



29th November 2020 Rev Donald Hegan

Welcome & Call to worship

L: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

C: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

L: Jesus Christ is our life and light.

C: In his name and in his power, we will worship God!

Based on Isaiah 9:2, NIV

Songs: Go Tell it on the Mountain
Emmanuel
Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Prayer of Adoration and Confession:

Announcements and sharing

God Moment:

Advent: Candle One

Offerings and Dedication

Hymn: O Come, O Come Emmanuel WOV 193

Prayers for Others: Elizabeth Hockly

Readings: Isaiah 9: 6-7, pg 1072 Matthew
1:18-25, pg1497 Glennis Smith

Hymn: O Come all ye Faithful WOV 228

Sermon: Joseph Worshipped Fully

Hymn: Angels we have heard on High

Benediction Now unto Him

**Elders on Duty for
November** John Rentz and
Avis Currie
Organist Len Hockly
Pianist Joy Smith
Door Greeting Maria West
Security 4th week Mary
Findlay
Sound Brian Carr

Prayer Chain We are available to pray for you, your friends and families in your joys and concerns. Please contact Glynnis (576 4814) or the office.

THE COMING WEEK (5th)

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| Monday | 7.00 pm | Indoor Bowls |
| Tuesday | 9 am– 9.25 am: | Staff Meeting, Donald's office |
| | 10.30 am | Preschool Playgroup in the lounge |
| Wednesday | 9.30 am | Care & Craft in hall Final one |
| Thursday | | |
| Friday | 9.00 am | Prayer meeting in crèche |
| | 10.00 am | Cuppa & Chat in lounge |
| Saturday | | |
| Sunday | 8.45am | Prayer in creche |
| Wed/Thurs/Fri | 10.00 am—4.00 pm: | Basement Boutique |

We would like to invite you to Rev Donald and Christine's farewell brunch. This will be on the 13th Dec after the Sunday morning Service. It will have a Christmas theme and is wonderfully catered for. This will be a lovely time for memories and best wishes.

Please pencil this into your calendar.

We really would like some photos of Donald and Christine and family. If you have any at all please email them to the office or bring them in to the office asap.

There is a donation envelope in your copy of "the Voice". Please add your number if you would like a receipt.

Basement Boutique

A Thankyou Morning Tea

All volunteers are invited to Morning Tea, in the Church Lounge, Monday 7th December at 10.00am. If you would like to assist us next year please join us for morning tea and meet our friendly, enthusiastic bunch of volunteers.

Holiday Hours

The Boutique will close for the Christmas break at 4pm on Friday 18th December. Several volunteers have agreed to open the Boutique, with reduced hours 10am - 1pm, on Wednesday 6th, Thursday 7th and Friday 8th January.

January 13th We re-open with our usual roster of volunteers and opening times :-

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 10am - 4pm.

Please consider volunteering for this worthwhile church endeavour - once a month, once a fortnight or once a week . Please see or phone Eleanor Burkin (ph 576 5314) to be included in next year's roster.

Worship Fully

For many of us, the time of year when focusing on Christ should be the easiest, is often the hardest. Our calendars are full of activities, the to-do lists are getting longer, the stores are getting busier, and an overwhelming stress has crept into our hearts. So how do we get back to the heart of the Christmas narrative?

For starters, **worship**. There's a reason Worship Fully is the first tenet of Advent Conspiracy. We believe that when our hearts are oriented towards Christ, the rest of the tenets will fall into place. The way we spend, give, and love will radically change when it comes from a place of true worship.

Each year Advent brings another opportunity to worship the miracle of the Incarnation when God revealed himself to people in a new way. If you read the Christmas narrative, nearly every character who encountered the infant King had the same response: *worship*.

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the LORD. – Luke 2:10-11

Excitement, anticipation, hope—each of these emotions swell around the object of our dearest affection. The reality is that we spend our time and energy on what matters most to us. Notice what you're spending your time and energy on. Is it drawing you closer to God or is it distracting you from something else?

Here's a tough question: Does the way we spend our time, money, and energy testify that we worship God incarnate? Sit with that today. Ask God to open your eyes and heart to the truth.

Some activities to help you Worship Fully:

- Invite a friend over and see how they're doing. Listen well.
- Read the Christmas story while setting up the nativity.
- One night, unplug from all technology and social media and enjoy quiet!
- Turn the radio off in the car and thank God for your blessings.



Prepare Yourself

Advent is the season of preparation; when Christians get ready, focus, and plan in anticipation for Christmas. This year may be very different from any other Christmas due to Covid-19. Preparation is the keyword.

Advent begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, this year 29 November. We, the Church, recall our hopes and expectancy in the comings of Christ - past, present, and future. Christmas will always be Christmas. That magical day when we celebrate the Baby of Bethlehem.

Whether it be in the snow of the Northern Hemisphere or be in the warm summer of the Southern hemisphere, it is a wonderful season of hope, love, peace, and joy. Let's be prepared in mind, heart, and attitude. Let's be prepared for whatever coronavirus restrictions we may face.

This is a wonderful season for each one of us to strive to clear the deck. Remove any unnecessary baggage that has accumulated over the year. Prepare yourself for the baby of Christmas, Jesus.

Fakaofu

Right Rev Fakaofu Kaio, Moderator

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O-Team Matters: Graham Jamieson, 552 4143