



# UNITING MATTERS



BENDIGO CENTRAL & AXEDALE

UNITING CHURCH

Minister: Rev Di Esbensen

WEEK COMMENCING 29th MARCH 2026

<b>St Andrew's Bendigo</b> 26 Myers Street Bendigo, 3550	<b>Forest Street</b> 21 Forest Street Bendigo, 3550	<b>St Andrew's Axedale</b> 80 High Street Axedale, 3551
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*We recognize that we meet on Jaara land, the traditional home of the Dja Dja Wurrung People. With respect we acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of the Region & pray for reconciliation & justice.*

Welcome to the Sunday service for the Bendigo Central & Axedale Uniting Church. We extend you a very warm welcome and invite you to join us for morning tea following the service.

**Today's Service:** 9.30am Palm / Passion Sunday Service at St Andrew's led by Rev Di Esbensen

## THIS WEEKS UPCOMING EVENTS...

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9am Uniting Threads at St Andrew's – Small Hall
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10am – 1pm Cuppa with Company at Forest St 7pm Maundy Thursday Service at Forest St
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9am Good Friday Service at St Andrew's
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am Easter Sunday service at Forest St led by Rev Di Esbensen 2.30pm Easter Sunday service at Axedale led by Rev Di Esbensen



- **Lectionary readings this week March 29th (Palm / Passion):** Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 118: 1-2, 19-29 Psalm 31: 9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 21: 1-11, 26: 14-27: 66 or 27: 11-54

- **Lectionary readings Maundy Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April:** Exodus 12: 1-4, (5-10), 11-14; Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26; John 13: 1-17, 31b-35
- **Lectionary readings Good Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April:** Isaiah 52: 13 – 53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10: 16-25 or 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9; John 18: 1-19:42
- **Lectionary readings Easter Day 5<sup>th</sup> April:** 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

## PALM SUNDAY MARCH 29<sup>th</sup> DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

**Church Openers and Welcomers:** Janice West, Dean Shirley

**Vestry:** Glenys Shirley

**Readings and Prayers:** Peter Judd, Dean Shirley

**Morning Tea:** Colleen and Geoff Barker (please bring milk)

## MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 2<sup>nd</sup> DUTY ROSTER – Forest St

**Church Openers and Welcomers:** Glenis Pitson, Carol McKinstry

**Vestry:** Gwenda Watson

**Readings and Prayers:** David Shield, Claire Lidgett

## GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup> DUTY ROSTER – St Andrew's

**Church Openers and Welcomers:** Doug Turnbull, Lorraine Castles

**Vestry:** Glenys Shirley

**Readings and Prayers:** Isabel Thomas Dobson, Stan Clarke

## EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 5<sup>th</sup> DUTY ROSTER – Forest St

**Communion:** Carol McKinstry\*, Gwenda Watson, Jeannie Turnbull, Di Farrar, Glenys Shirley

**Church Openers and Welcomers:** Janice West, Ken Crouch

**Vestry:** Carol McKinstry

**Readings and Prayers:** Susan Clarke, Dean Shirley

**Morning Tea:** Jenny Bursill (please bring milk), Doug and Jeannie Turnbull

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> April:</b>	7pm at Forest St
<b>GOOD FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> April:</b>	9am at St Andrew's Bendigo
<b>EASTER SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	9.30am at Forest St
<b>EASTER SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> April:</b>	2.30pm at St Andrew's Axedale

## IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY...

- **NANCY'S NEW HOME.** Nancy Bomford has now moved into the Chalkley unit at "Bethlehem". If you wish to visit her at any time, please ring the direct staff number, 54508264, as there is a code number to get in. Please ask Judy Causon if you want further information.

## NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY...

- **TV WANTED** - about 32" (82cm), preferably thin screen, for use as a monitor in the children's corner at Forest Street. Let Bob Causon know if you can help.

- **ANNUAL REPORT 2025**

It is the time to compile the Annual Report for 2025. Can all reports please be submitted in Word format to [bendigocentralaxedale.uc@gmail.com](mailto:bendigocentralaxedale.uc@gmail.com) no later than Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you

- **CHANGED OFFICE HOURS**

The office hours will be slightly different in the week after Easter. The office will be closed on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April and open Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> and Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April (9am – 3pm).

- **BENDIGO SUSTAINABILITY FESTIVAL** this Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March at the Garden of the Future, White Hills from 10am - 4pm (but come to church first). All sorts of stalls and information about sustainability, food and entertainment. More information at [bsg.org.au](http://bsg.org.au)

- **JOURNEY TO THE CROSS**

Weeroona Uniting Church Bendigo is holding their annual Holy Week meditation space at our Kennington Campus (21-23 Condon Street, Kennington).

Journey to the Cross - A guided meditation following the events of Jesus' entry to Jerusalem to his resurrection. Comes yourself or as part of a group. Curated for all ages.

All are welcome to attend during the open hours

Monday 30th March 5:00pm-7:00pm

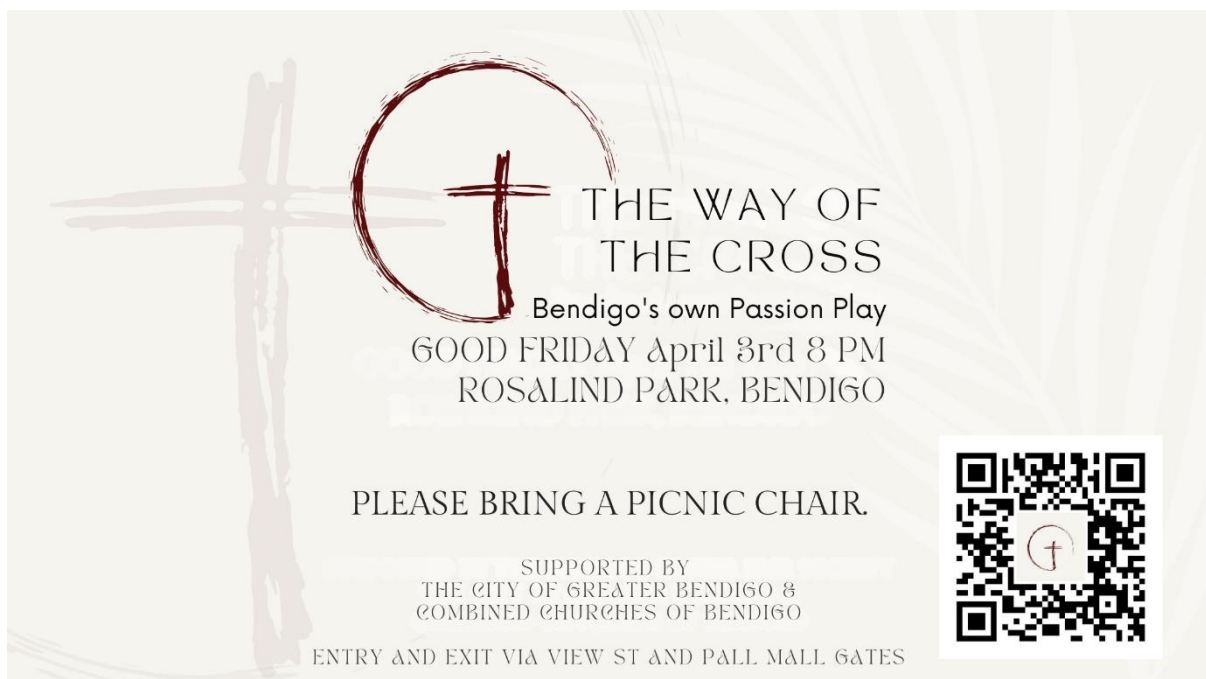
Tuesday 31st March 4:00pm-7:00pm

Wednesday 1st April 4:00pm-7:00pm

Thursday 2nd April 3:00pm-6:00pm.

The space will feature images from Ethiopian artist Nebiyu Assefa telling the story of Jesus' passion in a distinctive and moving way. Curated into prayer stations inviting everyone to reimagine Jesus' journey to the cross and beyond.

- **THE WAY OF THE CROSS**



THE WAY OF  
THE CROSS

Bendigo's own Passion Play  
GOOD FRIDAY April 3rd 8 PM  
ROSALIND PARK, BENDIGO

PLEASE BRING A PICNIC CHAIR.

SUPPORTED BY  
THE CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO &  
COMBINED CHURCHES OF BENDIGO

ENTRY AND EXIT VIA VIEW ST AND PALL MALL GATES

- **CHURCH PICNIC**

Church Picnic 12<sup>th</sup> April at the Axedale Park on High Street, from 12 pm. BYO food and drinks, BBQ available and there is a café nearby. Bring a chair if possible. There will be games for the children, and play equipment is onsite. Come along and enjoy a fun day in Axedale! For enquiries contact Jenny Bursill or Glenis Dyason

**St Andrew's** office is normally open Mondays: 8:45am-11:45am, Tuesday and Thursday: 9:00am - 3:00pm. Please contact Belinda Smith on 5441 3100 or email [bendigocentralaxedale.uc@gmail.com](mailto:bendigocentralaxedale.uc@gmail.com)

**Forest Street** office is normally open Thursdays from 11am. Please contact Judy McCarthy at [foreststuca@bigpond.com](mailto:foreststuca@bigpond.com) on 5442 4123 or phone her on 5435 2099 on Wednesdays.

Congregation Website [bendigocentralaxedale.ucavictas.org.au](http://bendigocentralaxedale.ucavictas.org.au)