

Order of Service

Song: Sovereign Grace o'er sin abounding

Prayer

Song: Speak, O, Lord

Bible Reading: Deut. 30:1-10 & Romans 2:17-29

Kids Talk

Sermon

Song: Holy Spirit, Living breath of God

- *"Go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret." Prayer begins in private, and may God give us His heart of prayer.*
- *"Pray for the safety and witness of the many, many faithful Christian families and churches suffering in the midst of the current conflict. Most southern Lebanese Christians have been forced to flee..."*
- *"I was on the street last week... It was Eid al-Fitr, a communal celebration which ends the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan. I was surrounded by Muslim families dressed in fine clothes and carrying parcels of food... While I enjoy seeing families celebrate together, it saddens me to think about the hollowness... and realise [many] will fail to attend the greater celebration to come, the wedding supper of the Lamb ... if they do not hear, and respond, to the Good News of Jesus. As I reflect on this reality, it drives me to prayer for my Muslim friends..."*

For Christ is the first and the last;
His Spirit will guide us safe home:
we'll praise Him for all that is past
and trust Him for all that's to come.

- Joseph Hart (1712-1768)

Walcha
Presbyterian
Church

to show God's love by word and deed

to encourage others to follow Him

*How good is the God we adore!
Our faithful, unchangeable friend:
His love is as great as His power
and knows neither measure nor end.*



Sunday 29 March 2026

Welcome and please join us for a cuppa after the service

Elders/Pastors: Graham Barnes (02) 6777 2539; Doug Wild 0407 891 874;

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Notices

Membership- Membership is for professing Christians who are baptised. It is committing to a local church and requires a credible declaration of faith in Christ Jesus.

Baptism- After the Lord Jesus rose from the dead he commanded baptism (Matt. 28:19; also Acts 10:48).

Talk to Graham, Doug or Gordon

Op shop – if anyone is able to help at the Op shop one day per month or more, then it would be greatly appreciated.

Good Friday – Friday, 3rd April, 9:30am, come worship God and praise Him for giving His Son.

God's Word:

Mar 29 – Romans 2:28-29 (matters of the heart)

Apr 3- Good Friday

Apr 5 – Easter Sunday. He is risen!

Apr 12 – Romans 3:1-8 (The blessings of knowing of God)

| | 29 Mar | 5 Apr | 12 Apr |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|----------|
| Kids' Talk | Stuart | Doug | Fiona |
| Door | Cameron | | Eamon |
| Morning Tea | Chris G + Sam | Helen + Beulah | Stantons |

Romans 2:28-29

... of the heart, by the Spirit

- Romans 2 establishes the grounds of God's court: measured against the standard of His Son, Jesus, we fall short... none of it is enough to lift us out of being in old Adam.

- What made a Jew, a Jew? Law (v.17-24), and circumcision (v.25-29) as an outward sign of God's promises to Abraham (Gen. 17).

Two denials (v.28)

*"A man is not a Jew if he is only one outwardly."
"Nor is circumcision merely outward and physical."*

Two affirmations (v.29)

*"No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly."
"and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter."*

Outward signs and inner reality

- The outward signs of salvation were good, but they were always intended to point to the inner reality. The outward sign itself cannot produce the inner life that is needed.
- Paul is speaking to Jewish people, yet it applies more widely. We have two signs and seals of God's promises: Baptism (see Col. 2:11-12 where it is linked to circumcision) and the Lord's Supper.

"What does He care for our little tricks and trinkets?"

How does this inner life come? By the Spirit

- John 14:16-17, *"I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth... he lives with you and will be in you."*

Praise from God

- If the Holy Spirit has made us new, then our praise comes from God, and not from anyone – or anything – else.

*Think what Spirit dwells within you,
what a Father's smile is yours,
what your Saviour did to win you;
child of heaven, should you despair?*