



# Gladstone Uniting Church Interface

Advent 2

8 December 2024

## Welcome

**H**ello and welcome all to worship this morning. We extend a special welcome to all visitors to our Church today.

May your time of worship be a blessed one.

If you are a visitor, or newcomer, to our Church, please contact us via email [gladuca@bigpond.com](mailto:gladuca@bigpond.com) if you have any queries or we can be of assistance.



For the most up-to-date information on our church please remember [www.gladstoneuniting.org.au](http://www.gladstoneuniting.org.au)

### Lectionary Bible Readings

**This Week: Advent 2**

**Next Week: Advent 3**

Malachi 3: 1-4

Luke 1: 68-79

Philippians 1: 3-11

Luke 3: 1-6



Zephaniah 3: 14-20

Isaiah 12: 2-6

Philippians 4: 4-7

Luke 3: 7-18



*Our Vision is for the Gladstone Region to be a community where everyone experiences the transforming love of Jesus.*

In the small town of Narraglen, Martha, the wife of a respected elder named David, quietly endured domestic abuse behind closed doors. Despite seeking subtle help, the church community, including the pastor, dismissed her struggles, believing David to be a good man. The illusion of a perfect family shattered when another church member, Michael, was arrested for domestic violence after his wife, Emma, was hospitalised. This revelation shocked the congregation and forced them to confront the uncomfortable reality that abuse can exist anywhere, even within their own community.



In response, the church leadership began a journey of change, inviting experts to educate the congregation on recognising and addressing domestic violence. They created a confidential support network for survivors, regardless of gender, and transformed worship services to include prayers for peace, safety, and respect in homes. A quiet room was set up for confidential counselling, and posters with helplines were displayed openly.

During this time, David's abusive behaviour was exposed. The pastor made it clear that accountability was necessary, and David entered a rehabilitation program, no longer allowed to serve in leadership until genuine change occurred. Martha, supported for the first time, found strength to speak out and became a voice for others in similar situations.

The church, once complicit in silence, began to transform into a true sanctuary—a place where peace was more than a word, and love was not a facade. They learned that healing requires honesty, courage, and a commitment to protecting the vulnerable, offering a beacon of hope for all.

## χαρίς & εἰρήνη - Հնրիք եւ Խաղաղութիւն - Grace and Peace *Levon*

<https://theoblogy.org.au/reflections/>




## *Next Week's Gladstone Roster & Church Activities*

<u>15 December 2024</u>	
<b>Preaching</b>	Levon Kardashian
<b>Intro to Worship</b>	Pam Elliott
<b>Notices &amp; Prayers</b>	Pam Elliott
<b>Vestry Elders</b>	G. Caird, H. Holmes
<b>Bible Reader</b>	Pam Elliott
<b>Song Selector</b>	Ros Bambrick
<b>Back Up Singer</b>	
<b>Piano</b>	Emily Field
<b>Additional Music</b>	
<b>Data Projector</b>	Ian Anderson
<b>Sound System</b>	Wise Kafoa
<b>Church Steward/Valet</b>	
<b>Welcome Host</b>	
<b>Count Offering</b>	John P, Helper Please
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Pauline S, Dulcie Van W

<u>Monday 9 December 2024</u>	
9-11am	Little Explorers—In Recess
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
<u>Tuesday 10 December 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
<u>Wednesday 11 December 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
<u>Thursday 12 December 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
<u>Friday 13 December 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
<u>Saturday 14 December 2024</u>	
9am-1pm	Bookshop Open
<u>Sunday 15 December 2024</u>	
8am	Tannum Worship Service
9am	Gladstone Worship Service

### The Church Christmas Tree

Our church Christmas tree is in place and will serve not only as a thing of beauty but it will also be a place to put gifts. Every family in the congregation is invited to share in the true meaning of Christmas by placing gifts of nonperishable (and non-expired) food and toys under our Church Christmas tree. Uniting Care will distribute these amongst those who are most in need in the Gladstone community. Please help us support our community!




### Dates to Note

Church Council Meeting 20 Jan 7.30pm  
 Eden Vale Service 18 December 10am  
**Christmas Carols 13 December 6pm**  
**Blue Christmas 21 December 2.30pm**  
**Christmas Day 7.30am Combined Service**  
**29 December Combined Service**

### Hall Refurbishment Appeal

Donations are being sought for the planned Hall refurbishments. Refinishing the floors will be \$18000 and painting will be around \$5000. If you are able to contribute in any way, please put a separate envelope into the collection or a separate direct deposit into the account. Thank you.



<i>Daily Lectionary Readings</i>	
<b>Monday Dec 9</b> Psalm 126 Isaiah 40:1-11 Romans 8:22-25	<b>Tuesday Dec 10</b> Psalm 126 Isaiah 19:18-25 2 Peter 1:2-15
<b>Wednesday Dec 11</b> Psalm 126 Isaiah 35:3-7 Luke 7:18-20	<b>Thursday Dec 12</b> Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 6:1-8 2 Corinthians 8:1-15
<b>Friday Dec 13</b> Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 8:4-12 2 Corinthians 9:1-15	<b>Saturday Dec 14</b> Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 9:8-15 Luke 1:57-66



**\$10**



**\$15**



**\$25**



**\$75**

**\$90**



**\$50**



Order online at [www.everythingincommon.com.au](http://www.everythingincommon.com.au)





## Your impact: Supporting families who are internally displaced in Gaza

Being committed to acting for peace means being present in the world's darkest places. Places like war-torn Gaza where millions of people don't have a safe place to belong.

Tens of thousands of lives have been lost and over 1.9 million\* people have been forcibly displaced. Nearly the entire population lacks access to shelter, food, medical services, clean water, education and income.

Since October 2023, there have been relentless attacks on Gaza, including homes, hospitals, clinics, schools and churches. The number of people killed and injured continues to rise each day.

With your support, Act for Peace continues to stand with our long-term partners, the Near East Council of Churches (NECC) and Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR), who, despite their own personal losses, have been working tirelessly to provide vital humanitarian assistance and protection to the civilians of Gaza through mobile medical clinics.



*During a 3-day ceasefire, the local organisations we support in Gaza were able to operate a psychosocial day for children affected by the conflict.*

Lord you wait for us  
to come and see you.  
You wait to shine light  
where there is darkness,  
To show love  
where there is hate,  
To share peace  
where there is conflict.  
Lord you wait for us  
to come and see you.  
You wait for us  
to remember  
what has been fulfilled,  
to prepare  
for what must still be done.  
You wait in hope and expectation,  
Longing for us  
To shine your light,  
To show your love,  
To share your peace.

*If we keep Christ in our  
heart.  
Christmas has no end.*



Gladstone Uniting Church

**BOOKSHOP**

Corner Dixon Drive & Uniting Place  
TELINA

Open 9am to 1pm  
from Monday 2 December  
to Saturday 21 December.

*Lots of lovely gift ideas  
and inspirations.*

**Closed on Sundays**

# Fanfare for a King

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:  
"A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for  
the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Luke 3:4 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 3:1-6



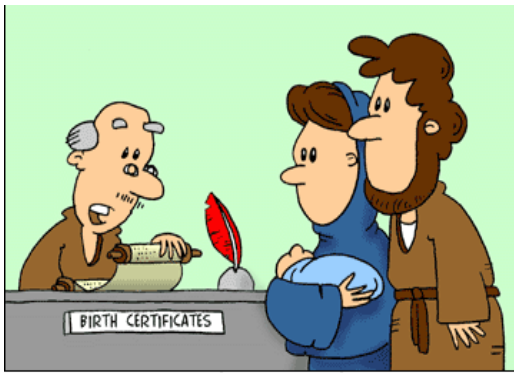
J B J W W F I U R G D B I H K  
J O E L U R C O Z U C Z Y N F  
B T R P Z V A V P Z E P M T U  
A Z C D P W P F O R E P E N T  
P S J R A R E R Z I Q E I V A  
T G N Y O N E E E I C B H A P  
I A G B K O V P O A A E S L V  
S I W Y V I K H A L C G D L B  
M K X V G E Q E O R E H R E T  
D R Q R S I N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

VOICE	ROUGH	FORGIVE	PREACHING	STRAIGHT
JORDAN	VALLEY	DESERT	REPENT	SINS
PREPARE	CROOKED	SMOOTH	BAPTISM	CALLING

*Colouring Page*

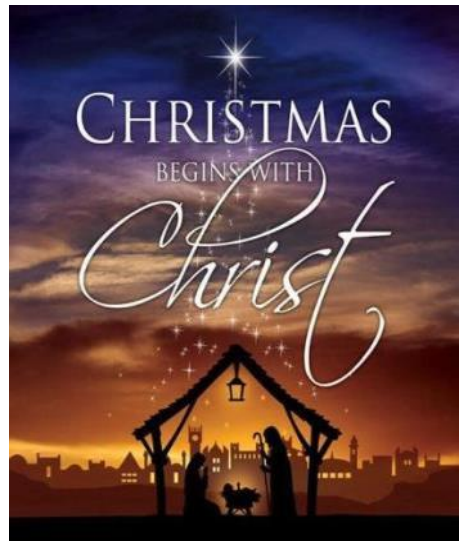






Thanks to Dad Hengeveld (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-20-2000

'JESUS, WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE' IS A BIT LONG FOR THIS FORM ... YOU MIGHT WANT TO JUST USE 'JESUS'



Direct EFT Giving

This is an option for those who like the convenience of setting up a Direct Transfer from your own bank account to the church each week/month for your offering. Please use 'Tithing' as the reference for regular offerings and 'Spec Offering' for a once off.



BSB: 014010 A/C: 192134483

Account Name: UCA Gladstone

Congregation

Interface

Back copies of the weekly Interface are available on request. Remember also that these can also be downloaded from the Gladstone UC website at:

[www.gladstoneuniting.org.au](http://www.gladstoneuniting.org.au) and are published on our Facebook page.

Gladstone Worship Centre

Cnr Uniting Place & Dixon Dr

Tannum Worship Centre

12 Silverton Dr

Gladstone Office Details:

**Open Tues & Thurs**

**9.00am—12.00pm**

**(times subject to change in school holidays)**

Email: [gladuca@bigpond.com](mailto:gladuca@bigpond.com)

(07) 4979 3323

Minister:

**Rev Levon Kardashian**

**13 Waratah Street**

**GLADSTONE QLD 4680**

**Mobile: 0410 404 542**

**Email: TBA**



**ALLERGY ALERT**

Please be aware when preparing any food for Morning Tea, or possibly bringing snacks for yourself or your children, that the Gladstone Uniting Church is a **Nut & Egg Free Church.**

*Please note that Egg as an ingredient in cakes or biscuits is fine. Your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.*

