

From Our Pastor: Jonathan Button

Jonathan 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

10th December, 2023

Next Week's Roster

17th December, 2023

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Jonathan**
Leader (pm): **David**
Welcome: **Cath**
Manager: **Neil**
Reader: **Marion**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Morning Tea: **Peter & Yvonne**
Audio Desk (am): **Ralph**
Audio Desk (pm): **Ralph**
Camera : **John**
Computer (am): **James**
Computer (pm): **James**
AV Editing: **Rykhardt**

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): *********
Welcome: **Faye**
Manager: **Ray**
Reader: **Tina**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Morning Tea: **Joy & Tina**
Audio Desk (am): **Ruan**
Audio Desk (pm): *********
Camera : **Lucinda**
Computer (am): **Rykhardt**
Computer (pm): *********
AV Editing: **Jonathan**

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.

Please speak to Chris Holroyd if you require more information.

Please note: Payments can now be made by Electronic Funds Transfer on a Sunday.

Golden Grove Gazette

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

www.goldengroveuniting.org.au

Sunday, 10th December, 2023

Second Sunday in Advent: Peace

Preacher:: **Jonathan**

Theme: **With Us in Our Need**

Old Testament Reading: **Isaiah 40: 1-11**



Mission Statement: We are a Gospel-driven, connected, generous church family, mission-minded and outwardly focussed.

Comforted

We live in a very shaky world. We feel fortunate to be living in Australia when we see the unthinkable trauma people are going through in the Middle East and Ukraine. Yet many of us also have our very real troubles, and we can be shaken to our core by them.

Yet, when God's people were in circumstances not all that different from those in the Middle East right now, He says to them, "Comfort, O comfort my people". (Isaiah 40:1-9) This is a message He also speaks to us now, however shaken we are.

Isaiah says that God comes as the mightiest of Kings – He can even raise the deepest valleys and level mountains! But at the same time, He comes as a shepherd, to gather us as His flock, feed us – meet all our need, gently lead, and carry us when we need.

These words were fulfilled at Christmas in the birth of Jesus Christ, Son of God, who is both a "lion" and a "lamb" (Revelation 5), the greatest strength, yet the one who gave His life in love to abundantly forgive us and make us dear children of God our Father forever.

He will never let you go. He must comfort you. Hold Him to that!

Grace and peace, Jonathan.

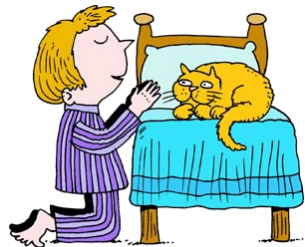
A Prayer for Peace

Lord Jesus Christ,
You are the true King of peace.
In You alone is found freedom.

Please free our world from conflict.
Bring unity to troubled nations.
Let Your glorious peace reign in every heart.

Dispel all darkness and evil.
Protect the dignity of every human life.
Replace hatred with Your love.

Give wisdom to world leaders.
Free them from selfish ambition.
Eliminate all violence and war.



Pray for unity amongst nations.
Pray for unity amongst all people.
Pray for the most vulnerable.
Pray for those suffering.
Pray for the fearful.
Pray for those most in need.
Pray for us all.

Jesus, Son of the Living God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, hear our prayers.
Jesus, I trust in You!

Amen.



DATES WITH THE FESTIVE SEASON

- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 10th December: 10.00 am
- Second Sunday in Advent: Sunday, 10th December (Peace)
- Church Council Elections: Sunday, 10th December (after Worship)
- Café Church: Sunday, 10th December: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 14th December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 17th December: 10.00 am
- Third Sunday in Advent: Sunday, 17th December (Joy)
- Blue Christmas: Sunday, 17th December: 6.00 pm
- Estia Worship Service: Monday, 18th December: 2.00 pm
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 21st December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 24th December: 10.00 am
- Fourth Sunday in Advent: Sunday, 24th December (Love)
- Lessons and Carols: Sunday, 24th December: 6.00 pm
- Christmas Day Service: Monday, 25th December: 9.00 am
- Jonathan's Leave Begins: Tuesday, 26th December
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 28th December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- New Year's Eve: Sunday, 31st December
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 31st December: 10.00 am
- Jonathan Returns to Duty: Sunday, 14th January, 2024

CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Polling will take place at a congregational meeting immediately following worship TODAY, Sunday, 10th December.

The candidates are:

for Church Councillor: Chris Holroyd, Sheila MacTier,
Katherine McDonald, Ralph Walcott, Trevor Walker

for Elder: Andrew MacTier, Sandy Walker

Results of the election will be announced during morning tea after the meeting and published in the Gazette on 17th December

For your information, continuing members are:

Church Councillors: Tim Checkley, Neil & Coral Larcombe
Elders: Ray Holroyd, Cath McKechnie