

Sunday 19 October 2025



SERMON TOPIC: Living as forgiving, forgiven people
BIBLE TEXT: Eph 4:25-32
PREACHER: Chris Pretorius
ELDER ON DUTY: Kasha Schubert
OFFERINGS:
1st Collection: The work of the Church
2nd Collection: Diaconate

Amazing Grace ~ Rosie Moore

"Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!" John Newton, once a slave trader, understood his sinful wretchedness and penned these words. During a violent storm in 1748, he cried out to God for mercy. His dramatic conversion on the high seas transformed him into a faithful gospel preacher and abolitionist.

Newton knew he didn't choose God—God's grace reached out and rescued him. He knew that apart from God's grace, he would not have even seen the horror of his sin. As Colossians 2:11 says, our hearts are spiritually circumcised not by human effort, but by God's grace.

One of my greatest blessings was growing up with parents who lived and taught us the gospel of grace from when I was born. They named our farm and our hotels "Grace," and our BnBs still bear that name today, because everything is due to grace. Grace shaped everything in our home. My parents urged me and my siblings to show grace to each other in our differences, and the sweet fruit of our bond is stronger than ever today. It was foundational to our identity—not based on performance or feelings, but on God's undeserved love for us.

Salvation is entirely by grace—God's unearned favour. Faith is a divine gift of grace, not something we generate. Like Lydia in Acts 16:14, if you're a believer, it's because the Lord opened your heart to receive the gospel. Grace isn't earned by doing religious rituals or good deeds, or through virtue signalling. It's God's free gift so no one can boast. Grace is our refuge when we feel defined by sin, weakness, or failure. In fact, God's grace is sufficient and perfected in our weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9). We can approach the throne of grace with confidence and receive grace upon grace (Hebrews 4:16; John 1:16).

But God's grace not only saves—it trains us to live holy lives and to say no to ungodliness (Titus 2:11–12). We cannot continue to live in habitual sin if we have received God's grace. "No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, because God's seed abides in him, and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God" (1 John 3:9). There is a time when we need to question someone's salvation (or perhaps our own) if there is no evidence of the fruits of conversion.

We don't have to earn God's love. We're accepted in Christ. But this radically changes our behaviour and how we relate to others: Because of God's grace, we can forgive, love, serve, and speak truth with courage—not from fear or a need for approval, but from our secure identity as saints in Christ. We can love people more, and need them less.

Living as a Chosen Saint

So how do we live as chosen saints?

Rest in God's grace rather than striving to earn it.
Reflect Christ's love, knowing our identity is secure.
Pursue holiness, living in line with our true identity.

Prayer:

Father, thank You that I am chosen, holy, blameless, and beloved in Christ. Thank you that I am saved by grace alone, through faith in Christ alone. Thank you for choosing me and calling me to yourself through the gospel. Thank you for sending someone to share the gospel with me and for giving me a soft heart to receive it.

Thank you for planting the seed that gave me new life in Christ. Help me live out this identity daily, reflecting Your love and grace to those around me. Bring those you have ordained for eternal life across my path, so that I may share the gospel with them. Remind me that my security is in Christ alone, and empower me to live a holy and bold life for Christ.

Amen.

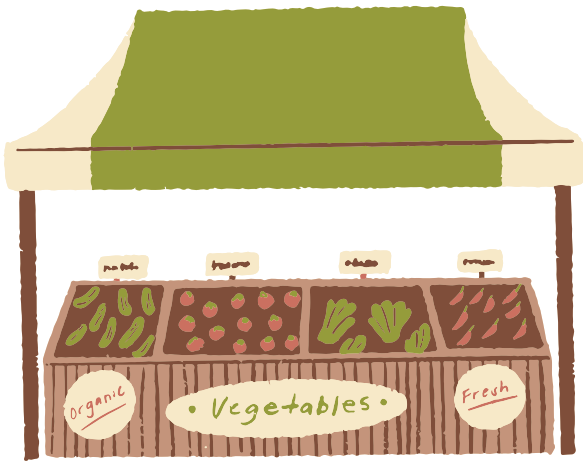


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dining room mission **HOW TO HELP**

The next Dining room mission is Tuesday 28 October .

If you would like to contribute with a cooked meal or pantry staples
please contact Joy van Veen



An Organic Fruit and Veggie co op runs from
our church hall every second Thursday. You
are welcome to stop by to purchase fresh
fruits and veggies.

Next date: 23 October
9:30 - 12:30 & 16:00 - 18:00

Church Calender **WHAT IS HAPPENING**

Sunday 19 October 10:00 The Lord's Supper
Thursday 23 October 19:30 Prayer meeting
Saturday 25 October Child Safety training
Sunday 26 October AGM after the service
Sunday 26 October 17:00 State Youth Service



Wonga Park CRC LIVE STREAMING

We are thrilled to announce that Wonga Park CRC is now officially LIVE STREAMING on YouTube!

Whether you are near or far, you can now join us online every week and be part of our worship services starting at 10 AM Sunday Mornings.

Subscribe and tune in here: <https://www.youtube.com/@wongaparkcrc>

Don't forget to subscribe to stay updated with all our latest worship services and sermons. We can't wait to connect with you online!





FAMILY FUN DAY

AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Everyone Welcome

Bring your family & friends for a fun afternoon at Oasis Camp!

- ✓ 12:00 PM Sausage Sizzle
- ✓ 1:00 PM Activities Open
- ✓ 3:30 PM Annual General Meeting
- ✓ To Finish Refreshments

 **Saturday
29 November, 2025**

 **12:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

 **66-72 Monbulk Rd
Mt Evelyn**

CONTACT US

 **03 9736 2898**

 **info@oasiscamp.org.au**



Dear Wonga Park Christian Reformed Church,

OASIS Camp would like to warmly invite your congregation to our Family Fun Day and AGM on Saturday 29 November 2025. We are very proud of the renovations and improvements done over the years, come and see them for yourself! Bring your family for a fun day of fellowship, activities, refreshments and the all-important AGM to keep OASIS Camp running for many more years. The board of OASIS would appreciate it if you could advertise our flyer in your newsletter and have some available in your church.

We look forward to a fun day with the Christian Reformed Churches Australia community.

Kind Regards,
Carla Van Der Jagt

TERM 4 **2025**

SUPERDASH

17 OCT	Q&A NIGHT 7: 30 PM @ PRETORIUS HOME
26 OCT	STATE YOUTH SERVICE 5 PM @ ONE HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH
31 OCT	NO SUPERDASH DUE TO MELBOURNE CUP HOLIDAY (4 TH OF NOV)
7 NOV	BIBLE STUDY: MARK 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC
21 NOV	BIBLE STUDY: MARK 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC
5 DEC	SOCIAL: CHURCH SLEEPOVER 7: 30 PM @ WONGA PARK CRC TIL 6 TH 12 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION SPEAK TO YOUR YOUTH LEADERS



CHRISTMAS SERVICE



~2025~



Come sing and have a bite to eat!

When: Saturday 29 November

Time: 6pm



**Where: Wonga Park Christian
Reformed Church
251 Yarra Road,
Wonga Park, Vic 3115**



Admission is free



**Koeksisters, melktertjies, biltong, dry
wors, coffee, soft drinks and other
yummies will be for sale by the
Serengeti South African Shop**



**Enquiries: Juanita van der Merwe
0479 006 123**

Immanuel God with Us



Please note: this event is not hosted by Wonga Park CRC.

As a congregation we will have a Carols Service and Sunday school presentation on
7 December.

Our Giving, an Act of Worship

In our Church we have two offerings every Sunday. The first goes toward the ministry of this congregation. The second offering goes toward various Christian causes. This week our second offering is for the Diaconate.

If you would like to support the work of you can do so by in Church giving - simply add your offering to the bag at the back of Church or by bank transfer -

BSB 063-167. A/C 1015-8356

If using bank transfer please indicate whether it is for the first offering "Sun1" or second offering "Sun 2" in the reference line. Or you can give online via our Church app

<https://wpcrc.org.au/give>

This week's **PRAYER POINTS**

It is impossible for a believer, no matter what his experience, to keep right with God if he will not take the trouble to spend time with God. Spend plenty of time with him; let other things go, but don't neglect Him.
J. Oswald Sanders

Personal **PRAYER POINTS**

As we go into the coming week let us daily pray;

That the Lord will give us the strength and will to continually clothe ourselves in the new life he has given us and not be tempted to revert back to the old.

You were taught to put away your former way of life, your old self, corrupt and deluded by its lusts, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to clothe yourselves with the new self, created according to the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. (Ephesians 4:22-23 NRSV).

Give praise and thanks to the Lord our God for the grace he extends to us through Jesus Christ renewing us so that we can live our lives for him.

Congregational **PRAYER POINTS**

Please continue to pray for Peter Williams as he recovers from his knee surgery, pray that the healing will be swift and complete.

Please continue to pray for Colin Pretorius, pray that the Lord will grant him complete healing and restoration.

Please continue to pray for Chris and Gretchen Fourie, pray that they will experience the healing hand of the Lord upon them and that he will be their comfort.

Please continue to pray for Lydia Oppermann, pray that she will have full and complete recovery from her surgery.

Please pray for Herman Linde, pray that he will recover fully from his teeth surgery.

Local & Global **PRAYER POINTS**

Please pray for our nation as every day again we see the results of turning away from the Lord.

Pray that he will have mercy on our land and bring about a mighty revival.

Pray that the peace process happening in the Middle East will result in a strong and lasting peace.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Mozambique.

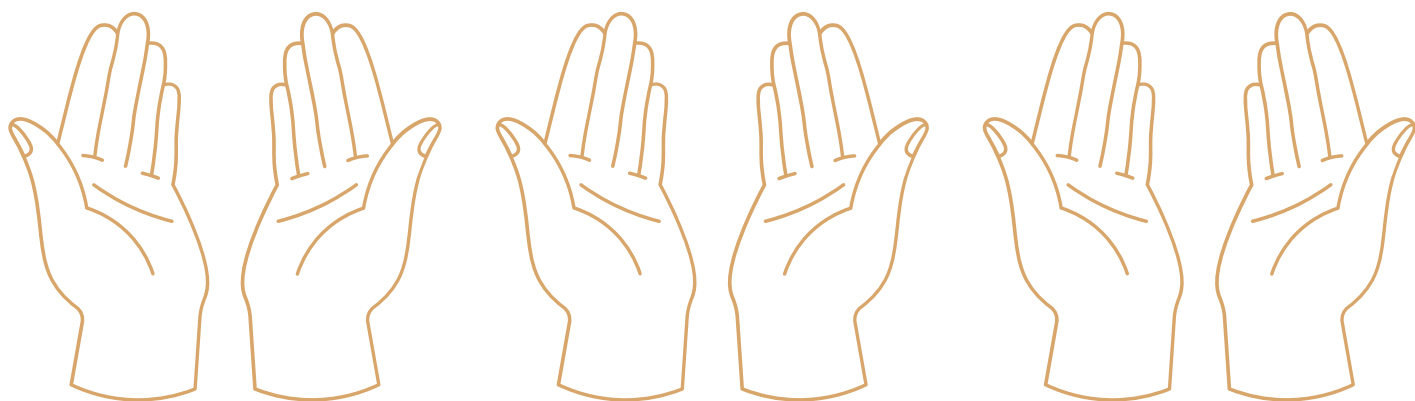
Over 30 Christians were beheaded in a series of recent attacks in northern Mozambique by Islamic State-affiliated terrorists who also released graphic photographs showing executions, shootings and widespread arson. The group targeted multiple villages across Cabo Delgado and Nampula provinces, setting fire to churches and homes in a campaign of violence against civilians. The Islamic State Mozambique Province, or ISMP, released a 20-image photoset this week, documenting its operatives' executing civilians by beheading and close-range gunfire, and burning down homes and churches, MEMRI (Middle East Media Research Institute) reported. The group claimed responsibility for several attacks throughout the last week of September, including beheading of two Christians in Chiure-Velho, Chiure District. ISMP operatives also claimed responsibility for the raid on Nacocha village in Chiure District, where a Christian was shot and killed, and two churches were burned. The same day, they attacked Nacussa village, also in Chiure, and set fire to two more churches.

Fighters also raided Macomia Town, killing four Christians and looting their belongings before withdrawing without casualties, according to ISMP's statement. ISMP said its operatives had beheaded a Christian in Macomia District. The following day, the group reported an assault on Nakioto village in Nampula Province's Mimba District, burning over 100 Christians' homes and one church. In nearby Minhanha village, in Memba District, they reportedly destroyed one church and 10 homes. The group said its militants returned to their bases after torching the Christians' homes.

The Defence Post report quoted one resident as saying that gunmen entered the neighbourhood around 8 p.m., killing four and kidnapping four others, including a woman and her two daughters. Another said a young man was shot dead after refusing to surrender his father's belongings. The violence is part of an escalation that has displaced tens of thousands of civilians and prompted a renewed security alliance between Mozambique and Rwanda, according to ADF magazine.

ISMP reportedly conducted attacks across six districts in September, from Balama in the southwest to Mocímboa da Praia in the north, according to the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project. In a rare assault on Mocímboa da Praia on September 7, fighters reportedly moved door to door identifying victims. This marked only the second such attack on the town since September 2021. ISM had previously launched simultaneous attacks in northern and southern Cabo Delgado in July, with 60 fighters entering Ancuabe and Chiure districts unopposed.

Source: Christian Post



Sermon NOTES

Bible passage:

Date:



Something
that shines
from the
passage



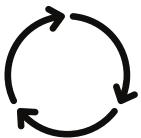
Anything
hard to
understand
or any
questions



Personal
application
for your life



Theme of
passage



How does it
fit with other
passages in
the Bible



Who will you
tell about
what you have
learnt?

Discussion QUESTIONS

- What does it mean to “speak the truth” as family members in Christ, and how can confronting sin be an act of love rather than condemnation?
- Why is unresolved anger so dangerous to the health of the church family, and how does it give the devil a foothold?
- How does living as forgiven people transform our speech, our work, and our relationships so that we build up rather than grieve the Holy Spirit?
- Why does Paul link truth-telling with being “members of one another”?
- What kind of anger is righteous, and what kind becomes destructive?
- How can the gospel turn a taker into a giver – what does redeemed work look like in practice?
- In Paul’s sense, what counts as “foul language,” and how can our words instead give grace to those who hear?
- What specifically grieves the Holy Spirit in this passage, and what would it look like to gladden Him instead?
- Which of the vices in verse 31 do you find most corrosive in relationships, and how can forgiveness heal them?
- If grieving the Spirit is like a cancer in the body, what habits or disciplines help keep the church’s body healthy and unified?

Helping HANDS

	19 October	26 October	2 November
Preacher	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius	Chris Pretorius
Elder on Duty	Kasha	Kasha	Jacob
Prayer Leader	Kasha	Kasha	Herman L
Music Leader	Nelleke	Inge	Nelleke
Children's Talk	Lize	Nicky	Sarah
Bible Reader	Steve	Sally	Jana
Sound	Nic	Nina	Cassie
Visuals	Ene	Salme	Isaac
Broadcasting	Pieter	Christo	James
Sunday School	Sarah,Lynette,Nici	Ilze, Lynette, Nici	No Sunday school
Coffee	Bester Family	van der Merwe Family	Riaan & Lariza Bergh, Joy van Veen

Upcoming BIRTHDAYS



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

20 - Ava Corney
22 - Adri Bennie
23 - Elise Bezuidenhout
24 - Teddy Pretorius
25 - Lariza Bergh
26 - Retha van Staden

Who Should I Contact?

Pastor:	Chris Pretorius	0423 889 913	pastor@wpcrc.org.au
Chairman of Session:	Peter Williams	0431 500 006	session@wpcrc.org.au
Community Engagement	Jenna Miller	0403 650 398	jenna@wpcrc.org.au
Church Administrator:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	admin@wpcrc.org.au
Deacons:	Leana van Gent	0452 334 224	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Music Ministry:	Mia Van Wyk	0420 817 800	
Sound & Visuals:	Cassie Van Veen	0499 230 872	
Children's Talk:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	
Sunday School:	Sarah Pretorius	0409 221 277	
Youth Group:	Kasha Schubert	0450 012 177	youth@wpcrc.org.au
Young Adults:	Michael van der Merwe	0456 960 424	
Growth Groups:	Chris Pretorius	0423 889 913	
Prayer Chain:	Herman Linde	0411 069 808	
Facilities & Maintenance:	Dale Reed	0412 216 300	deacons@wpcrc.org.au
Newsletter:	Leana van Gent	0452 334 224	newsletter@wpcrc.org.au

Kids coloring **CORNER**

Be kind to one another,
tenderhearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you.
Ephesians 4:32

