

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

12th December, 2021

Preacher:	Jonathan
Leader (am):	Jonathan
Leader (pm):	Jonathan
Manager:	Neil
Marshal (Church):	Cath
Marshal (Hall):	Chris H.
Reader:	Sandy
Musician:	Brunetta
Kidz Connect:	Trevor & Sandy
Morning Tea:	Ailsa, Chris D. & Tina
Audio Desk (am):	Rykhardt
Audio desk (pm):	Rykhardt
Camera :	Ralph
Computer (am):	Lucinda
Computer (pm):	Lucinda
Overflow Overseer:	Daniel & Renée
Cleaning:	*****

Next Week's Roster

19th December, 2021

Preacher:	Jonathan
Leader (am):	Kathryn
Leader (pm):	*****
Manager:	Max
Marshal (Church):	Neil
Marshal (Hall):	Tim
Reader:	Kathryn
Musician:	Brunetta
Kidz Connect:	*****
Morning Tea:	Bob, Faye & Owen
Audio Desk (am):	Ruan
Audio Desk (pm):	*****
Camera:	John
Computer (am):	Rykhardt
Computer (pm):	*****
Overflow Overseer:	Tim
Cleaning:	*****

Christmas Hampers and Church Council Election

Thank you once again for your support for the Christmas Hampers. We delivered hampers to Banksia Park and Golden Grove Schools, who had a number of families in need and were very grateful for the delivery.

Congratulations to Chris Holroyd, who been re-elected to the Church Council for 2022.

Golden Grove Gazette

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

www.goldengroveuniting.org.au

Sunday, 12th December, 2021

Third Sunday in Advent: Joy

Preacher: **Jonathan**

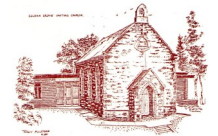
Theme: **Ready for God**

Gospel Reading: **Luke 3: 2-18**

Mission Statement: To draw people

to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through
our church



Joy to the World

One of the most well-known Christmas songs is *Joy to the World* - we sang it last Sunday morning! Surprisingly, this song is not based on the birth of Jesus but comes from Psalm 98, which celebrates His second coming. Isaac Watts paraphrased the psalm and, after his death, nearly a century later, the composer Lowell Mason, inspired by Handel's *Messiah*, turned it into one of the most well-known Christmas songs to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

To the original readers in Old Testament times, however, Psalm 98 was a celebration of the victories God had given his people and a proclamation of the Messiah's coming. With trumpets blasting, hands clapping, and people singing and shouting for joy, there is a great celebration of all the wonderful things God has done - and all creation joins in!

For modern readers, Psalm 98 is an historical truth that God did what He said he would do. The lyrics of the often-omitted third verse of *Joy to the World*: 'No more let sin and sorrow grow...', reflect on Genesis 3, with an apocalyptic view of Jesus, who, through his death and resurrection, has become King and Saviour for the world. In His second coming, 'He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.'

(concluded over the page)

(from the previous page)

Joy to the world! God sent Jesus into the world to be our Saviour; Jesus is a good and righteous King over all the earth; Jesus is returning as Judge over all the nations. He will make all things right - including the beautiful creation that he made by the power of His Word.

(Reverend Gordon)

A Message from the Elders

The liturgical colour used for the first two Sundays in Advent is violet, which signifies a period of prayer, penance and sacrifice. This is contrasted with the liturgical colour pink, used specifically on this third Sunday in Advent, which represents JOY. Pink is evident in the draped cross in the Sanctuary, our Advent wreath and on one of our Advent banners.

In our observance of Advent today, we light the Shepherds' Candle in remembrance of the Angel's appearance to the shepherds and the joy the world experienced when Jesus was born. During this week read, think and pray about the message of joy contained within: Luke 1, Matthew 2:1-12 and Luke 2:1-21.

As Christians, we can remain filled with joy despite our present circumstances. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 reminds us to always be joyful, to never give up on prayer and to be thankful in all circumstances, as this is God's will for us. Read Psalm 126 and draw encouragement from the words that even though we now sow with tears, we will soon reap with songs of joy.

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

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Could the ladies of Women's Fellowship please congregate for a very quick meeting in the KidzConnect room straight after Worship?
Thanks, Cath.

OUR REMAINING DECEMBER DIARY DATES

- **Third Sunday in Advent: 12th December (JOY)**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 12th December: 10.00 am**
- **Holy Communion (deferred from 5th December)**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 16th December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Fourth Sunday in Advent: 19th December (LOVE)**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 19th December: 10.00 am**
- **Blue Christmas Service: Sunday, 19th December: 6.00 pm**
- **Estia Worship Service: Monday, 20th December: 2.00 pm**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 23rd December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Lessons and Carols: Friday, 24th December: 7.00 pm**
- **Christmas Day Service: Saturday, 25th December: 9.00 am**
- **Boxing Day: Sunday, 26th December**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 26th December: 10.00 am**



JOY
TO THE
WORLD

