

*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

17th March, 2024

Next Week's Roster

24th March, 2024

Preacher: **Jonathan**  
Leader (am): **Jonathan**  
Leader (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Welcome: **Andrew**  
Manager: **John**  
Reader: **Owen**  
Musician: **Brunetta**  
Morning Tea: **Bob & Faye**  
Audio Desk (am): **Ruan**  
Audio Desk (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Camera : **Lucinda**  
Computer (am): **Rykhardt**  
Computer (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
AV Editing: **Jonathan**

Preacher: **James**  
Leader (am): **Jonathan**  
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**  
Welcome: **Faye**  
Manager: **Ray**  
Reader: **Tina**  
Musician: **Brunetta**  
Morning Tea: **Ken & Owen**  
Audio Desk (am): **Ralph**  
Audio Desk (pm): **Ralph**  
Camera : **Tim**  
Computer (am): **Rykhardt**  
Computer (pm): **James**  
AV Editing: **Rykhardt**

*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 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, 17th March, 2024

Saint Patrick's Day

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **Journey to the Cross: the Cup**

Gospel Reading: **Mark 14: 32-42**



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

## The Cup

**Psalm 75:6-10.** <sup>6</sup>No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt themselves. <sup>7</sup>It is God who judges: he brings one down, he exalts another. <sup>8</sup>In the hand of the Lord is a cup full of foaming wine mixed with spices; he pours it out, and all the wicked of the earth drink it down to its very dregs. <sup>9</sup>As for me, I will declare this for ever; I will sing praise to the God of Jacob, <sup>10</sup>who says, 'I will cut off the horns of all the wicked, but the horns of the righteous shall be lifted up.'

In Biblical imagery a cup was an ordeal. The cup "full of foaming wine" is the cup of divine anger on evildoers (verse 8), the ultimate ordeal of infinite punishment that made even the Son of God quail (Matthew 26:42). Yet on the cross Jesus embraced God's will and drank this cup on our behalf, knowing that no matter how dreadful, on the other side would lie the joy of being with us. We are his reward (Isaiah 40:10). When faced with an aspect of God's will in our life that we want to run from, we must cling closely to Jesus and whisper, "Thy will be done". Then we can expect the joy of being with him.

**Prayer:** Father, I cannot begin to praise and thank you for your inestimable gift. "For Christ, my loving Saviour, has drunk up the wine of your fierce anger. What bitter cups were due to me had he not drunk them up for me" (poem of Robert Herrick). Amen.

*(Timothy Keller)*

## Lenten Boxes

*Today is the fifth 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.*

*Time is running out for us to 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, chocolates, doughnuts, popcorn, potato chips and Tim Tams to the good, old fashioned alms for those in need.*

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## Samaritan's Purse Boxes

These boxes have been placed on the table at the back of the hall. Please feel free to take as many as you want and fill them at your leisure during the year up to October. Now is a good time to start shopping for suitable items as so many stores are still having post-Christmas sales. It also avoids last minute panic later in the year. Thank you for participating.

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## Mission and Wider Work Programme for 2024

Would you please record in this year's diary the following dates:

Sunday, 14th April: Barbecue

Sunday, 14th July: Soup and Rolls

Sunday, 20th October: Pot Luck Lunch



Please note there are only three functions this year.

## THE AUTUMN LEAVES ARE STILL GENTLY FALLING

- Fifth Sunday in Lent: Sunday, 17th March
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 17th March: 10.00 am
- KYB: Monday, 18th March: 10.00 am to 11.30 am
- Estia Worship Service: Monday, 18th March: 2.00 pm
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 21st March: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Youth 3:16: Friday, 22nd March: 6.15 pm to 8.15 pm (Escape Room)
- Palm Sunday: Sunday, 24th March
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 24th March: 10.00 am
- Café Church: Sunday, 24th March: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
- KYB: Monday, 25th March: 10.00 am to 11.30 am
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 28th March: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Maundy Thursday Service: Thursday, 28th March: 7.00 pm
- Good Friday Service: Friday, 29th March: 9.00 am
- Holy Saturday: Saturday, 30th March
- Easter Day Service: Sunday, 31st March: 10.00 am
- Easter Monday, Monday, 1st April
- Youth 3:16: Friday, 5th April: 6.15 pm to 8.15 pm (Who Dun It?)
- End of Daylight Saving: Sunday, 7th April

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## The Holy Grail

A poem by the French poet, Robert de Boron (late 12th Century), recounted the Holy Grail's early history, linking it with the cup used by Christ at the Last Supper and afterwards by Joseph of Arimathea to catch the blood flowing from Christ's wounds as He hung upon the Cross. The *Queste del Saint Graal* transformed the quest for the Holy Grail into a search for mystical union with God and made the pure knight, Galahad, the Grail's ideal hero. The *Queste* was influenced by the mystical teachings of Saint Bernard de Clairvaux (1090-1153). The states of grace it describes correspond to the stages by which Saint Bernard explained an individual's rise to perfection in the mystical life. In the last branch of the Vulgate cycle (which emphasises Christian themes in the legend of King Arthur), the final disasters were linked with the withdrawal of the Holy Grail, symbol of grace, never to be seen again.

*(from the Encyclopaedia Britannica)*