

*Blessings,
Amanda
Social Action Ministry Team (SAMT)*

To ask about joining the Social Action Group at
St Matthew's
email Alexander on
alexander.lawless7@gmail.com

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 16th June 2026 at 7pm in the

Please see QR Codes for links for YouTube,
Facebook & Twitch



The St. Matthew's Uniting Church weekly Newsletter is available to view at the end of each week for the upcoming Sunday on the St. Matthew's website

www.stmatthewsuniting.net.au

Click on the metal dove image / publications or find in recent posts.