

**Saturday Morning Coffee:** 16 Mar - please mention to Sue Curlis

**AI x Christianity: Gospel Wisdom for an AI World - [an ISCAST seminar](#)**  
7pm to 9.15p.m., Sat 16 Mar, The Scots' Church, Melbourne. An introduction to Artificial Intelligence and its implications for Christians.



**MELBOURNE  
INTERNATIONAL  
FLOWER AND  
GARDEN SHOW**

**Flower and Garden show:** Fri 22 Mar - [any interest to visit together?](#)

**Lent** Lent Bible Studies - 7pm, every Thursday to 21 Mar, at church;  
['Remembering the Poor'](#), a study  
Passover Seder - 7pm, Thurs 28 Mar  
Good Friday - **9am**, Fri 29 Mar - **note early service time**  
Stations of Cross - 10am, Fri 29 Mar - Stiggant Reserve

**Stations of the Cross Readings** Three volunteers sought, each to read a passage and prepared prayer - please mention to Bill Valentine

**Stations of the Cross Choir** Warrandyte Community Church will organise a choir for this Good Friday event, to sing a bracket of songs. One rehearsal will take place: 12noon 24<sup>th</sup> Mar (Palm Sunday) at WCC.

#### **Resources for ministry**

Giving can be made directly to our Bendigo Bank Warrandyte account  
BSB: 633-000 Acct Number: 140334277.

#### **Church Contact Details**

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*A welcoming Christ-centred community  
seeking and working together  
through the power of the Holy Spirit  
to worship God, share His good news  
and grow as disciples of Jesus*

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**Lent 4 - Laetere Sunday - 'Mothering' Sunday**  
**( International Day of Women - 8<sup>th</sup> March )**

At a school celebration of International Women's Day, the keynote speaker spoke affirmingly of the collaboration and encouragement she received from people of goodwill, both men and women. She reflected that she had seen progress in women's participation in leadership in society, but that there remain large gaps in equality and opportunity between men and women.

From the stories about Jesus in the Bible, I note how he transcends many cultural obstacles: In his interactions with women, Jesus did not patronise. It is significant that the first ministers of Jesus' resurrection were women. At the end of the Bible, where the Apostle John envisioned a restored creation, we are shown an image of the whole people of God joined together as the 'New Jerusalem', a society of perfection, with no distinction in sex or gender.

Our theme of service today is; **Jesus fulfills God Covenant by bringing Salvation from Death.** Another way of saying this is: Jesus offers a promise of new life! Out of the weariness of our mortal frame, what changes and new life would you like to see in your relationships and opportunities? Could God change your situation and how would you ask for that in prayer?

## **Numbers 21:4-9**

21:4 The Israelites travelled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go round Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; 5 they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!'

6 Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. 7 The people came to Moses and said, 'We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us.' So, Moses prayed for the people.

8 The Lord said to Moses, 'Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.' 9 So, Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

## **John 3:14-21**

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.'

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

19 This is the verdict: light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.

21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

## **Ephesians 2:1-13**

2:1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

11 Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called 'uncircumcised' by those who call themselves 'the circumcision' (which is done in the body by human hands) – 12 remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. 13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.