

ANZAC Day, 25 April 2020

To all members of the St James Traditional Services

**A Weekly Word of Encouragement: Be still and know that I am God**

The traditional psalm for ANZAC Day is Psalm 46 - read it reflectively.

Nothing is permanent and lasting in this world.

On the global scene, earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes devastate our solid world. History shows us that in wars and acts of terrorism countless lives are lost, buildings collapse, cities crumble and whole civilisations can disappear. In our own lives, the personal issues of health, relational disappointments and grief are all reminders that life is fragile. Nothing is truly solid, trustworthy and lasting... except God. He remains when all else fails.

God is that refuge, that stronghold, that fortress we all need. No matter how bleak the prospects seem, no matter how overwhelming the opposition, His purposes will never be thwarted; He must triumph, and we will triumph with Him – our eternal home cannot be destroyed.

See God as He truly is: do not fear, know His presence – be still and adore.

**Prayer:**

Lord, we feel so vulnerable – to disease and injury, to financial insecurity, job loss, and social isolation. But you tell me that nothing can take away my inheritance in your infinite love and my eternal future. Help me to be still in your presence, to know your absolute power and infinite love for me, and to dispel my anxiety and fretting. Amen.

**Remember:**

- keep praying daily
- keep reading God's Word
- keep in touch with one another, and know that I am only a phone call away: 0438 455 493.

With Christian love,

Robert

# APRIL - Week 4

---

## ANZAC DAY

O God, our ruler and our guide, in whose hands are the destinies of this and every nation, we give you thanks for the freedoms we enjoy in this land and for those who laid down their lives to defend them: We pray that we and all the people of Australia, gratefully remembering their courage and their sacrifice, may have grace to live in a spirit of justice, of generosity and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever. Amen.

## COLLECT (EASTER 2)

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us both a sacrifice for sin and also an example of godly life; give us grace that we may always thankfully receive the immeasurable benefit of his sacrifice, and also daily endeavour to follow in the blessed steps of his most holy life; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for evermore. Amen.

## THANKSGIVING

Heavenly Father, when we can't meet together with our friends, family and fellow Christians, we feel the loss – the loss of the little interactions that mean so much, as well as the public expressions of faith and love for you, which give us a glimpse into an eternal gathering around your throne. Yet, good Lord, we are truly grateful for the online resources we have been able to enjoy, and in many ways, the increased fellowship across congregations and denominations. Help us to find imaginative ways to encourage each other, and to continue to use the abilities, time and resources you have given us to that end. Give us teachable hearts today that are sensitive to each other's needs and the Spirit's prompting. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## PROTECTION FOR WORKERS

Father, we pray for those who are delivering medical care and other support across the world – medical workers and researchers, teachers and students, politicians and other civil servants, transport workers, farmers and retailers, pastors and counsellors, and emergency personnel. We pray for their health and protection, for renewed energy in times of flatness, for focussed and whole minds when strategies or outcomes are elusive, and fresh ideas to meet people's needs, particularly where economies and health systems are unstable.

We specifically pray for success in finding a viable vaccine to prevent further COVID-19 outbreaks, as well as effective treatments for those who are infected. We look to you, whose nature is always to have mercy, for worldwide release from the pandemic - for your glory and renown. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Ruth & Des Bright, Harry Bullock, Sally Anne Deck, Kath Holloman, Ursula Ibaraki, Rosemary Gordon-Smith, Dawn Hope, Rob & Janine Jones, Shirley Mills, Ross Moody, Jan Roach, Liz Rupp, Ruth Sutton, Eve Syme, Chris Wood and Bob Young appreciate your ongoing prayers for comfort, healing & protection.

Our members will be saddened to learn that Rae Pegus passed away this week. Please pray for her sister Lindsey at this time.