

*From Our Pastor: Jonathan Button*

Jonathan 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

25th February, 2024

Next Week's Roster

3rd March, 2024

Preacher:	<b>James</b>
Leader (am):	<b>Rykhardt</b>
Leader (pm):	<b>James</b>
Welcome:	<b>Rykhardt</b>
Manager:	<b>Neil</b>
Reader:	<b>Lucinda</b>
Musician:	<b>Recorded Music</b>
Morning Tea:	<b>Peter &amp; Yvonne</b>
Audio Desk (am):	<b>Ruan</b>
Audio Desk (pm):	<b>Ralph</b>
Camera :	<b>Tim</b>
Computer (am):	<b>Lucinda</b>
Computer (pm):	<b>Ralph</b>
AV Editing:	<b>Rykhardt</b>

Preacher:	<b>Jonathan</b>
Leader (am):	<b>Jonathan</b>
Leader (pm):	<b>*****</b>
Welcome:	<b>Andrew</b>
Manager:	<b>Ray</b>
Reader:	<b>Marion</b>
Musician:	<b>Brunetta</b>
Morning Tea:	<b>Chris DeB. &amp; Katherine</b>
Audio Desk (am):	<b>Ruan</b>
Audio Desk (pm):	<b>*****</b>
Camera :	<b>Lucinda</b>
Computer (am):	<b>Rykhardt</b>
Computer (pm):	<b>*****</b>
AV Editing:	<b>Jonathan</b>

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

Sunday, 25th February, 2024

Second Sunday in Lent

Preacher:: James Ross-Naylor

Theme: Journey to the Cross: the Ransom

Gospel Reading: Mark 10: 32-45



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

## The Ultimate Ransom

### **Psalm 49:13-20**

*This is the fate of those who trust in themselves, and of their followers, who approve their sayings. They are like sheep and are destined to die; death will be their shepherd (but the upright will prevail over them in the morning). Their forms will decay in the grave, far from their princely mansions. But God will redeem me from the realm of the dead; he will surely take me to himself. Do not be overawed when others grow rich, when the splendour of their houses increases; for they will take nothing with them when they die, their splendour will not descend with them. Though while they live they count themselves blessed – and people praise you when you prosper – they will join those who have gone before them, who will never again see the light of life. People who have wealth but lack understanding are like the beasts that perish.*

In ancient times a king might attack another country but be defeated, captured, and imprisoned. A ransom (verse 7) was owed for the release. Every human being owes God a death. Our sins mean we belong to death (verse 14). But God, instead of demanding a ransom from us, pays it himself (verse 15). The psalmist doesn't know how this can be done, but he is confident.

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The missing piece is Jesus, who by his death killed death and set us free. Only at the cross do we discover how much it cost God to redeem us "from the realm of the dead". So don't resent, fear or envy the rich (verse 16). Pity those who have nothing more than their riches.

*Pastor Timothy Keller (1950-2023)*

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**A Message from Sally Stamp at Synod**

Sally Stamp would like to thank all churches, businesses and people who donated used stamps during 2023. Would you please continue your good work in 2024? We have commenced the year with a healthy bank balance and will be able to fund a shipment for South Pacific School Aid Inc. to send books and aid to the Pacific Islands.

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**Lenten Boxes**

*Today is the second Sunday in Lent. The three main things people focus on during Lent are prayer, fasting (abstaining from something in order to reduce distractions and focus more on God) and giving, or charity. Today you will again find Lenten boxes on our morning tea tables.*

*Over the next few weeks we should do our best to fill them with whatever small change (or even larger change) we have. If we would like to take one home and contribute to it at our convenience, please feel free to do so. May the peace of God overwhelm us as we sacrifice coffees and Tim Tams to the good, old fashioned alms for those in need.*



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**An historical note:** This is the 770th newsletter compiled by the current editor.

**FEBRUARY MARCHES ON TOWARDS AUTUMN**

- **Second Sunday in Lent: Sunday, 25th February**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 25th February: 10.00 am**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 25th February: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm**
- **KYB: Monday, 26th February: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 29th February: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Youth 3:16: Friday, 1st March: 6.15 pm to 8.15 pm (Powerpoint Karaoke)**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 2nd March: 8.00 am**
- **Third Sunday in Lent: Sunday, 3rd March**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 3rd March: 10.00 am**
- **Thanksgiving and Blessings to be included in the Above Service**
- **KYB: Monday, 4th March: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**
- **Pastoral Carers Meeting: Tuesday, 5th March: 7.30 pm (via Zoom)**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 7th March: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Youth 3:16: Friday, 8th March: 6.15 pm to 8.15 pm (Capture the Flag)**
- **Church Council Retreat: Saturday, 9th March: 8.30 am to 12.00 noon**
- **Fourth Sunday in Lent: Sunday, 10th March**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 10th March: 10.00 am**
- **Holy Communion to be included in the Above Service**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 10th March: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm**
- **AGM REPORTS DUE BY MONDAY, 11TH MARCH**
- **KYB: Monday, 11th March: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**
- **Church Council Meeting: Tuesday, 12th March: 7.00 pm**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 14th March: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 14th March: 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm**
- **Youth 3:16: Friday, 15th March: 6.15 pm to 8.15 pm (Olympics)**

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**Women's Fellowship Must Still Be in Need of a Good Shake-Up**

Ladies, please remember that our next time of fellowship is on the second Thursday in March (the 14th). This is because we are going to be "all shook up" at the Golden Grove Recreation Centre from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm on that day. Would you please see Katherine if you require further enlightenment?

