

St. Andrew's by the Sea Uniting Church

Christian Community in the Heart of Glenelg

Rev. Christine Gilbert



First Sunday in the Season of Advent

1st December 2019

It is one thing to blossom beautifully but quite another
to receive Love's pollination and then to bear Her fruit.

—Annemarie Reiner

GATHERING

Preparing Our Space and Our Hearts

Call to Worship

We begin the Season of Advent,
a time of preparation and anticipation.

***We hold silence and make space
to sense the presence of God in our midst.***

We begin the Season of Advent
aware of the brokenness in our lives and in the world.

***We make space for Christ in these days
who longs to bring healing and wholeness.***

We begin the season of Advent
hopeful, expectant, longing.

***We make space for God's Spirit
weaving in and through our lives.***

(from the Christmas Bowl resource)

Opening Prayer

Hymn

“Come thou long expected Jesus” (TiS 272)

1

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free,
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

3

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us for ever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

2

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

4

By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Make sure that you don't get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and aware to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work that was begun when we first believed. We can't afford to waste a minute. We must not squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity and indulgence, in bickering and grabbing everything in sight. Get out of bed and get dressed! Dress yourselves in Christ, and be up and about!

—Romans 13:11—14, *The Message*

Let us pray:

Maker of all that is seen and unseen:

wake up our senses

and renew our awareness of you

in creation,

in our relationships,

in us.

(prayer continues in silence)

We give thanks for this season of preparation.

Help us move slowly and attentively through these days that we may truly hear your Word. ***Amen.***

(an Advent candle is lit)

We Sing

“God of all people”

God of all places: present unseen;
 Voice in our silence, song in our midst.
 We are your people, knowing, unsure.
 Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Words: David Haas
 Tune: KINGDOM

ENCOUNTERING**Scripture Readings**

Isaiah 2:1—5
 Matthew 24:36—44

May your word live in us:
and bear much fruit to your glory.

Reflection on the Word**RESPONDING****We Sing**

“For you, O God, my soul in stillness waits”

Refrain:

For you, O God, my soul in stillness waits,
 truly my hope is in you.

O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory,
 your radiance shines in all who look to you.
 Come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.

O Spring of Joy, rain down upon our spirits;
 our thirsty hearts are yearning for your Word.
 Come, make us whole; be comfort to our hearts.

O Root of Life, implant your seed within us,
 and in your advent draw us all to you,
 our hope reborn in dying and in rising.

Christmas Bowl Presentation

Collection and Offering Song

(TiS 271)

Praise to the incarnate Son
 who comes to set us free,
 with Father, Spirit, ever one
 to all eternity.

Words: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749

Prayer of Dedication

We long for a time when all may live in peace,
 when those who hunger and thirst for justice will be satisfied.
***We make our offerings in the confident hope
 that evil will not have the last word,
 and that now is always the time
 when more good can be done. Amen.***

(from the Christmas Bowl resource)

JOURNEYING

Hymn

“Touch the earth lightly”

(TiS 668)

Touch the earth lightly,
 use the earth gently,
 nourish the life of the world in our care:
 gift of great wonder,
 ours to surrender,
 trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

We who endanger,
 who create hunger,
 agents of death for all creatures that live,
 we who would foster
 clouds of disaster,
 God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

(Cont.)

Let there be greening,
 Birth from the burning,
 water that blesses and air that is sweet,
 health in God's garden,
 hope in God's children,
 regeneration that peace will complete.

God of all living,
 God of all loving,
 God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
 teach us, deflect us,
 Christ re-connect us,
 using us gently and making us one.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray
 Tune: TENDERNESS

Sung Benediction “May the kindness of our Lord, Jesus”

May the kindness of our Lord, Jesus
 And the love of our God
 And the friendship, and the unity
 of the Spirit be with you.
 Be with you.

Words and music: Andrew Dutney

Please gather for morning tea, in the hall after worship



St. Andrews by the Sea Uniting Church 1st December 2019

Death of Janet Smith

We are deeply saddened by the death of Janet Smith last week.

Janet was a very respected and active member of our Congregation, being involved in every aspect of Church life, and will be greatly missed.

Her funeral service was held at St Andrews last Friday.

We hold Brian and the family in our prayers.

Bags of Love

It is a joy to celebrate Christmas with the Mary's Kitchen community. You may want to be part of the joy by preparing Bags of Love which will be gifted during the Christmas party on 10 December. Please take a bag or two and use the shopping list inside to purchase items for your Bag of Love. Return the bag to the office by 6 December.

Piano Recital & Demo

Adeline and 3 students will be performing a recital on Sunday 8th December from 1:00 pm. Repertoire will include Christmas carols, children's songs and music from the movies. Anyone curious about music lessons can stay for the Q&A session and demo lesson to follow after. Free admission.

Summer Solace

On Sunday 15th December, 11:30 am—12:30 pm, Arts by the Sea is pleased to host Jack Spyker in a relaxing recital of mellow music to take the stress out of the pre-Christmas season. Buy tickets at bit.ly/ArtsGlenelg or speak to Adeline. Proceeds to benefit Community Aid.

Moving through Advent

Prayer resource for the Season of Advent are available for you to take today. Feel free to take one to a friend who might value a devotional to help make these weeks reflective and meaningful.

Also, if you would like to pause and talk with others about this season, please speak with Christine. She is interested in nurturing in herself and others the depth of faith and gifts Advent and the incarnation open to us. We can meet after morning tea on Sundays or whenever suits those who are interested. We can meet once, twice or each week in Advent. Let's talk about what is possible.

Christmas Closure and New Year Re-Open Dates

Church Office closes at 2:30 pm on Friday 20th December 2019 and re-opens at 9:30 am on Tuesday 7th January 2020.

Community Aid closes at 2:30 pm on Friday 20th December 2019 and re-opens at 12:00 pm on Tuesday 14th January 2020.

Friendship Café closes at 1:00 pm on Thursday 5th December 2019 and re-opens at 11:00 am on Tuesday 28th January 2020.

Op Shop closed on Thursday 5th December 2019 and re-opens at 10:30 am on Tuesday 28th January 2020.

Mary's Kitchen closes with the Christmas party on Tuesday 10th December 2019 and re-opens at 6:00 pm on Tuesday 28th January 2020.

Readings for Sunday 8th December 2019**Second Sunday of Advent**

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

Rostered Duties:**Prayers of the People:**

Avril Noy

Scripture Reader:

Paul McGrath

Morning Tea:

Elaine and Barry Mesecke

Birthday Cake—December

Adeline & Andrew

Welcomer:

Lisa McGrath

Side Door after Worship

Chris Croucher

This Week at St Andrews:

The Church is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.30 am to 3.00 pm.

Sunday:

10:30 am

Fellowship in the Hall

2:30 pm—4:00 pm

Glenelg Brass Band

6:30 pm

Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

Monday:

6:30 pm— 9:00 pm

UnitingCare Glenelg

Board Meeting

at Morphet Arms Hotel

Tuesday:

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Friendship Café

12:00 pm- 2:30 pm

Community Aid

6:00 pm—7:30 pm

Mary's Kitchen

Wednesday**Thursday:**

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Friendship Café final day

12:00 pm- 2:00 pm

Community Aid

Friday:

12:00 pm

Friendship Café Christmas Lunch

12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Community Aid

Contact Information:

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