



# Gladstone Uniting Church Interface

Advent 4

22 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.

*An Advent Prayer*  
God of light and hope,  
look upon us in love,  
and fill us with the Spirit of Jesus  
that we may love you and serve you in your kingdom.  
Protect us during this week  
and keep us watchful in prayer  
as we await the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ,  
who is the light of the world,  
and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.



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 4**

**Next Week: Christmas 1**

Micah 5: 2-5a

Luke 1: 46-55

Hebrews 10: 5-10

Luke 1: 39-45



1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26

Psalms 148

Colossians 3: 12-17

Luke 2: 41-52



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

## The Little One Who Could

In a dusty village on the outskirts of a bustling city, there lived a young boy named Tariq. His family was poor, barely able to scrape together enough money for food, and their small, crumbling home was tucked away at the edge of the town, far from where the influential and wealthy people lived. Tariq himself was small for his age, with dark eyes that seemed too large for his face and skin the colour of the earth after rain. His clothes were hand-me-downs, frayed and patched, and he often felt like he was invisible in a world that only noticed the rich and powerful.



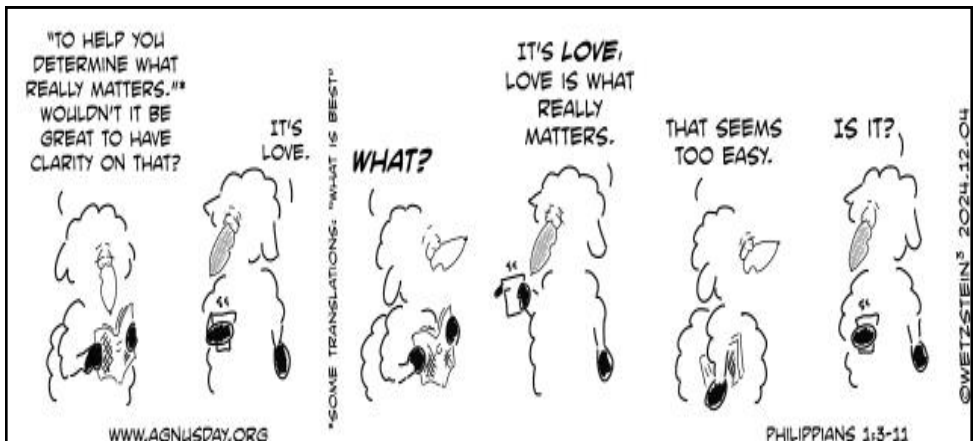
Tariq's family had arrived in the village years ago from a far-off land where the language was different, the customs unfamiliar, and the people were often treated with suspicion. His mother and father worked tirelessly as street vendors, selling simple fruits and vegetables, but it was a struggle. The other children at school made fun of Tariq, calling him names that hinted at his family's foreign origins, and when he played with the other kids, they usually ignored him or told him to go away.

One day, as the village prepared for its annual festival, an important event that brought together the richest and most influential people from the region, the elders of the village announced that they were looking for someone special to represent the community in a grand procession. This procession was an honour, an opportunity for the chosen person to show the world what the village stood for. It was always a child of prominence, someone with a family of stature or wealth, someone who could be a shining example of the village's success.

[Continue reading the full story here.](#)

χάρις & εἰρήνη - Հնորիք եւ Խաղաղութիւն - Grace and Peace

*Levon*



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

<u>29 December 2024</u>	
<b>Preaching</b>	Levon Kardashian
<b>Intro to Worship</b>	Dulcie Van W
<b>Notices &amp; Prayers</b>	Dulcie Van W
<b>Vestry Elders</b>	H. Holmes, Helper pls
<b>Bible Reader</b>	Dulcie Van W
<b>Song Selector</b>	Emily Field
<b>Back Up Singer</b>	
<b>Piano</b>	Emily Field
<b>Additional Music</b>	
<b>Data Projector</b>	
<b>Sound System</b>	
<b>Church Steward/Valet</b>	
<b>Welcome Host</b>	Helen Versic
<b>Count Offering</b>	
<b>Morning Tea</b>	

<u>Monday 23 December 2024</u>	
9-11am	Little Explorers—In Recess
<u>Tuesday 24 December 2024</u>	
Bookshop Closed	
<u>Wednesday 25 December 2024</u>	
7.30am	Christmas Day Service
<u>Thursday 26 December 2024</u>	
Bookshop Closed	
<u>Friday 27 December 2024</u>	
<u>Saturday 28 December 2024</u>	
Bookshop Closed	
<u>Sunday 29 December 2024</u>	
	Combined Service at
9am	Gladstone Worship Service



### The Church Christmas Tree

Thank you to all those who donated to the Christmas Tree Appeal. The gifts have all been taken to Uniting Care for distribution to those in need in our community.

Thank You

### Dates to Note

Church Council Meeting 20 Jan 7.30pm

**Christmas Day 7.30am Combined Service**

**29 December Combined Service at Gladstone Worship 9am**



### 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.

<b>Monday Dec 23</b> Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14[15-20]	<b>Tuesday Dec 24</b> Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:[1-7]8-20
<b>Wednesday Dec 25</b> Psalm 148 2 Chronicles 24:17-24 Acts 6:1-7; 7:51-60	<b>Thursday Dec 26</b> Psalm 148 Proverbs 8:22-36 John 21:19b-24
<b>Friday Dec 27</b> Psalm 148 Isaiah 54:1-13 Revelation 21:1-7	<b>Saturday Dec 28</b> Psalm 147:12-20 1 Chronicles 28:1-10 1 Corinthians 3:10-17



**\$10**



**\$15**



**\$25**



**\$75**

**\$90**



**\$50**



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



## Your impact: Supporting Sri Lankan families to return home after years of being displaced.



*Jesu built a temporary hut to protect his family after returning home to Sri Lanka. He now proudly stands by the permanent house he built with the support of OfERR*

In 2006, as violence escalated in Sri Lanka, Jesu was forced to flee his homeland with his wife and four children. They sought refuge in India, where they lived in a refugee camp for thirteen years. To support his family and ensure his children's education, Jesu took on demanding construction jobs. Unfortunately, the physical strain of his work led to a debilitating stroke, requiring extensive medical treatment.

In 2019, with the situation in Sri Lanka stabilising, Jesu and his family returned to their homeland, only to find that their home had been completely destroyed during the war. Undeterred, Jesu built a small, thatched hut on his land to shelter his family.

The Organisation for Elangai Refugees Rehabilitation (OfERR), which has worked alongside Act for Peace for over 35 years, played a crucial role in helping his family transition back to life in Sri Lanka. When OfERR volunteers learned of Jesu's situation, they quickly provided him with a temporary shelter, offering the safety and security his family desperately needed.

Through persistent advocacy by OfERR and Jesu himself, he was able to secure a permanent house under the government's housing scheme. Today, he has successfully built this house and found work as a fisherman in his village.

With over 70,000 refugees still living in camps across Tamil Nadu, organisations like OfERR continue to be beacons of hope, easing the transition back home and striving to restore lives disrupted by decades of conflict.

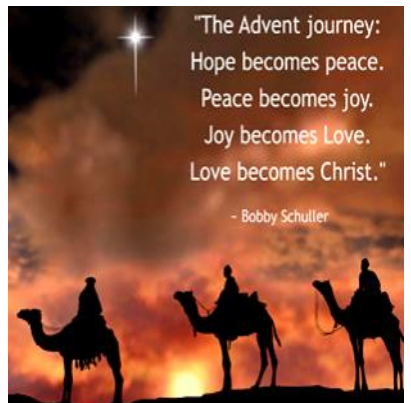
Lord you wait for us  
to come and see you.  
You wait to shine light  
where there is darkness,  
To show love  
where there is hate,  
To share peace  
where there is conflict.  
Lord you wait for us  
to come and see you.  
You wait for us  
to remember  
what has been fulfilled,  
to prepare  
for 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.

Thank you to all those who volunteered at the Bookshop over the last few weeks. The shop is now closed for a well deserved break and will reopen in February 2025.



"The Advent journey:  
Hope becomes peace.  
Peace becomes joy.  
Joy becomes Love.  
Love becomes Christ."

- Bobby Schuller



# The Gift of Love

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

Luke 1:45 (NIV)

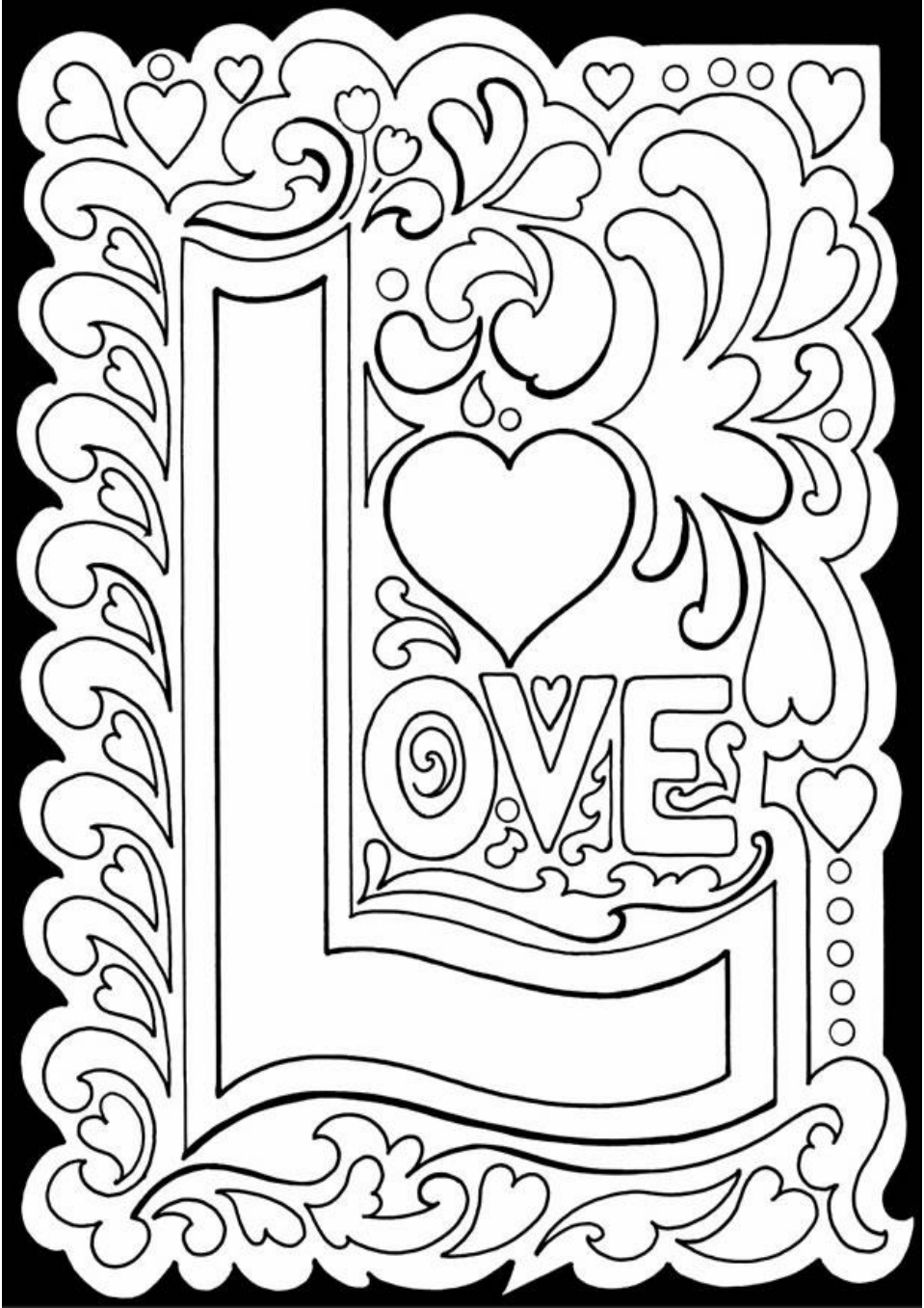


The puzzle is based on Luke 1:39-45

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

ELIZABETH	FULFILL	FILLED	GREETING	BELIEVE
BLESSED	CHILD	PROMISE	LEAPED	JUDEA
ZECHARIAH	JOY	BABY	HOME	MARY

*Colouring Page*

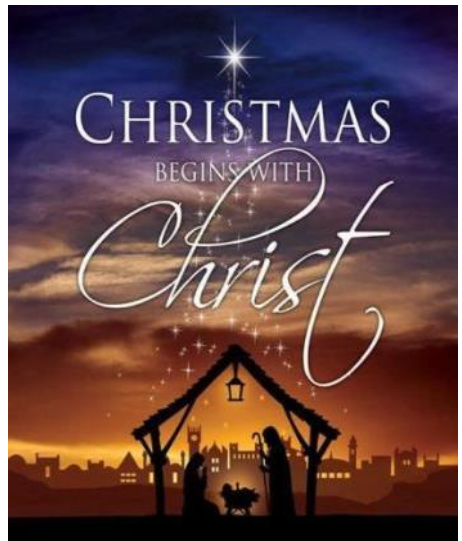




Thanks to Andrew S.

12-21-2007

**ETERNAL LIFE, MY FAVORITE ... THANKS JESUS!**



**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**



**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.



**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.*

