

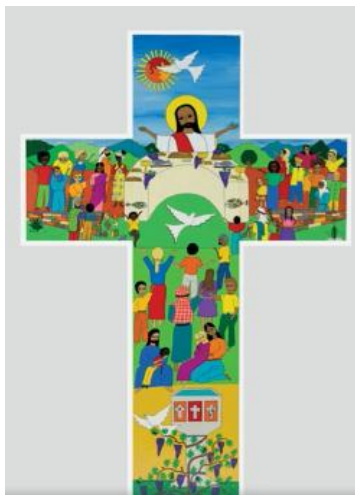
Bethlehem Morley

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 29 Robinson Rd, Morley

TwentySixth Sunday after Pentecost

October 13th, 2016

Reformation Day Commemoration



Worship:

Sundays at 9.30am

Sunday School at 9:45am

fortnightly in term time

— **In Church**—**Godly**

Play

Contact Details

Pastor:- Pastor Matthew Bishop

Email: matthew.bishop@lca.org.au

Office Phone: 9276 7668



**LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

OF AUSTRALIA

where love comes to life

Our Mission

Being fed with the grace of the Triune God through His Word and Sacraments, Bethlehem Lutheran Church is called to share this Bread of Life with the spiritually hungry of our community

Entry Psalm: Psalm 46

Leader: God is our shelter and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble.

People: So we will not be afraid, even if the earth is shaken and mountains fall into the ocean depths;

Even if the seas roar and rage, and the hills are shaken by the violence.

There is a river that brings joys to the city of God, to the sacred house of the Most High.

God is in that city, and it will never be destroyed; at early dawn he will come to its aid.

Nations are terrified, kingdoms are shaken; God thunders, and the earth dissolves.

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come and see what the Lord has done. See what amazing things he has done on earth.

He stops wars all over the world; he breaks bows, destroys spears, and sets shields on fire.

“Stop fighting,” he says, “and know that I am God, supreme among the nations, supreme over the world.”

The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, in mercy you give the light of your gospel to your church. Keep us in sound teaching, so that we may firmly believe and faithfully follow your saving word, and finally, with its holy comfort, die in peace and joy. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 31:31-34 The Lord will write his law on our hearts

Romans 3:19-28 Justification by faith

John 8:31-36 'In my word, you will know the truth'

FROM
THE
PASTOR



Reformation Day is usually commemorated on 31 October, or the closest Sunday to that. We commemorate it today because on 30 October we celebrated 50 years of the LCA. We could have let Reformation Commemoration 'go'... but we are now in a countdown over the next year to the 500th anniversary since Luther posted his disputation in 1517 ... a day long since

recognised as changing much about the western world at that time and since. Some bad - schisms are painful. But also liberating for many who have come to understand the promises of scripture in a much clearer way than existed in the medieval church. You won't hear those promises too much clearer than this one from our Epistle text today:

"For we maintain that a person is justified (*declared right with God*) by faith apart from observing the law" (Romans 3:28 - my edit). We don't idolise Luther. But we can thank God for his work and that of the Lutheran reformers. And we pray that the Holy Spirit will too teach us through his Word of God's saving activity through 'the redemption that came by Christ Jesus' (Romans 3:24).

National Church Life Survey: We conduct the survey **TODAY** between Divine Service and the Longest Lutheran Lunch. Clear directions will be provided. We thank Mrs Lucinda Ridgway in helping Bethlehem conduct a successful survey. We look forward to assessing and learning from the results.

Longest Lutheran Lunch: This year our Gospel readings have used Luke's Gospel. One of the big themes in Luke is that of meal fellowship. Everywhere Jesus is in meal fellowship with sinners. No one is too bad to be invited to his table, as our children found out last week in Sunday School when they looked at the story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10). All this table fellowship in Luke, culminates in the Lord's Supper and the great eternal feast that Jesus death and resurrection has inaugurated. And so as we sit down today we do so in the joy of God's fellowship with us, and his gifts to us of each other and great abundance. It's just a tiny little reminder of something very big and grand to come...

Thank you to Mrs Carol Schmeiss for developing 'Reformation Play' for our children's address today. After the service you are welcome to take a postcard of 'Luther's Seal' which will be placed on the font - the explanation on the back makes a great point of reflection to pray through!

Cont over page.....

Pastor's pen cont.....

The *WA Right To Life Association* Newsletter has been placed on the notice board and will be there for the next three Sundays.

Next week will be a service without Communion. The Bridge Choir, directed by Yen Soon Lee, will be our special guests and will perform some sacred songs and beautiful music. Yen Soon is a member of the Chinese Methodist Church that meets at Bethlehem Sunday afternoons. We look forward to a beautiful service of music. Being the last Sunday of the church year we will also reflect on the 'Reign of Christ'. A special morning tea to host our guests will follow.

Lutheran Media's latest newsletter is in the narthex (foyer).

The LCA website has an excellent report of the ecumenical service in Lund, Sweden, on 31 October 2016 which LCA Bishop John Henderson attended to commence the year leading up to the 500th commemoration of the Luther's posting of the 95 theses.

Thanks to our congregation for it's ongoing support, and to our seven members who helped with the **Hampton High 50th anniversary** sausage sizzle fundraiser this past Wednesday 9 November. Your efforts where appreciated by the school chaplain and administration. Much needed funds were raised to enhance the sustainability of the breakfast club in 2017.



Lutheran World Federation and the Catholic Church held a joyful joint commemoration of the Reformation on 31 October in Lund and Malmö, Sweden, under the theme:

From Conflict to Communion – Together in Hope

The cross by a Salvadoran artist was based on the document 'from conflict to communion' and had meaning for both Catholics and Lutherans.

Explanation here: <https://www.lutheranworld.org/news/salvadoran-cross>



Advent Tea and items

Sunday 27 November
from 5pm:



Please join us for a community tea (please bring a plate of food to share) followed by around an hour of Advent related 'concert' items, including from Bethlehem's Sunday School. A Sunday morning service will be held this day at Bethlehem, at the usual time.



Sat 26th November 11:2pm
Ladies Fellowship Break Up—HIGH TEA
All welcome—please wear hat, fascinator or
hair decoration

2017 Offering Envelopes are now available—they can be used immediately if you wish.

St John's Lutheran Church in Perth invite you to their **Christmas Tree Festival from Sunday 4 December -16 December.** There are special events on various days within this timeframe. See the notice board and associated flyers (in the narthex) for more information.

The Reformation

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Play this puzzle online at : <http://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/21450/>

JOINT DECLARATION

On Reformation Day 1999, the Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church signed a 'Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification', known now as the 'Augsburg Accord' (it was signed in the city of Augsburg). This was the first time since the Reformation that the Roman Catholic Church signed such a document of doctrinal agreement with any other church. In this document, the mutual condemnations of the 16th Century with regard to the doctrine of justification were rescinded (in so far as the doctrine is outlined in this document). The Lutheran Church of Australia, through its Pastors Conferences, assented to this agreement, and also signed a similar document locally between the LCA and the Australian Catholic Church.



Prayer Points



- .. Praise for Jesus Christ our saviour... 'whom God presented as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood' (Romans 3:25)
- .. Thanksgiving for the righteousness from God that comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe (Romans 3:22)
- .. That Christ's church preaches the truth that sets us free (John 8:32): 'For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from observing law' (Romans 3:28)
- .. For President-Elect of the USA Donald Trump, his advisors and a smooth transition to government (please see 1 Tim 2:1-4)
- .. For the Bridge Choir and the work of Yoon Sen Lee (Psalm 149:3)
- .. For our lay-assistants meeting this Thursday night (2 Tim 2:1-2)
- .. That in the troubles and suffering of the world and those afflicted by it, including those in our congregation who are anxious, grieving, untrusting and in poor health, all will take comfort that 'God is our refuge and strength' (Psalm 46:1) and that they will 'Be still and know that I am God' (Psalm 46:10)

Please remember in your prayers this week:

- .. **Those dealing with health issues:** Ewald Schmidt, Elfrida Kaszanski, Lisa Sitarz, Jutta Chrulew, Carmen Lawson, Roslyn Zadow and Tristram Van Rooyen.
- .. **Those facing challenging circumstances:** Margaret and Ernst Klenner, Amelia Chrulew and family, Roslyn, Lois and Jye, Carmen's daughter Rihi and family, Royce family and baby Nicola, and Joanna Arkoï

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday 14th	1 Kings 1:5-31
Tuesday 15th	1 Kings 1:32-2:4
Wednesday 16th	1 Kings 3:1-15
Thursday 17th	1 Kings 3:16-28
Friday 18th	1 Kings 6:1-14
Saturday 19th	Psalm 46

Questions about attending Holy Communion in the Lutheran Church?

‘Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and drink.’

Come to this sacrament:

- as a sinner who wants God’s forgiveness;
 - as a baptised believer who trusts that Jesus died for the forgiveness of sin;
 - as a guest who humbly accepts what Jesus gives — his true body and blood with the bread and wine ;
 - as a witness who gladly joins in this public confession of the death of Christ.
- Should you not wish to receive Holy Communion, you may remain in your pew or come to the altar to receive a blessing - crossing your arms to signify your intention.

COMING UP OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Sunday 13th 9:30am Bethlehem Worship followed by lunch

Thursday 17th 7-10pm LYWA Grow

Friday 18th 6pm Confirmation Class

Sunday 20th 9:30am Bethlehem Worship

Friday 25th 6pm Confirmation Class

Bookings: Visit us on the Web at www.morley.wa.lca.org.au or email us at bookings@morley.wa.lca.org.au

Bookings—Other Events	
Sun 13th Nov	1-5pm Chinese Methodist Church
Sat 19th Nov	5-6:15pm Children’s Choir
Sun 20th Nov	1-5pm Chinese Methodist Church
Thur 24th Nov	5:30pm Lutheran Homes Meeting

WORSHIP SERVICE – NEXT WEEK

27th Sunday after Pentecost— November 20th, (Green)

Readings: Isaiah 65:17-25, 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13, Luke 21:5-19

Flowers: Margaret M

Cleaners: Mansas Family

All Items for the “Bethlehem Bulletin”, please email to Lorraine (lschutz99@gmail.com) by Wednesday afternoon.

Christmas Hampers

Christmas is rapidly approaching. Over the years now, Morley has provided Christmas Hampers for a number of families. It would be appreciated if you could make a 'Christmas type' donation for these food hampers.



All items are appreciated, in particular tinned fruit, shortbread, pretzels, crackers, mince pies, tea, coffee, juice and processed cheeses.



If you still need ideas, please contact Susan Kroeger



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