

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.

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

29th November, 2020

Preacher: **Reverend Ross Honey**
Leader (am): **James**
Leader (pm): *********
Marshal (Church): **Chris H.**
Marshal (Hall): **Neil**
Reader: **Barbara**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Stewards: *********
Manager: *********
Crèche: **Chris DeB.**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: *********
Audio Desk: **Rykhardt**
Camera Operator: **Tim**
Computer: **Ruan**
Overflow Overseer: **Ralph**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

6th December, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): *********
Marshal (Church): **Ray**
Marshal (Hall): **Cath**
Reader: **Chris H.**
Musician: **Heather**
Stewards: *********
Manager: *********
Crèche: **Sandy**
Kidz Connect: **Trevor**
Morning Tea: *********
Audio Desk: **Ralph**
Camera Operator: **Tim**
Computer: **Ruan**
Overflow Overseer: **Rykhardt**
Cleaning: **Chris & Ray**

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

Sunday, 29th November, 2020

First Sunday in Advent (Hope)

Preacher: Reverend Ross Honey

Theme: Keeping Watch

New Testament Reading: Mark 13: 24-37



Mission Statement: To draw people

to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church



Love will tear us apart...

...and heal us.

Is. 64:1-9 is the OT reading for the first Sunday in Advent, preparing us to celebrate God coming near in the birth of Jesus Christ as a baby at Christmas. Advent is also about God coming near in the appearance of Christ as Lord of all at the end of the age (the "Second Coming"). Advent is also about God coming near *now*, continually by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah cries out to God, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down!" (Is. 64:1) He says that if God does this it will be accompanied by everything in the world and our lives being shaken and turned upside down. He goes on to say that this would be a part of God confronting us with our sin and calling us to repentance, yet also restoring us as His people in great, merciful love.

When God comes near, stuff happens!

In the year of COVID-19, and in our personal lives, if our world is shaken and turned upside down, we can know that *God is drawing near*. He does so because of His great love for us (Jn 3:16), and He shakes only what needs to be shaken, in order to truly forgive, heal and restore us.

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As we look to Him in faith, and trust Him with our lives, we can know that in everything that we go through, God our good, good Father will keep and sustain us, and bring us to exactly the place where we need to arrive.

Grace and peace, Jonathan.

Philippines Child Education Scheme

A reminder to our sponsors that your December quarter donations are now due.

To our anonymous sponsors: In the absence of the "Philippines jars", please put your donations in an envelope marked "Philippines" and place it in the offertory bag at Sunday worship.

If anyone would like an explanation of what the scheme is about, I'd be delighted to talk to you about it.

Thank you all again for your generous support of the children at Hope Ministry, Davao City.

Gordon Cooksey

Steptoe and Son on Holidays Ain't

Yes; Mr Steptoe and Master Steptoe have stated firmly that they are far too young to retire and far too old to have holidays. Hence, the famous pair (Ray and Neil) continues to roam the streets in pursuit of likely suspects. We are also able to help by surrendering our pre-loved metals. Much thanks to the workers and the contributors.



*"A man there was, though some did count him mad;
The more he cast away, the more he had."*

John Bunyan: "The Pilgrim's Progress"

FOUR SQUARE METRES



Sign in Register – Golden Grove Uniting Church

I, the undersigned declare that:

- I have not returned from international or interstate travel in the last 14 days.
- I have not been exposed to a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- I am not currently required to self-isolate for any other reason.
- I am well, and not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19.
- I will practise good hand hygiene and utilise the hand washing and sanitiser facilities made available for this purpose.
- I will follow all reasonable steps requested by the Golden Grove Uniting Church to ensure the health and safety of all other personnel and visitors.
- Visitors' Phone Numbers are required.

DATE :

NAME:	TIME IN:	TIME OUT:	PHONE NUMBER:

Today's Hymns and Songs

Come, now is the time to worship (Songs of Fellowship 1205)

In Christ alone my hope is found (Getty Hymn Book)

To God be the glory (Together in Song 147)

Let the weak say I am strong (Songs of Fellowship 1416)

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You (Getty Hymn Book)

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine (Songs of Fellowship 44)

May the feet of God walk with you (Together in Song 779)

Missing in Action, or Inaction

Someone has borrowed the brush from the upright vacuum cleaner. Could the person who has please let Cath know as soon as possible, as the cleaner will not operate at all without its brush? Thank you.

Speak, O Lord, as we come to You
To receive the food of Your Holy Word.
Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,
That the light of Christ may be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.

Speak, O Lord, and fulfil in us
All Your purposes, for Your glory.

Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of Your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of power that can never fail;
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

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THE YEAR CONTINUES ITS DECLINE

- **Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 3rd December: 12.00 noon**
- **Friday Morning: *mainly music*: 4th December: 9.30 am**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 5th December: 8.00 am**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 6th December: 10.00 am**
- **Second Sunday in Advent (Peace): Sunday, 6th December**
- **Church Council Election: Sunday, 6th December**
- **Friday Morning: *mainly music*: 11th December (last for the year)**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 13th December: 10.00 am**
- **Third Sunday in Advent (Joy): Sunday, 13th December**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 13th December: 6.00 pm**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 6th December: 10.00 am**
- **Fourth Sunday in Advent (Love): Sunday, 20th December**
- **Blue Christmas Service: Sunday, 20th December: 6.00 pm**

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Next Sunday, 6th December, is the last day for bringing your donations for the Christmas hampers. As has been our custom, we are once again asking if you could please support us in helping with non-perishable food to make these Christmas hampers again this year for families in need in the community. Could you please put your donations in the plastic containers that will be left at the tables in the hall, if you are able to help? Thank you very much.



"It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

A Message from the Elders

Advent commences on the fourth Sunday before Christmas — today. This season (29 November to 24 December) is a season of expectant waiting and preparation for the Comings of Christ from three different perspectives: in the flesh when Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily and in glory at the end of time.

In our church, on this first Sunday in Advent, we light the first candle of our Advent wreath — which is the Prophets' Candle, symbolising Hope, which we light in remembrance of the prophets who foretold the birth of Christ. Read Isaiah 9:2-7.

Christ's birth brings hope to all humanity, as God became flesh to live among sinful human beings. He lived a sinless life, and, through His love and mercy, gave His life for ours on the cross. He suffered and died on that cross for you.

Isaiah 60:1-22 tells of the future coming of Christ at the end of time. This creates hope for the future and is why we can endure the hardships and many injustices of this world. We place our hope in our Righteous Judge who will set right all things at the end of time (Revelation 20:11-15) to bring about a new heaven and new earth (Revelation 21:1-8).

The redemption Jesus accomplished back then is available to you today if you give your heart to Him. Through this act you will receive His Holy Spirit, which will come and be with you always, until He comes again. Don't wait any longer.

Pray this prayer (at the top of the opposite page) with a sincere heart:

*"Lord Jesus, I believe You are my true God and my Saviour.
Thank You for being born and becoming a real man with
both divinity and humanity.
Thank You for saving me from my sins by dying for me.
Lord, I receive You right now.
Come into me and live in me.
Thank You, Lord, for being with me all the time.
Amen.*

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



Women's Fellowship

Yes; the Women's Fellowship Christmas luncheon is still happening. The venue is still the *Slug and Lettuce*. The time is still 12.00 noon.

Could I please see all the ladies involved in the Sunday school room immediately after the service this morning, in order to confirm numbers attending?

Thank you, Eileen.



Family Directory Update

George and Jo Reeves have a new mobile telephone number.

It is: 0415 256 884. Please update your directories. Thank you.