

Bethlehem Morley

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 29 Robinson Rd, Morley

First Sunday of Advent

November 27th, 2016

Welcome

Worship blessings in Christ as you gather here today to receive God's good things. If you would like to talk further concerning faith in Christ or about the Church, please contact our Pastor or one of our lay-assistants. Visitors are warmly invited to stay after worship for a cuppa with our members, and also to sign our visitor's book in the foyer



Worship:

Sundays at 9.30am

Sunday School at 9:45am fortnightly

in term time

ON TODAY

Contact Details

Pastor:- Pastor Matthew Bishop

Email: matthew.bishop@lca.org.au



**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 122

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the Lord's house."

People: And now we are here, standing inside the gates of Jerusalem!

Jerusalem is a city restored in beautiful order and harmony.

This is where the tribes come, the tribes of Israel, to give thanks to the Lord according to his command.

Here the kings of Israel sat to judge their people.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you prosper. May there be peace inside your walls and safety in your palaces."

For the sake of my relatives and friends I say to Jerusalem, "Peace be with you!"

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God I pray for your prosperity.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray that we remain alert for the coming of the Lord.

Jesus, Son of God, you have promised to return at a time that no one knows. Keep us watchful in prayer and strong in faith as we wait for you to come. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Scripture Readings:

Isaiah 2:1-5

God's kingdom of peace

Romans 13:11-14

Our salvation is near

Matthew 24:36-44

No one knows the day or hour





'But about that day and hour no one knows' (Matthew 24:36). How would you change your life if you knew today was your last? Would it be to wait and watch? Maybe that seems a little mundane. But in today's Gospel text, Matthew 24:36-44, Jesus warns us to keep watch because the Son of man is coming back. This means we are to be waiting people... a people that wait and watch for Christ. But not in fear. Instead, in the power of the Gospel, for Christ promises that his people will be 'taken' to be with him (Matthew 24:40-41).

Bethlehem's 2016 Advent candle lighting will follow the themes of **waiting, thankfulness, expectation** and **preparation**. Where possible, other aspects of our service will also reflect on these themes (songs, prayers and the sermon where the text suggests).

Back by popular demand: After today's service we will show the national winning entry for the senior division of the Lutheran Archives LCA 50th anniversary congregational history competition. It is of course Bethlehem Morley's entry by Eden Bishop and Alex Osborne.

This weekend is the last meeting of the **Chinese Methodist Church** in Bethlehem's premises. God has blessed them abundantly with a facility in Malaga that they will now call home. As part of blessing them on their way I will assist at their service today, including by preaching the sermon (with an interpreter!) Mrs Elizabeth Chiew, wife of Pastor Albert Chiew of the Chinese Methodist Congregation, will be attending Bethlehem's Advent evening.

LYWA youth night, this Friday 2 December. LYWA is hosting a district wide youth event at Concordia Lutheran Church Duncraig on Friday 2 December from 6-9:30PM. Bethlehem's confirmation class will be attending as part of seeing the church in action and hooking into the great work LYWA does. The guest speaker is Hip-Hop artist Blake Young. Please encourage the 'youth' of your household to attend - see the flyer on the noticeboard for further detail. Transport issues? Drop Pastor Matt an email.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to last Sunday's morning tea for the Bridge Choir (Heb 13:2).

Pastor's pen cont.....

Welcome to the new church year! This year we follow the readings set down for Year A. A highlight is a focus on the Gospel according to Matthew. You can find the schedule of readings for the whole year at: <http://www.lca.org.au/worship/cowadmin/?p=8542> Another excellent site is: <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu> Please let Pastor Matt or a lay-assistant know if you would like the list emailed to you or you require a hard copy.

Please **remember** the needs of the Bethlehem Community Care Christmas hamper appeal as you are able. See the separate flyer.

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



Advent Tea and items

Join us **TONIGHT**

Please join us for a community tea 5pm
(please bring a plate of food to share)

From the Secretary:

In order to help members to be informed about the decisions of Church Council, Church Council has approved the distribution of minutes of its meetings to members of the Congregation.

To protect the privacy of individuals whose personal circumstances may be disclosed at Church Council meetings, confidential information may be removed from the copy of the minutes that is circulated, such as personal financial information.

A number of copies of the minutes are now available in a folder on the noticeboard. Members are asked to leave at least one copy in this folder.

Members who would like to receive the minutes by email are encouraged to contact the Secretary, John Theodorsen (john@theodorsen.com.au).

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.

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



No One Knows the Day or Hour (Matthew 24:36–44)

M M T K I O G N I T A E
D A G I V I N G P L I D
R R R H I T I L E T E I
N R I R U O H F Y R U O
A I I N Y O T H E R M H
C A E S K I O T V P R R
B G M H L I N W E N K R
P E O P L E N G N O A H
T S C A V P G G E L D S
W U H A P P E N K C O E
V O E W U H C T A W O T
F H N L C S U M T F L U
T H K K F R E H T A F K

ANGELS
COME
ENTERED
FLOOD
HEAVEN
KNEW
MARRIAGE
NOTHING
PEOPLE

BECAUSE
DRINKING
EVEN
GIVING
HOUR
KNOW
MARRYING
ONLY
TAKEN

CAME
EATING
FATHER
HAPPEN
HOUSE
LEFT
NOAH
OTHER
WATCH

Prayer Points



- “ Thanksgiving that God has called us to follow his son Jesus (John 15:16)
- “ That we may **wait** with watchful expectation and readiness for the Lord's second coming (Matthew 24:44)
- “ That the Prince of Peace will bring his peace to reign into the world and our land (Isaiah 9:6-7; 2:4)
- “ Thanksgiving for the diversity of the world's cultures and petitions for God to show his righteous ways to all (Isaiah 2:4)
- “ For candidates preparing for ordination into the pastoral ministry of the LCA on 4 Dec 2016 (2 Tim 4:2)
- “ For God to encourage and strengthen all who attend LYWA's youth night 2 Dec 2016
- “ That Bethlehem's Advent evening will help members and friends recall the joy that is 'God with us' (Matthew 1:23)
- “ For those who grieve, struggle with work situations, face health challenges and have estranged family relationships (1 Thessalonians 3:13)

Please remember in your prayers this week:

- “ **Those dealing with health issues:** Ewald Schmidt, Elfrida Kaszanski and her son Bruce, 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 Arkoi

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday 28th	Isaiah 1:1-9
Tuesday 29th	Isaiah 1:10-20
Wednesday 30th	Isaiah 2:1-4
Thursday Dec 1st	Isaiah 2:5-22
Friday 2nd	Isaiah 5:1-7
Saturday 3rd	Psalms 72:1-7,18,19

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 27th** 9:30am Bethlehem Worship
5pm Advent Tea and items to follow
- Thursday 1st** 7pm LYWA GROW
- Friday 2nd** 6pm Confirmation Class (see Pastor’s pen)
- Sunday 4th** 9:30am Bethlehem Worship
11am Ladies Trading Table
- Sunday 11th** 9:30am Bethlehem Worship

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 27th Nov	1-5pm Chinese Methodist Church
Thur 1st Dec	7pm LYWA GROW
Sat 3rd Dec	5-6:15pm Children’s Choir
Sat 10th Dec	11-1pm LYWA Management Mtg

WORSHIP SERVICE – NEXT WEEK

2nd Sunday of Advent— December 4th, (Violet)

Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10 , Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12

Flowers: Chris

Cleaners: Chris Kempin

All Items for the “Bethlehem Bulletin”, please email to Lorraine (Ischutz99@gmail.com) by Wednesday afternoon.