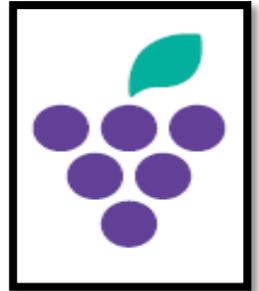


# THE VINES UNITING CHURCH

## # 20 The Grape: "Something to chew on."

*Church in your pyjamas!*

Sat 15 Aug 2020



The GRAPE: It is a solitary thing and yet even in isolation it has come from a bunch and the bunch is connected to the Vine.

### ANCHOR SERIES #11 – Rom 5:5



# **“HOPE: POURED INTO OUR HEARTS”**

From my perspective ACTION / REFLECTION is at the heart of discovering the meaning of Romans 5:1-5. Our experiences are the source from which HOPE, LOVE and LIFE emerge; they shape our character, as Paul indicates. Below is a poem I wrote about the way in which God’s love and hope has become a part of my life story.

## ***Radiant Hope***

*The choice:*

*Despair or hope*

*Grace: breathed on spluttering embers,*

*Igniting and fanning wisps of hope, flickering*

*Amidst the darkness.*

*My choice to live:*

*Fanning the flame,*

*Protecting, fuelling and empowering.*

*Grief and acceptance, changing: a metamorphosis,*

*Emerging new worlds.*

*Embracing life:*

*Spanning desolate places,*

*Built on Tattoo Truths no longer hidden,*

*Self – other, unearthing resurrected power*

*Life lovingly rediscovered daily.*

***Living free,***

***Voiding lingering Good Friday doubts***

***Immersed in radiant Sunday hope!***

***Synchronised inner harmony: loving self daily,***

***Rampant new life shared.***

David Prior August 2012.

Q. What phrases or words do you connect with?

Q. How am I describing God at work in my life?

Q. What does the poem say about our “human freedoms to choose?”

Q. Are there words / images you would add that reflect your journey?

## 16 AUG 20 INTERIM WORSHIP:

### **We're back .. wk 2!**

*Again, it will be different,  
but we're thankful for the chance to reconnect:*

**TIME:** 0930 Service Sunday morning (45 mins ish)  
Max attendance 51 people (includes Worship team)  
Instrumental music only to meet Gov. / UC Synod policy.  
(No singing from Band or congregation to mitigate droplets.)

**Service - Recorded and LIVE STREAMED onto Vines Web page.**

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=the+vines+uniting+church](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+vines+uniting+church)



**CHAIRS:** are set to the correct GOV approved spacing.

**PEWS:** can be used by couples who choose to sit together, unless chairs are preferred.

**TABLES:** for families with children, so they can do activities under parental supervision.

### **BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS:**

Tickets for the upcoming service can be booked through **Humanitix** from 3pm on Sunday, until 11 am on Friday.

Please use this hyperlink to book your online tickets:

<https://events.humanitix.com/the-vines-uniting-church-sunday-service>

There's no need to print out your tickets, just book them and the Church will receive the records ready for Sunday.

If you **NEED HELP** with booking, please contact Colleen or Judy.

**Please:**

***"Do not attend the Sunday Service if you are at all unwell."***

Should you need **TO CANCEL** your tickets, please let Colleen or Judy know by **4 pm on Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> August**, (unless there are unexpected circumstances), to enable them to rebook the tickets.

I turned to my little book, “Joy for the Journey”, this morning and my eyes fell on the heading, “Resting in God’s Perfect Peace”, and I share the description of a painting in the American Art Institute, hoping that it might be helpful at this time.

“The artist had captured a raging storm so vividly that, looking at it, you could almost hear the thunder. In the centre of the picture was an open field, and there, nearly lost in the darkness of the clouds, the artist had painted a tree bowing to the strong winds. And in that tree was a nest where a mother bird hovered over her young. The one word caption was simply: “Peace”.

That is the peace which “*passes all understanding*”. It is a peace in the midst of the storm, peace that comes with the knowledge that we are not alone!

(Verdell Davis: Riches Stand in Secret Places”)

Marj Dredge .



**Join us for online tea and coffee after church again this Sunday**

At **11.00 am** tomorrow, **Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> August**, we will again catch up for VIRTUAL coffee and tea after Church. Visitors welcome!

ZOOM Children’s Sunday Morning Chat **10.45 am** with Rev David and co.

**Please refer to this week’s Grapevine for more information**

**CHECK <https://thevinesunitingchurch.com>**

**Remember OUR key MESSAGE:**

*“Phone a Friend and Choose life”*

‘Cos you can’t catch the virus over the phone...

**But you can pass on God’s love!**

