



The Second Sunday of Easter of the liturgical calendar focusses on the resurrection of Jesus and the related teachings

“I smell bread” A lesson from the Last Supper

I own every single episode of Mash of video-tape and have seen each one of them. For those who don't understand what I'm talking about, the 70's sitcom is about a group of doctors and nurses trying to make sense of their assignment to a medical unit stationed near the front lines of the Korean War. The show does a great job of combining the horror with the humour of life.



In this one particular episode a doctor by the name of Major Charles Everson Winchester, a good ole Bostonite, graduate of Harvard, who often protects himself from the horror and suffering that is constantly around him, by listening to classical music and trying to enjoy some of the luxuries sent to him from Boston.

Well anyway in this particular episode none of that works. Charles flips out trying to figure out all the senselessness around him. In utter desperation Charles leaves the base hospital and goes directly to the front lines to try and find his answers to all the pain, all the destruction, all the stupid tragedy and suffering around him. While at the front he finds a young soldier crying out in a pain that would send shivers down your spine. The soldier cries out, "I can't see anything. Hold my hand. Please somebody hold my hand." Charles grabs his hand. The soldier says, "I'm dying!" The Major groping for answers demands, "What do you see? Can you feel anything? Can you see anything? I have to know. I have to know! What do you see? But the dying soldier answers none of these questions. Instead, all he manages to get out of his mouth before he dies is "I smell bread. I smell bread!"

Isn't that odd? What Major Charles Emerson Winchester wants...what he craves...are answers to all the pain, all the destruction, all the tragedy and suffering around him. And what he gets instead of answers, is a fragrance, a symbol, an image, an experience. "I smell bread!" That is it, "I smell bread!"

But haven't you felt like Charles before? Longing for answers? Overwhelmed by all the pain and suffering that surrounds you? So many struggles! So many questions! We need an experience! **We need to smell bread!** *We need a real experience of the living and risen Christ through the Lord's Supper.*

We experience Jesus through the Last Supper!



The question that arises is how in the world can Jesus physically be present with us here and now? An illustration comes to us from science. Albert Einstein in his theory of relativity points out that time is relative to motion. Got that? The faster we travel, the more time is compressed. Stay with me now!

If you were put into a rocket and sent to outer space, traveling at a speed of 170,000 miles per second and you stayed in space traveling at that speed for 10 years. When you got back, you would be 10 years older, however, everyone else would be 20 years older (:<).

According to Einstein if you could travel at 180,000 miles a second, our 20 years on earth would be compressed into one day in space. Now if you could get traveling at 186,000 miles per second, the speed of light. Now you can't do that because as you approach the speed of light your physical mass increases so fast that your body would simply explode (***are you still with me?***). At the speed of light you would cease to exist.

Now I don't tell you this story to prove the existence of God. I tell this story to point out there are a lot of things that we don't understand. I take you through all of this because Jesus is not only a man who died in history, but Jesus is God incarnate. And what if God experiences time as though it is at the speed of light. Maybe that's why Jesus could say, "Before Abraham was, I am." He wasn't using poor grammar, he was telling the truth.

What we need in the midst of our struggle and in the midst of our unanswered questions, what we need is the smell, the feel, the taste of bread. Because this is the Bread of Life, and when we share it we relive what we know to be true.....

Jesus grieved your pain and now, now through the power of resurrecting love, he lives, to walk with you, to listen to you, to enlighten you, and to reveal himself to you.....in the breaking of bread.

What we need is an Experience, an Experience of the Risen Christ! Well I've got some good news. **I smell bread!** Amen.



David Trexler

Pastor/Minister
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
Highland, Indiana

Read the full text at ...



Some of the 20 members of our congregation who celebrated Maundy Thursday (*and the smell of bread*) in the former Mentone Uniting Church. It was the perfect setting for this serious and yet joyful occasion. Our thanks to Greg, Judy and David (and others) for setting up and removing chairs, tables and audio visual equipment.



ORMOND LEARNING HUB PRESENTS

Service as Mission

*Living our theology
through community*

When Jesus calls us to love God and love our neighbour, he makes Diakonia (service) a relational bridge into God's mission. By caring for the marginalised, we embody Christ's ministry in the world. Community service is an integral part of the Uniting Church's history, mission, and vocation.



"Christ washes the disciple's feet" (2010), photographed by Rev Dr Ji Zhang at Beijing Theological Seminary, China

How much does Diakonia (service) shape how we understand ourselves as the Church?

Over six weeks, with speakers including Professor Johannes Eurich and Dr Tanja Schmidt - world-leading experts on building connections between church and community service - we will explore what it means to step outside the church building and see God's mission in the world.

- What is the theology of service that underpins the church's mission?
- How might we bear witness to Christ in the world through our actions?

Venue	Ormond Uniting Church, 264 Booran Rd, Ormond
Dates	Wednesdays, 1 July – 5 August 2026 (6 weeks)
Time	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Refreshments	Soup and bread, hot and cold beverages provided
Cost	\$75
Enquiries/Enrolments	0411 958 127 office@ormond.unitingchurch.org.au

Facilitators

- **Prof. Johannes Eurich**, Director of the Institute for the Study of Diaconia, the University of Heidelberg
- **Dr. Tanja Schmidt**, the Senior Pastor of the Protestant Parish of Leutershausen
- **Jessica Hateley-Browne**, Director of Mission, Uniting Victoria and Tasmania
- **Rev. Dr. Ji Zhang**, Minister, Ormond Uniting Church
- **Brad Denniston**, Ormond Learning Hub Facilitator and Lay Preacher



Bible Readings April 2026 *(the readings used in our service may differ slightly)*

April 3rd	Good Friday	Isiah 52:13 – 53:12	Psalm 22	Hebrews 10:16-25 or 4:14-16; 5:7-9	John 18:1-19:42
April 5th	Easter Day	Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43	John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28:1-10
April 12th	Easter 2	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Psalm 16	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
April 19th	Easter 3	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35
April 26th	Easter 4	Acts 2:42-47	Psalm 23	1 Peter 2:19-25	John 10:1-10

We pray for all in need especially -

*Prayers
of the
People*



Jo-ann on the loss of brother Ian
Tina, friend of Joan Wood
Nan on the loss of her brother
Phillip (Barbara's nephew)
Barry
Les
Adrian
Maria
Anne-Maree, Andrew and their
daughter, Rachel
Emily
Karen

Helen Cole
Gloria, Samson & Family
Jenny and Janine Bartholomeusz
Anita and Kingsley
Joyce Curnow
Stuart - addiction struggles
Helen & Earle Hosking
Grace & Van Rensberg
Joan's friends Robyn & Jemma
Kath Tondorf
Susan Hoskin

Mark
Mary
Margaret Walker
Joyce Carpenter
Andrew
Bronwyn
Teresa
Sybil Bond
June and Grace Fairbank

We give thanks for those whose prayers have been answered..

"Dine Out Group"

Our next dine out will be on Tuesday 21 April at 6:30pm at Just Italy in Mentone.
Please let Joan Lum know if you are interested in attending. (0437 397 066)

ALL WELCOME



WEEKLY OFFERINGS: Thanks to everyone who have continued to make their weekly offering.

Direct Debit: Cheltenham / Mentone members note that direct payments can now be made to our Westpac account at Southland, **BSB number is 033 358, Account Number is 664 881** Payee "UCA Cheltenham Mentone Parish"
Although we are now the Charman Uniting Church, we expect banking arrangements to remain the same as before, for the rest of the year.

SOCIAL COLLECTION DEPARTMENT:

BayCISS - collection of goods by Graeme & Joan Wood has recommenced. Leave goods with them at 66 Bernard St. Cheltenham, or call them on 9555 0462

Emerge - Financial help is the best way to help - Cheques to - GPO Box 420 Melbourne VIC 3001 or donate via the website www.emergesupport.org.au
Emerge welcomes vouchers for supermarkets or art materials which children could use at home - materials, pencils, colouring books etc. Margaret Bode is happy to collect items if you leave them at her home, 16 Monaco Street Parkdale. **Donations in an envelope marked EMERGE may be left in the collection plate.**



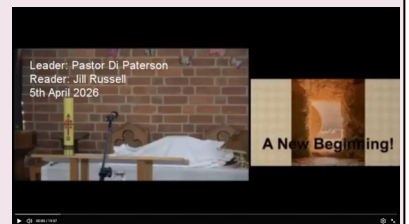
OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL:



Click on the YouTube logo to view a selection of **over 200** sermons and service preludes

*This week's video –
"A New Beginning" Pastor Di Paterson 5th April 2026*

Click on image or [HERE](#) to view



Church on the Internet - Sunday 10am (virtual doors open 9:45 am)



If you don't have Zoom on your computer/laptop/iPad/Smartphone, click on <https://zoom.us/support/download>
Then click on this link below or the "Sunday Church" image to join our Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82004410836?pwd=cU9RWlhVMm8wOUw0TStLV1EvNFdYdz09>

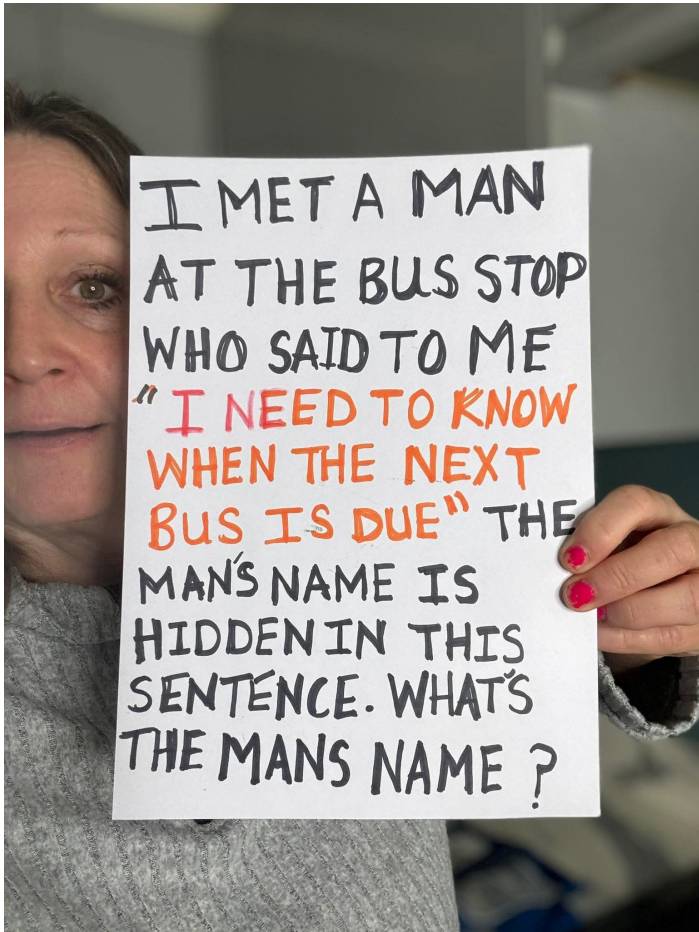
Meeting ID: 820 0441 0836 Passcode: 665 784

You can also join us on your phone by dialling **03 7018 2005** and entering the above meeting details.

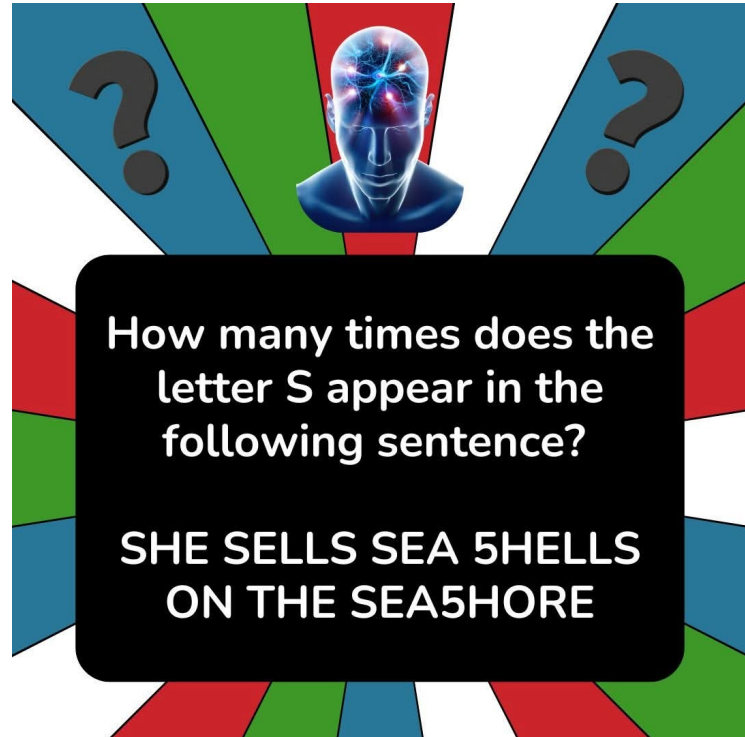


Life is a puzzlement (to quote 'The King and I')

A

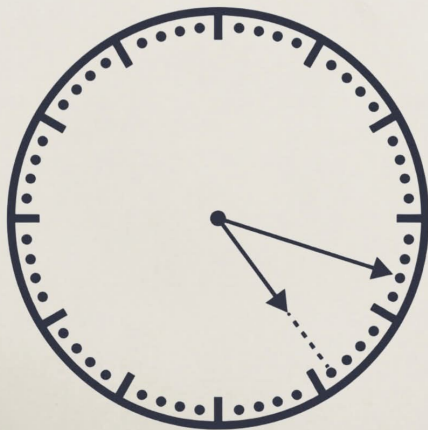


B



C

A clock with no numbers fell to the ground, what time is it?



ANSWERS:

A 'hidden in this sentence'

B 6 - don't mistake '5' for 'S'

C 10:48 the clock is upside down

