

**Vision Statement:**

**We see a Jesus-orientated church having a passion for the Gospel and compassion for the world expressed through dynamic worship, love in action, the empowering of the servant leaders and the growing of disciples.**

**Reverend Jonathan Button can be contacted at [j.button@bigpond.com](mailto:j.button@bigpond.com).**

**I am available in the event of emergencies at any time, but other than that would appreciate not receiving calls on Wednesdays, where possible, as this is my day off.**

**Church Telephone Number: 8251 4298**

**This Week's Roster**

**3rd May, 2020**

Preacher: **Jonathan**  
Leader (am): **Neil**  
Leader (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Welcome: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Duty Elder: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Reader: **Coral**  
Musician: **Heather**  
Stewards: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Manager: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Crèche: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Kidz Connect: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Morning Tea: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Audio: **Alan**  
Visual: **Alan**  
Cleaning: **\*\*\*\*\***

**Next Week's Roster**

**10th May, 2020**

Preacher: **Jonathan**  
Leader (am): **Jonathan**  
Leader (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Welcome: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Duty Elder: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Reader: **Kathryn**  
Musician: **Brunetta**  
Stewards: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Manager: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Crèche: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Kidz Connect: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Morning Tea: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Audio: **Alan**  
Visual: **Alan**  
Cleaning: **\*\*\*\*\***

**Have you considered E-giving?**

**Envelopes with an "E" on the front, prayer requests or thanks can be placed in the offering bags on a Sunday morning.**

**Our bank details are as follows:**

**BSB 805-007 Account Number: 00702729 Credit Union SA**

**Please speak to Chris Holroyd if you require more information.**

# Golden Grove Gazette

Keeping in touch with the G.G.U.C. family

[www.goldengroveuniting.org.au](http://www.goldengroveuniting.org.au)

Sunday, 3rd May, 2020

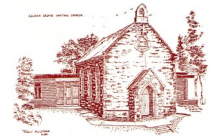
Fourth Sunday in Eastertide

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **Jesus, the Good Shepherd**

Gospel Reading: **John 10: 1-10**

**Mission Statement: To draw people**



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

**Trusting God in Difficult Times**

The Prime Minister said, "For us, 2020 is going to be a year like no other." This is certainly true! The COVID-19 pandemic has put us, and societies around the world, under threat, with restrictions and losses that we haven't experienced before. We have some sense of hope now that "a corner may have been turned" in Australia's fight against the virus, but when and how victory might be gained over COVID-19 is still very uncertain.

In Psalm 116 the writer talks about when he was "entangled in the cords of death", "the anguish of the grave overcame him" (v3); he almost died! In his alarm he said "everyone is a liar" (v11) – i.e. as far as he could see, all human and earthly powers were *opposed to him*. This is when events just "run right over the top of us", and there's nothing we can do about it! Humanly speaking, we cannot see a way out of it, and all hope is gone.

Yet curiously, in the middle of all of this – i.e., while everything is still out of control, he says that he "loves the Lord" (v1), "trusts the Lord" (v11), and "cries out to the Lord" – "Save me!" (v4). The reason that he does this is not because he pretends that things aren't as bad as they are; nor because he spiritually "pumps up" his faith to convince himself that he can overcome the terrible situation. Rather, it is *because He trusts the promise that "the Lord is gracious and righteous", and "full of compassion" (v5).*

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And the Psalm writer says that the Lord “delivered me from death”, “that I may walk before him in the land of the living” (vv8,9). This doesn’t mean that God all of a sudden took away the painfully difficult situation that the writer was in, but it does mean that He saved him from death, protected him, and strengthened him to “stand up” and continue to “walk” forward, through it, in great hope, and into a place of peace.

If 2020 is a “year like no other”, as we look to God in faith, and call upon Him, we can equally discover again that He is *gracious like no other*, and that He carries us through 2020, giving us many unexpected good gifts along the way.

*Grace and cheers, Jonathan.*

### A Message from the Elders

The fourth Sunday of Eastertide is also known as Jubilate Sunday. It is called this because, in the liturgy of the Lutheran Church, the first line of the introit for that day’s main eucharistic service is “Jubilate Deo omnis terra”, which translates as “Shout for joy to God, all the Earth”. (Psalm 66:1)

What great joy and bewilderment the followers of Jesus must have felt during the two encounters with the resurrected Jesus, described in Luke 24:13-49, especially when their eyes were opened and they finally realised that He had risen from the dead. Jesus was alive again!

How awesome it must have been, to be there, when Jesus opened their minds to understand the prophecies written about Him in the Old Testament, all pointing towards the events that unfolded up to that day and the promises that were still to come to fruition.

The disciples walked, talked, ate and drank with Jesus and were chosen to be reliable eye witnesses of His life and resurrection. They were chosen in advance to be the first to bring the Good News of the Gospel to all peoples, by the authority of His name.

They could not do this on their own strength; they needed the Holy Spirit to empower them, to enable them, to proclaim with authority, that there is forgiveness of sins for all who repent, and that the Holy Spirit is promised to those who accept this promise of God’s forgiveness and salvation from sin through Jesus Christ.

The same Good News is also offered to you today. Receive it and tell others.

Our church elders are: Jonathan, Andrew, Cath, Ray and Richardt.

### **A “CALL FOR HELP” IN THE FACE OF COVID-19**

Uniting Care, the welfare agency of the UCA in SA, is setting up Emergency Relief Centres across the state to provide emergency relief for the many individuals and families across the community affected by the economic fall-out of the COVID-19 crisis.

One such centre is to be located at Modbury Uniting Church and, at this critical time, for those who would like to, an invitation has been received to participate.

So, if you wish to support this programme, you can do so by contributing a range of food items and other essential goods, as listed below.

In addition, if you would like to help out financially, a fund has been set up to acquire goods for the programme. (Bank details for EFT donations below.)

Also, if you are between the ages of 18 and 69, and in good health, you may like to volunteer to assist with running the programme. (Details of who to contact below.)

\* \* \*

**Food and essential goods needed** (\* note: these are the *types of goods* needed—not an exhaustive list):

Cans/jars: soup, vegetables, baked beans, spaghetti, tomatoes, tuna, tinned fruit, pasta sauces

Packets: muesli bars, breakfast cereals, cheese & cracker snacks, 2 minute noodles, pasta

UHT milk (lots), baby nappies, bread (usually from bakers or supermarkets), apples, lemons, seasonally available fruit, green vegetables, carrots, eggs.

(\*Food/essential goods contributions may be left at the Golden Grove church hall between 10am and 12noon on Thursdays)

### **Financial donations can be made to:**

Modbury Uniting Church  
BSB: 704-095  
Account No.: 188344  
Ref. Modbury ERC

Any enquiries about volunteering can be made to Shelia Roxby: 0439540660, Priscilla Anderson: 0402900481, or Lyn Leane: 0421130788.

Also, feel free to get in touch with Cath if you have any questions (8251 4298;

[office@goldengroveuniting.org.au](mailto:office@goldengroveuniting.org.au)).