



WELCOME TO ST MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Mt Barker SA

Christmas and Sunday 27th December

CHRISTMAS EVE

DIVINE SERVICE

6.30pm Carols, 7.30pm Service with Children's presentation

9.00pm Lessons and Carols at St Mark's

SERMON

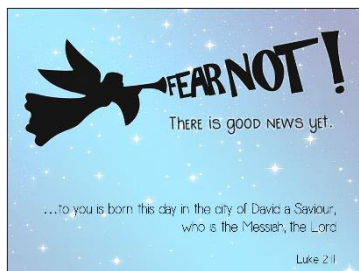
Theme: Fear Not

Text: Luke 2:1-14

PRAYER

M: Let us pray for true Christmas joy.

C: Lord God, we thank you for making this holy night shine with the true light of your Son. As we celebrate his birth as a human child, fill us with the joy of heaven. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



CHRISTMAS DAY

DIVINE SERVICE

8.30am with Holy Communion – LH34, LH33, LH627

10.00am with Holy Communion – Joy to the World, LH33, Go tell it on the Mountain

SERMON

Theme: The City No Longer Deserted

Text: Isaiah 62:6-12

BIBLE READINGS

📖 Isaiah 62:6-12

📖 Titus 3:4-7

📖 Luke 2:8-20

PRAYER

M: Let us pray for true Christmas joy.

C: Lord God, we thank you for making this day holy with the good news of our Saviour's birth. As we celebrate today, fill us with the joy of heaven. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.





Weekly newsletters are available on the St Mark's school website:
www.stmarks.sa.edu.au Ph 8391 0444

PRAYER POINTS

Hildegard Grant, receiving treatment for infected foot
 Trudy Watkins, receiving treatment for infected elbow
 Greg and Christine Lockwood, as Greg celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination
 Christmas services, celebrations and travel

GENERAL PRAYER POINTS

- ❖ **St Mark's Lutheran School:** Lisa Angwin, Danielle Barolo, Susanne Bormann
- ❖ **People in Civil Authority:** Local Federal MP – Rebekha Sharkie
- ❖ **Our Lutheran Leaders:** LCA Bishop – Pastor John Henderson
- ❖ **Our Lutheran Zone:** St Mark's Lutheran School
- ❖ **Our Local Churches:** Echunga Uniting Church
- ❖ **Lutheran Church of Australia, International Mission.** Listed prayer points

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS

Dec 27th ~ Justin Kluske, Sarah Powell

Dec 28th ~ Brianna Kohlhagen, Georgie Schultz, Gail Weinert

Dec 30th ~ Zoe Steven

Jan 2nd ~ Fay Harms, Janice Noske, Andrew Henke, Symon Gogel, Harrison Barolo

If you would like a special birthday or anniversary acknowledged in the bulletin, contact the office on 8391 1695 the week prior



CHRISTMAS GREETING

We would like to extend Christmas blessings to the whole St Mark's community. Thank you for your wonderful encouragement, support and prayers throughout this year. We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Lord with you and stepping forward in faith together into 2021. Pastor Ben, Meghan and family.

ST MARKS VOLUNTEERS

A very special thank you to all our wonderful volunteers that have worked extra hard over the last few months to make services possible during the COVID restrictions. We wish you a Blessed Christmas and Safe & Happy New Year.
 From St Marks Worship Team.

THANK YOU



**WELCOME TO
ST MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Mt Barker SA
SUNDAY 27th December 2020
First Sunday after Christmas**

DIVINE SERVICE

8.30am - LH26, LHS805, LH392, LH468

10.30am with Holy Communion– He Shall Reign Forever, AT132, Who you say I Am, Great in Power

SERMON

Theme: Simeon's Song

Simeon's peace

God's salvation

Jesus' presence

Text: Luke 2:22-40 (esp. 25-35)



BIBLE READINGS

 Isaiah 61:10-62:3

 Galatians 4:4-7

 Luke 22-40

PRAYER

M: Let us pray that through Jesus we share in God's nature.

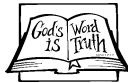
C: Almighty and merciful God, we thank you for sending your Son to become human like us, so that we might become your children. Make us who trust in Jesus to be more and more like him. For he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DEVOTIONAL READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Mon Exodus 2:1-10

Tues Isaiah 51:1-5

Wed Hosea 11:1-4,8,9



Thur Luke 13:6-9

Fri Luke 2:15-21

Sat Psalm 147:12-15(16-18)19,20

*The Lutheran Church teaches that **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 to strengthen us in faith and service. This sacrament is for baptised Christians who repent of their sins, believe in Jesus as their only Saviour, and intend to live as God wants them to. **If you have any questions please see an Elder or Pastor.** If you wish to receive Holy Communion from your pew, can you please confirm with the presiding Pastor, the Elder on duty, or one of the Ushers, before the service begins.
Allergy free communion wafers are available for people with an intolerance to dairy, gluten or wheat*

CONFIRMATION SERVICES

The recorded Confirmation services have now been added to a private you tube channel. Members wanting to view them can contact Dale Cavies for access (cavidj@gmail.com or 0419637771).



MORNING TEA

Morning Tea is not being held currently due to COVID-19 restrictions.

COURTYARD SHADE

Mt Barker Council has approved our shade structure and preliminary works on stage 1 have commenced. We still need another \$2,200 to be able to go ahead with Stage 2. Church Council has decided to close this appeal at the end of December so please consider whether you can donate. Please ensure you clearly mark your donation so that it doesn't go into our general weekly giving.

VICAR MITCH

Our new Vicar Mitch Kitson has begun his time with us. His contact details are: email mitchell.kitson@lca.org.au and phone 0466 271 209.

The 2020 edition of the Tangara magazine is still available. Please see Vicar Mitch if you would like to purchase one at \$10 per copy. Cash is preferable, but other methods are available.



NOMINATIONS TO SA-NT DISTRICT COMMITTEES

The SA-NT district is looking for people, especially younger members, willing to serve on district committees. These include: District Church Council, Constitutions Committee, Aboriginal Ministry SA (AbMinSA), Loxton Riverview Rest Home Committee, Tanunda Lutheran Home, Immanuel College Council and Concordia College Council. If you are interested in serving, details, including a link to a nominations form, can be found at <https://www.sant.lca.org.au/events/convention-of-synod/>. Nominations are due by February 15. Chris Lockwood.

RED CROSS DATES



The Red Cross will be using our facility for blood collection from the 29 – 30 December and again from 5 – 8 January. Between these two dates they will be storing some of their equipment in the Hall.

SOLAR PANELS

Working out the savings from the Solar Panels is not an exact science due to abnormal usage during Covid and some of the power is put back into the grid and some is used immediately reducing how much we take out of the grid and also because the rates we are charged have been constantly changing. The best estimate is that it is saving us about \$2000 a year, perhaps a bit more.

COVID 19 WORSHIP CHANGES

After a review of the current Covid 19 regulations, some changes have been made to our Worship services to bring us in line with the compliance guidelines.

- A new QR code has been issued and we encourage worshippers to register using the code on the entry doors.
- For those not able to use this method of registration, a written attendance sheet will be available on entry.
- Please observe signage on entry pertaining to your current health status, the 1.5 metre distancing rule and the need for regular hand washing and sanitiser.
- Entry to the church plant for Worship will be available through the doors into the Link on the eastern side or through the door into the Church front office / Hall on the western side. Only worshippers with mobility issues will be able to enter through the main foyer door on the western side.
- Members of the same family or household may sit together
- Please wait for direction from the ushers before being seated and fill seats from the front
- Communion will be offered in the Nave and the Link, so we ask that you follow the instructions from the Covid Marshalls, the Greeters and Ushers
- Singing by the Band and the Congregation during Communion has been discouraged due to distancing being compromised.
- At the completion of the service, we ask that you remain seated until directed to exit by an usher, starting from the back, to avoid congestion.

LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CARE

Lutheran Community Care welcome **hand knitted scarves/beanies/blankets** which can be donated to via St Marks LCC donations box. If you label items "Not To Be Sold" these items will be donated to Northern Territory communities & people in need.



Lutheran Community Care Hamper Wish List

Biscuits – sweet & savoury, Cereal, Cake, Christmas pudding, Tinned ham, turkey, Tinned Tuna, Canned vegetables, Canned fruit, Chips & lollies, Long life custard, Long life milk, Long life fruit juice, Pasta & Rice, Pasta sauce, Jam, vegemite, Sugar, Tea, Coffee, Milo



NOTES FROM CHURCH COUNCIL Dec

- A COVID overseer is needed to monitor changes, alert staff and others using the plant, and see regulations are followed. Awareness of movements through the plant is desirable. Elders will discuss how to handle, in a spiritually appropriate way, situations where too many try to enter a space.
- AV equipment is to be provided to live-stream services in the hall.
- School: COVID makes it difficult for student groups to visit the church. A possibility is to have representatives from the congregation visit and address the children at chapel.
- The Christmas Eve program can only include children registered beforehand, because of COVID.
- Offerings: Christmas Eve – ALWS. Christmas Day and New Year – regular offerings.
- A support group for Vicar Mitch Kitson will be set up in the new year.
- A replacement voluntary statistician is needed.
- There are vacancies on the Worship Committee and Education, Service and Nurture Committee. Suggestions for replacements are needed.
- The SA-NT district is looking for volunteers for district boards and committees. Nominations are due February 15. See notice elsewhere in Bulletin.
- Ordination. Probably in March 2021 congregational presentations will be held on two papers: 1. St Stephens congregation's proposal to the SA-NT District synod to remove clause 6.11 from the Thesis of Agreement which prohibits the ordination of women. 2. The Report of General Church Board and Council of Bishops on their February 2020 meeting on the division in the LCANZ over the ordination of women and men.
- Finances. Thanks to government COVID payments, we will end 2020 with a surplus of about \$30,000 despite giving being down \$25,000. The 2021 budget includes increased amounts for the SA-NT District (up \$5000), property insurance, IT (up \$1,500 for computer upgrades), salaries (up \$3,000) & synod costs (\$2,300). Electricity will be down due to solar panels. Facilities' hire will be up \$2000. We will need to increase giving by \$8,000 in 2021 cf. 2019.
- Entry Code near sacristy is to be changed and the names of those given the new code recorded.
- Courtyard shade. Stage 1 has begun. The appeal for stage 2 continues till Dec 31.
- Manse laundry & back entry improvements. Work will likely begin mid-January.
- 21 members have received Safe place certificates for completing face-to-face training. A similar number have completed training online.



HELP AND SUPPORT

Members of St Marks are encouraged to make contact with an Elder, Pastoral Assistant or Pastor Ben (0402 825 173) if there are any pastoral or practical matters with which the church can assist.

ELDERS

Adrian Curtis 8398 2186

Matt Hutchinson 0400 917 003

David Kuchel 0427 006 233

Craig Kupke 8391 6744,

David Lockwood 0427 911 477

Mark Tohl 0414 723 257

Kym van de Meulengraaf 0425 256 874

CONGREGATION CHAIR Ian Pfeiffer 0413 336 221

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING INFORMATION

Attendance 20th Dec: 8.30 – 87 (HC – 74) 10.30 – 82

Church Giving (Plate, REG, Redevelopment)

Plate Sun 20th Dec – Gen: \$1877.70

Required Monthly \$21,336 **Total** Giving for November \$17,350.

Big Offering Sunday: Thank you to all those who gave generously, your extra donations amounted to approximately \$3,000.

The balance owing on the Redevelopment loan as at 30 Sept 2020 is \$614,981.22.

We borrowed \$800,000.

Offering envelopes for 2021 are now available in the foyer.

REG (Regular Electronic Giving) Members who choose to give electronically can do so through the Lutheran Laypeople's League weekly or monthly or as you choose. Forms are available in the 'REG' pigeon hole or online at www.lll.org.au. **St Mark's BSB 704942 account no. 100406459**

If you wish to pay directly off the Principal of our loan please use these details:

Account Name: St Marks Lutheran Church. Church Re-Development

BSB 704942 Account 100909094

Please note: If you prefer to keep your bank transactions anonymous, it is better to fill out an LLL form for direct debits.

NOTICE BOARD – More details & flyers on Notice board

- Latest Faith Family brochure is available in the foyer on the wall
- Latest Church Council Minutes
- LCA SA/NT Training - Professional Standards Workshops
- SMG newsletter
- Contemporary dance/exercise class for seniors (seated)
- Mission News (Sprau family) on Mission notice board in Link
- Office Bearers list



CHURCH CALENDAR 25th December – 3rd January

Fri 25th Dec – Services – Traditional HC 8.30am, Contemporary HC 10.00am

Sun 27th Dec – Services – Traditional 8.30am, Contemporary HC 10.30am

Wed 30th Dec – Office open 9am-1pm

Fri 1st Jan – Services – Combined HC 9.00am

Sun 3rd Jan – Services – Traditional HC 8.30am, Contemporary 10.30am

ROSTERS		Dec 25	Dec 27	Jan 1	Jan 3
Sunday	CHRISTMAS DAY	1st Sun/Christmas	NEW YEARS DAY	2nd Sun/Christmas	
1st Reading	Isaiah 62:6-12	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13	Jeremiah 31:7-14	
Ps /Canticle	Psalms 97	Psalms 148	<i>Psalm 8</i>	Psalm 147:12-15, 19,20	
2nd Reading	Titus 3:4-7	Galatians 4:4-7	Revelation 21:1-6a	Ephesians 1:3-14	
Gospel	Luke 2:8-20	Luke 2:22-40	Matthew 25:31-46	John 1:(1-9)10-18	
1st SERVICE	8.30am HC	8.30am	9am HC	8.30am HC	
Elder/Pastr Ast	Adrian Curtis	Kym vd Meulengraaf	Mark Tohl	Adrian Curtis	
Ushers	D & V Schild	M Tohl & A Francis	D & V Schild	D & V Schild	
Greeters	J & R Paech	Jane Hill	L & E Marsh	J & G Hodgson	
	R & C Foyle	Dawn Herbig	Julianne Ferris	R & C Foyle	
Reading 1 & 2	Jane Hill	Allen Meissner	David Schild	Kerry Brinkmann	
Music	Trevor Wegener	Charmaine Milburn	Greg Lockwood	Lisa Grieger	
Sound	Simon Milburn	James Ziersch	Mark Tohl	Simon Milburn	
Computer	Julianne Ferris	Jenny Girdham	Anthea Francis	Judith Paech	
Link	James Ziersch	David Schild	David Buck	James Ziersch	
2nd SERVICE	10.00am HC	10.30am HC		10.30am	
Elder/Pastr Ast	David Kuchel	David Lockwood		Matt Hutchinson	
Ushers	G Turner	G Foyle S Steven		V McNeil G Hein	
Greeters	E Launer, S Heyne	S & J O'Higgins		R & G Hermesen	
	K Golder	R Kowald		N Heinrich	
Reading 1 & 2	Annette Cavies	Hutchinson		Debbie Zimmermann	
Music	Leanne Mibus	Leanne Mibus		David Heyne	
Sound	Steve Crowder	Dale Cavies		Steve Crowder	
Computer	Annette Cavies	V McNeil		Kupke family	
Link	Emma Graetz	James Heyne		Sharon Heyne	
Cleaning/Flower		van de Meulengraaf		Y. Menz, G Weinert	
Vacuuming		no vacuuming		no vacuuming	
Clean btw Servs		J Ferris, G Hein		J Pfeiffer, J Curtis	

Pastor: Ben Pfeiffer **Office:** 8391 1695 **Mobile:** 0402 825 173 **Email:** pfeiffer241@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Janice Cecil 8391 1695 (Wed 9-1 Fri 9-1) **Email:** stmarks@stmarksmtbarker.org.au

Worship Coordinator: Sharon Heyne 8391 1695 **Email:** sharon@stmarksmtbarker.org.au

Web address: stmarksmtbarker.org.au **POSTAL ADDRESS:** PO Box 836, Mt Barker 5251

Church Premises: 35 Hampden Rd, Mt Barker

St Mark's Lutheran church is dedicated to providing a safe place for all members and visitors. The LCA encourages all members to follow a standard of ethical behaviour, and if you believe these standards have been breached, you can direct a formal complaint to the LCA complaints hot line on **1800 644 628** or email complaints@lca.org.au. **Copies of the LCA Standards of Ethical Behaviour are available from the church foyer.** Our church uses the SP3 Safety Management System for all children ministries. Our SP3 Coordinators are Andy & Joey Traeger