



BANORA POINTER

Easter Sunday 12 April 2026

A message from
Rev. Aaron Moad



From Locked Doors to Open Lives *John 20:19–31; Acts 2:22–32*

When fear closes in

There are moments when fear quietly takes hold of our lives. The future feels uncertain, hope feels fragile, and even faith can seem unsteady. We carry on outwardly, showing up and doing what is needed, but inwardly something tightens. We begin to withdraw, to protect ourselves, to close doors.

This is where we find the disciples in John 20. After the crucifixion, everything they believed about Jesus seems shattered. Though they have heard the tomb is empty, they are not celebrating, they're hiding. The doors are locked, and fear fills the room.

Fear has a way of shrinking our world. It narrows our vision and convinces us that safety is found in staying guarded. When life doesn't go the way we hoped, when prayers seem unanswered, or when uncertainty lingers, we can find ourselves retreating. Like Thomas, we may wrestle with doubt, not out of stubbornness, but from trying to make sense of disappointment.

Peace that meets us where we are

The remarkable truth of this passage is that Jesus does not wait for fear to disappear before He comes near. The doors are still locked, the disciples are still uncertain, and yet Jesus stands among them and speaks: "Peace be with you."

This peace is not a simple greeting; it is a gift. It is the steadying presence of Christ in the midst of fear. Jesus doesn't scold or rebuke them; He meets them with grace. He shows them His wounds, reminding them that the cross has not been erased but transformed. What once seemed like defeat has become the very source of hope.

This peace takes time to sink in. Fear doesn't vanish instantly, but Jesus patiently speaks it again: "Peace be with you." He then breathes on them and gives them the Holy Spirit, filling them with new life.

Thomas, who struggles to believe, is not left behind. When Jesus appears again, He meets Thomas at the very point of his doubt, inviting him to see and touch. In that moment, doubt gives way to faith, and Thomas responds, "My Lord and my God!" It is a powerful reminder that Jesus meets us personally, in our questions, our fears, and our searching hearts.

From peace to witness

This encounter with the risen Christ changes everything. The same disciples who once hid behind locked doors are later seen in Acts 2 standing boldly in public. Peter, who once denied Jesus, now proclaims with confidence that Christ is risen.

What made the difference? They encountered Jesus. They received His peace. They were filled with His Spirit.

And they were sent.

Jesus says, "As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." The peace He gives is not meant to keep us comfortable; it prepares us to live differently. Faith is not something to keep hidden; it is something that moves outward into the world.

Witness does not require perfect words or complete certainty. It simply means sharing what we have come to know: who Jesus is, what He has done, and how He has met us. It is lived out in everyday conversations, acts of kindness, and quiet confidence that Christ is alive.

Living with open doors

The journey from John 20 to Acts 2 is also our journey, from fear to peace, and from peace to witness. It invites us to be honest about where fear still holds us, to receive the peace Christ offers, and to step forward in faith.

We do not need to have everything figured out. We simply need to be open; open to His presence, open to His peace, and open to where He is leading us.

Because the risen Christ still comes to us today. He enters our locked places, speaks peace into our lives, and calls us forward.

From locked doors to open lives.

From fear to faith.

From silence to witness.

And because He is risen, fear doesn't have the final word. Christ does.

Grace and peace

Rev Aaron

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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

Acts 2:14 & 2:22-32 & John 20:19-31

What's Happening This Week

Tuesday	Church Council AGM & Meeting 7pm
Wednesday	Prayer Meeting 8am Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 9.30am
Thursday	Men's Bible Study 9am
Saturday	Men's Breakfast 8am

Church Roster

	Today	Next Sunday
Duty Elder	Joyce	Robyn
Organist/Pianist	Mel	Mel
Greeters	Denise & Tambar	Robyn & Joyce
Bible Readers	Sylvia & Ellie	Lena & Yesha
Prayers for Others	Joyce	Neil
Morning Tea	Sylvia & Hazel	Steph & Pat
Hall Set Up	Nigel	Shane
Sound Room	Ross	Elizabeth
Cleaning	Lorraine & Helene	TBA

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 or Your Pastoral Carer

Other upcoming events for your diary

Chaira Companions 19 April 1.30pm
Book Swap, Coffee & Chat 22 April 9.30am
KYB (CWCI) 23 April 10am
Evening Bible Study 23 April 6.30pm
Craft Club 24 April 9am
Mainly Music 28 April 9.30am
Book Club 28 April 1.30pm
Elders' Meeting 12 May 4pm
Fellowship Lunch 13 May 12 noon
TCCEA Prayer Meeting 19 May 4pm
Pastoral Care Meeting 29 May 9.30am
Men's Breakfast 30 May 8am
Church Council Meeting 9 June 7pm

Men's Breakfast

Meeting for breakfast at 8am on Saturday 18 April at **The Ginger Root Café in Tweed City (near Priceline Pharmacy)**. All men are welcome.

Book Club

Please note that the start back date is now **28 April**, due to Aaron's leave and his commitment to attend a Conference.

Easter Holidays recess

A number of our groups are in a short recess over the Easter School Holidays. These include - Craft Club, Mainly Music, Evening Bible Study, Book Club & KYB as far as I am aware. Please check with your group and/or note the dates in the *other* upcoming events section above.



Church Instagram Account

We now have an Instagram account as well as several Facebook accounts. You can follow this through a link on our church Facebook Account or at [Instagram.com/banorapointuniting@banorapointuniting](https://www.instagram.com/banorapointuniting@banorapointuniting)

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 Shane Hambling 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