



# BANORA POINTER

Sunday 15 October 2023



## A message from Rev. Aaron Moad



Good morning,

In today's reading from the Gospel According to Matthew 22:1-14, Jesus tells the religious leaders he was talking to last week another a parable known as the "Parable of the Wedding Feast." This is a challenging story which tells us a profound message about God's invitation to his kingdom, how we should respond to that invitation, and the importance of being properly dressed for the occasion.

In the parable, a king prepared a lavish wedding feast for his son. He sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding, but they refused to come. Undeterred, the king sent more servants with a message to come to the wedding, emphasising the richness of the feast. However, like the wicked tenants from last week's reading they ignored the invitation and mistreated and killed the messengers.

Faced with this resistance, the king decided to invite anyone and everyone from the streets, both good and bad, to ensure that his banquet hall was filled. When he entered the hall to meet the guests, he noticed a man not wearing the correct wedding attire. He asked the man how he had come in without proper attire, and the man was speechless. As a result, he was bound and cast out into the outer darkness.

The parable ends with Jesus' statement, "For many are called, but few are chosen".

### What lessons can we learn from the reading?

**God's generous invitation:** The king's initial invitation to the wedding feast symbolises God's calling to us. He invites us into a relationship with him, offering blessings, grace, and eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. This invitation is extended to all, regardless of their background or past.

**Responsiveness to God's Call:** The parable highlights various responses to God's invitation. Some outright reject it, preoccupied with worldly concerns or through complete indifference. Others may even oppose God's message. However, there are those who eagerly accept the invitation and experience the richness of God's love and grace in their lives.

**Proper Attire reveals a heart of repentance:** The guest without the wedding garment reminds us that, while all are welcome, we must accept the call and come with hearts of repentance and faith. The wedding garment symbolises the righteousness and purity that come from a relationship with God through Christ. Our outward actions should reflect the transformation that occurs within our hearts.

**The Chosen Few:** The parable concludes with the statement, "For many are called, but few are chosen." While God invites all, not all accept the invitation. The 'chosen' are those who respond to the call, put on the wedding garment of faith, and live in accordance with God's will.

### How are we to respond to God's invitation?

**Accept the Invitation:** God invites each of us into a relationship with Him. His invitation is an expression of His love and desire for us to be part of His kingdom. He won't force us to come into his presence we have a choice, we can choose to reject His invitation like the people the king invited early in the story. The Parable of the Wedding Feast is a reminder of God's invitation to a life of abundance, joy, and grace in His kingdom.

Will you accept His call?

Grace and peace

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### Acknowledgement of country

Banora Point Uniting Church acknowledges the Bundjalung people, the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, we pay respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

### Today's Bible Readings

**Isaiah 61:1-11**

**Matthew 22:1-14**

## What's Happening This Week

<b>Today</b>	<b>Chaira Companions</b> 1.30pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Mainly Music</b> 9am
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Prayer Meeting</b> 8am
	<b>Book Swap, Coffee &amp; Chat</b> 9.30am
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study group</b> 8.30am
	<b>KYB (CWC)</b> 10am
	<b>Bible Study</b> 6.30pm

## Church Roster

Today                      Next Sunday

Sunday School	Jane	Joyce
Duty Elders	Audrey & Elizabeth	Neil & Robyn
Organist	Jill	Audrey
Greeters	Joyce & Walter	Lorraine S & Daphne
Bible Readers	Walter & Audrey	Lynn W & Yesha
Morning Tea	Steph & Shirley T	Pat & Steph
Hall Set Up	Craft Club	Ross
Cleaning	Craft Club	Aaron & Jane

If you are unable to do your roster, **please organise a swap AND let Janice know ASAP.**

## There Is Support Available

If you or someone you know is in need of help or support please let us know and how we can help by calling either;

- Rev. Aaron: 0411 325 527
- Your Pastoral Carer

## Other upcoming events for your diary

<b>Mainly Music</b>	24 October 9.30am
<b>Book Swap, Coffee &amp; Chat</b>	25 October 9.30am
<b>Craft Club</b>	27 October 9am
<b>Men's Breakfast</b>	28 October 8am
<b>Pastoral Care Meeting</b>	3 November 10am
<b>Fellowship Lunch</b>	8 November 11.45am
<b>Elders/Council Meeting</b>	14 November 7pm
<b>Church Fete</b>	18 November 8am
<b>Chaira Companions</b>	19 November 1.30pm
<b>Messy Church</b>	December 4pm TBC



mainly music

## Mainly Music

This wonderful outreach starts back for its last term of this year on Tuesday. You are all most welcome to come along and see it in action!!

## Sunday School

Our Sunday School is starting today!! It will take place during our normal worship service, and will be held in the hall. If you know of any kids who could benefit from our Sunday School, please do spread the message!

## Men's Breakfast

Meeting for breakfast at 8am on Saturday 28 October at the Twisted Fig Café (near Bunnings in Tweed Heads South), then on to our church hall for Carpet Bowls.

**All men are welcome.**

## Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child

Please note that this project is nearing its conclusion and **Boxes must be returned no later than Sunday 22 October.** As mentioned before \$12.50 donations per shoebox are essential to cover shipping and project costs—please see the Shoebox project leaflet for more details.

## Offerings

As the Body of Christ here at Banora Point, there are many ways we can contribute to Christ's ongoing mission. Volunteering in local community groups is one way we can be the presence of Christ sharing the Gospel in action in our community.

Another important way we can contribute to the mission of Christ at Banora Point Uniting Church is financially. The offering enables the Uniting Church to have a continued presence in Banora Point, it allows us to run our current outreach programs and will help us meet the changing needs of our local community in the future. Our offerings are received physically during the Worship Service every week or if you prefer you can choose to give electronically, directly into our account. You can do this by direct debit or at your local Commonwealth Bank branch. Please contact Neil Rackham if you need any assistance.

Banora Point Uniting Church Bank details are:

Account Name: The Uniting Church in Australia Banora Point Church (Note: Your Bank website may limit the number of characters you can put into the account name box so "The Uniting Church in Aust" is OK)

**BSB No:** 062 611 **Account No:** 10120762