



**PROJECT RECONNECT**

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***Liturgical Date: Year C, Pentecost 7, Sunday, 27th July 2025***

***Presenter: Rev Josh McPaul***

***Focus Reading: Luke 11:1-13***

***Message*** 7 minutes 30 seconds

***"The Greenhouse of Grace"***

### **Discussion Starters**

- 1 Do you often use the Lord's Prayer in your own life? How has it shown up?
- 2 "Prayer only comes alive when we experience deepened, and a deep sense of God's unconditional love." Have you ever felt your deep need inspire your prayers?
- 3 The message discusses moving prayer "out of the desert of dry duty and into the glorious greenhouse of grace." What practical steps can make prayer seem less like a duty?
- 4 Who is knocking on our church's door over, and over, again? How are we responding to them with the same grace that God gives us?

### **Readings for this day**

**Hosea 1:2-10** Hosea develops the analogy of his marriage to a prostitute and Israel's marriage to God. Israel has been unfaithful; God declares that Israel's children are not God's children. God will not save them in the onslaught that is to come.

**Psalms 85** God is angry, and the people ask to return to God's favour. They remind God of all the things God has done in the past and pray that those times will come again.

**Colossians 2:6-15** Through his death, Christ cleansed us from our sins. Paul reminds us that through our baptism we have been raised with Christ. He urges them to remain faithful.

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**All Age Message: Rev Josh McPaul**

***"Again and Again"***

***Length*** 2 minutes 50 seconds

### **Precis of AAM**

Grownups seem to get bored of doing things where children love to do things they like, again and again. Kids seem to be close to the heart of God – God never tires of good things, never gets bored with our requests, and hears our pleas. Ask, search, knock and the door will be opened.

**Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). Psalm 85 –pages 308-309**

**Rev Josh McPaul** I am the Minister at Northern Illawarra Uniting Church, just north of Wollongong. I am married to Robin, a teacher who comes from California, USA. I spent most of my working life in the US, helping to start a church in Oakland, California, focused on racial reconciliation. I love living near Wollongong, close to family – swimming, kayaking, and camping up and down the coast.