



Crookwell Uniting Church

“To Know Christ and Make Christ Known”



May 2026

The Long Walk Home

There is a specific kind of rhythm to a long walk taken in the late afternoon. The shadows stretch a bit further across the path, the air grows cool, and thoughts or conversation often turns toward the things that truly matter.

In the wake of the lilies and Hallelujahs of Easter Sunday, the Gospel of Luke takes us on a journey that feels remarkably familiar. In Luke 24, we meet two disciples on such a walk, traveling the seven miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus. Their hearts were heavy with the weight of "what might have been," and their pace was likely slowed by the sheer exhaustion of grief. For many of us who have

moved into the seasoned decades of our lives—the sixty, seventy, or eighty-year stretches of our own journey—this road is one that is identifiable. Like those disciples, we have walked through seasons of vibrant hope and seasons of crushing loss.

We have seen "the day" of our youth transition into the "evening" of our experience. We know what it is to walk with questions that have no easy answers and to carry the memory of those we have lost along the way.

Yet, the story of Emmaus offers us a profound comfort: it is precisely on these long, tired walks, amidst the

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lengthening shadows of our lives, that the Risen Christ chooses to pull alongside us and say, "Let us walk together."

As the disciples are walking, their conversation is filled with uncertainty. They were yet to hear the news that the tomb of Jesus was found empty. Upon being joined by a stranger, they pour out their grief, while the stranger talks of how the suffering they witnessed was actually a part of a much larger plan.

However, the turning point from grief to hope doesn't happen during the sermon. It happens when the three sit down to dinner that evening.

"When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened." – Luke 24:30

The disciples returned to Jerusalem to share the news that the Lord had risen, and as they told the story of their shared dinner, Jesus appeared among the group, declaring *"Peace be with you."* (Luke 24:36)

More than a mere greeting, the words of Jesus were a divine impartation – a spiritual transfer of grace, a laying on of hands. The darkness of Friday and the uncertainty in the long silence of Saturday were over.

For many of us, peace is perhaps our most valuable inheritance. It both acknowledges our scars, and celebrates our survival. It is the hope that tells us that when our strength wanes, or our path goes quiet, we are never walking towards an end, but towards a new beginning.

In the quiet of our evening and the miles still ahead, it is this profound peace on our long walk home that sustains us, reminding us that we never walk alone.

- Matthew



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May Roster

MAY 2026	WORSHIP LEADER	ELDER/PRAYERS	BIBLE READER	STEWARDS	
3/05/2026	Miriam Lacey	Margi	Gael Selmes	Barry & Cheryl	Commun Barts Joi
10/05/2026	Christine Jameson	Barry	Ron	Barbara & Kate	
17/05/2026	Kate Thornley	Joi	Phyllis	Bret & Gill	
24/05/2026	Russ Neale	Pat M	Ane	Jan & Lynn	Jerrara
31/05/2026	St Barts				

Home Library Service

Mobility issues, getting older, illness, or disability doesn't have to mean an end to accessing Crookwell Library for those among us who love to read.

Upper Lachlan Council provides a free library delivery service to your home for residents, who, due to age, disability, or illness are unable to visit the library.

Find out more by contacting Crookwell Library on 4832 1048, or emailing at library@upperlachlan.nsw.gov.au

Worship & Readings

Sunday 3 May

9:30am Crookwell

Readings: Acts 7:55-60' Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16;
1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

Sunday 10 May

9:30am Crookwell

Readings: Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter
3:13-22; John 14:15-21

Sunday 17 May

9:30am Crookwell

2:30 pm Jerrara

Readings: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35;
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Sunday 24 May

9:30am Crookwell

Readings: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-35;
1 Corinthians 12:3-13; John 20:19-23

Sunday 31 May

9:30am Crookwell

Readings: Genesis 1:1-2:4; Psalm 8;
2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

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Services Australia Visit

On Monday, May 11, the mobile service centre from Services Australia will be in Crookwell, near the art gallery on Spring Street, between 9:30am and 4:00pm.

Visit the mobile centre to find out about Australian Government payments and services for rural families, older Australians, students, job seekers, veterans, people with a disability, farmers, carers, and self-employed people.

They can also help veterans and their families connect to the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

Staff can assist with creating a MyGov account to securely access all of your government services online.

For more information, please visit servicesaustralia.gov.au/mobileoffice



Salvation Army Update

Further to last month's article on the Salvation Army setting up an outreach centre here at the Crookwell Church, they will be here on both Wednesday and Thursday going forward.

For those living in town, you can attend on Wednesday to have a look at the items available from their supply of food and essential groceries, and pick it up on Thursday. Those living out of town are able to call on Wednesday to place an order for a Thursday pick up, to save an extra trip.

The Salvos also offer assistance with referrals to emergency relief, counselling, free financial assistance, emergency housing, and the No Interest Loans Scheme. A representative from the Salvos will be at the church each Wednesday and Thursday, from 9:30am until 1:00pm.

All are welcome. You don't need to be seeking assistance – just drop in and have a coffee and a chat.

For further info, see www.salvos.org.au/goulburn



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