



Christ's Love in Action

# WQL BULLETIN

Western Queensland Lutherans

CHARLEVILLE CHINCHILLA

DOWNFALL CREEK MILES

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer

website: [w-q-l.com.au](http://w-q-l.com.au)

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Violet

05 - 18 December 2021



Devotions



The Order of Meditation and Prayer

*Pray and confess out loud as much from the order of meditation and prayer as you are able, or as your family size and ages dictate. Learn by heart the verse, catechism, and hymn of the week.*

*Invocation*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son †, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Apostles' Creed*

*Opening Sentences*

“Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. **And the Lord who you seek will suddenly come to his temple.** *(Mal3:1 ESV)*

**Luke 1:68-79**

<sup>68</sup> “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people  
<sup>69</sup> and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David,  
<sup>70</sup> as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,  
<sup>71</sup> that we should be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us;  
<sup>72</sup> to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant,  
<sup>73</sup> the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us  
<sup>74</sup> that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear,

<sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

**In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us.**

<sup>76</sup> And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,  
<sup>77</sup> to give knowledge of salvation to his people in the forgiveness of their sins,  
<sup>78</sup> because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high

<sup>79</sup> to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

***Glory to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever***



## *Catechesis Notes for the week*

### **Happy New Church Year!**

Advent begins with the First Sunday of Advent, at the end of November or the beginning of December. This is the beginning of the church year. There are always four Sundays of Advent, before Christmas, whether Christmas day falls on a weekday or a Sunday. The word 'Advent' means 'coming'. During this time, we look forward to our Lord's coming as a human baby at Bethlehem and also to his final coming as king at the end of time. We also remember his continual coming to his people in his word and sacraments. Advent is therefore a time of waiting, preparing, and hoping. This involves both repentance and joyful anticipation.

*(LCA Planning Page)*

#### **Candle 1 – The Candle of Hope (The Prophecy Candle)**

We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep his promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. *“And again, Isaiah says, ‘The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him.’ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:12-13 NIV.*

*(LTM)*

#### **Candle 2 – The Candle of Peace (The Bethlehem Candle)**

This candle symbolises the preparations being made to receive and cradle the Christ-child. He will come to bring peace. *“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,.... Out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.... He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace.” Micah 5:2, 4-5 NIV.*

*(LTM)*





### Luke 3:1-6

- If you were an advertising executive and your firm had been chosen to prepare the way for the President's arrival in your hometown, what would you do?
- How much time passes between the appearances of John the Baptist in Luke 1:80 and in these verses?
- What do you think John was doing in those years? Why?
- Why does Luke list all the political and religious figures in verses 1-3?
- How would you describe John's message and style (see also Matt. 3:1-12; Mark 1:1-18; John 1:6-8, 19-28)

### Sunday 21 November Second Sunday in Advent



**Malachi 3:1-4:** By the mid fifth century BC, the people of Judah had more or less given up on the God of Israel. They did not experience the expected prosperity on their return from Babylon and so lapsed into half-hearted worship and cynical morality. In these verses the prophet predicts that God, in an act of grace, will send his special messenger before he himself comes to purify the worship and cleanse the lives of the people. With this cleansing, the people will again be able to serve in righteousness. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.

**Phillipians 1:3-11:** Paul expresses his joy in praise and thanks to God for the fellowship he had experienced with the Philippian believers in proclaiming the gospel. This wonderful quality continued in their witness of the gospel and in their support of him even though he was now in prison. He was confident that God would continue this work in them until the day of Jesus Christ. However, his constant continuing prayer was that they, living in God's love, might grow also in accompanying knowledge and insight. In this way they would be ready and prepared when Jesus comes again. This is when the righteousness which is by faith will show as a fruitful harvest.

**Luke 3:1-6:** Luke signifies the importance of the event of John the Baptist's preaching with very careful precision in marking the year. He further locates the place of John's ministry in God's long-term plan for salvation by citing the prophecy of Isaiah 40:3-5. In this figurative language it is clear that lives are to be straightened out and unnecessary hindrances to God's grace are to be removed. This process of turning in repentance to receive forgiveness was, and still is, the only proper preparation to receive God's Messiah.



## WQL Go Groups

**Miles Women's Fellowship** – 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month, 9.00am – contact Violet 0448 649 447

**Chinchilla Women's Fellowship** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, 9.00am held in Trinity Church Hall.

**Chinchilla Women's Bible Study** – 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tue of each month, 9.00am, held in Trinity Church Hall.

**Chinchilla Friendship Club** – 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, 1.00pm, held in Trinity Church Hall.

**Miles** – Every Tuesday, 5.30pm contact Steven 0477 581 663

**Spirit Filled** – Every Monday, 6.00pm during School Term commencing with dinner – held at 50 Mackie Street, contact Rhonda 0412 786 928

**Trinity Sunday School** – 10am each Sunday during School Term



## DIVINE SERVICES

<b>Dec 12</b>	<b>Advent 3</b> 8.30am Chinchilla LR 6.00pm Downfall Creek LR
<b>Sat 18</b>	<b>Advent 4 – Pastor Noel</b> 5.00pm Miles HC, followed by fellowship Christmas Tea
<b>Sun 19</b>	8.30am Chinchilla HC 6.00pm Downfall Creek HC Pastor Mark 4.00pm Charleville HC – Christmas service
<b>Fri 24</b>	<b>Christmas Eve – Pastor Noel</b> 7.30pm Chinchilla 6.00pm Downfall Creek LR
<b>Sat 25</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b> 8.30am Chinchilla LR 6.00pm Downfall Creek LR
<b>Sun 26</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas</b> 8.30am Chinchilla LR???

**Miles members please contact Violet 0441 649 447 for worship details**

### In today's worship

Bible Readings:

**Malachi 3:1-4** – *The day of judgment is near*

**Luke 1:68-79** – *Song of Zechariah*

**Philippians 13-11** – *Be ready for the day of Christ*

**Luke 3:1-6** – *All people will see the salvation of our God*

**Hymns**

**To be announced**

### Church Contacts

#### **Pastor - Interim**

Pastor Noel Noack 0429 046 663

Email:- noel.noack@gmail.com

#### **Church Office**

##### **Email:**

trinitychinchilla@gmail.com

##### **Address**

25 Sheriff Street Chinchilla Qld 4413

**Website** [w-q-l.com.au](http://w-q-l.com.au)

**Charleville** – Elaine 0458 858 669

**Chinchilla** – Rhonda 0412 786 928

**Downfall Creek** – Lynne 0427 282 173

**Miles** – Steven 0477 581 663

**Announcements** – Please have announcements to the office by 10am Thursday. Email [trinitychinchilla@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychinchilla@gmail.com).

## Announcements

**Community Carols by Candle in the Botanic Parklands 19 December 2021** – Commencing with a Sausage Sizzle at 6.00pm and Carol singing at 7.00pm



**JOEL BIBLE STUDY...** The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon will begin a study this week on the Book of Joel. You can listen on-demand at [thewordendures.org](http://thewordendures.org), the LPR mobile app and your favourite podcast provider.

## What is Advent?

Advent begins with the first Sunday of Advent, at the end of November or the beginning of December. This is the beginning of the church year. There are always four Sundays of Advent, before Christmas, whether Christmas day falls on a weekday or a Sunday.

The word 'advent' means 'coming'. During this time we look forward to our Lord's coming as a human baby at Bethlehem and also to his final coming as king at the end of time. We also remember his continual coming to his people in his word and sacraments. Advent is there a time of waiting, preparing and hoping. This involves both repentance and joyful anticipation.

## Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath originated among German Lutherans in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, by Johann Hinrich Wichern (1808-1881). He was a pioneer in urban mission working among the poor. During Advent, children at the mission school, would ask daily if Christmas had arrived. In 1839, he built a large wooden ring, with 20 small red candles and 4 large white candles. One small red candle was lit each weekday and Saturday. On Sundays a large white candle was lit.

The candles specifically symbolise hope, peace, joy and love and a white 'Christ Candle'.

## From the Parish

**2022 Parish Council: Chairman** – Ian Peters; **Vice Chairman** – Steven Stiller;  
**Secretary** – Dale Stiller; **Treasurer** – Lois Strand; **Extra Members** –  
**Psalm 16:7** Brian Weier, Wendy Boshammer, Keith Bruggemann & Kerrin Kowald.

### Creative Response

As a household decorate and number enough envelopes for each day left before Christmas.

String them on a ribbon or cord and hang it up.

Place a symbol, Bible verse or small treasure (eg. An ornament, or lolly) in each envelope and seal it.

Take turns opening a packet each day.

The anticipation grows as the line of packages decreases and Christmas approaches.



### Mealtime prayer

God our Saviour, thank you for this food and all who prepared it. Help us to prepare the way for you. Amen.

### Rituals and Traditions



#### PRAYER

*Lord God, make us ready to be your messengers of comfort, love, and forgiveness through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

#### BLESSING

The God of love and comfort, fill you with the good news of Jesus Christ and give you peace. Amen

### Service



*we can share God's message of love with others by doing deeds of kindness.*

*Using card or other materials, make a "road" to attach to a wall in your home. Write the words of Luke 3:4b on your road. As your household journeys through the second week of Advent, use sticky notes to record any acts of service you perform. Attach these notes to your road. Pray that your acts of service may help others to see and know Jesus.*

## Prayers:

*Prayer of the day (Collect) (Let us pray that we are ready for Christ's coming.)*

**Merciful God, you sent your messengers to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Turn us away from our sins, so that we greet our coming redeemer, Jesus Christ, with joy. For he lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*In our prayers This Week – Students and teachers, we pray they are blessed with a relaxing time and return to school refreshed.*

### *Call to Prayer*

John the Baptist came to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus Christ. Let us pray for God's help and healing through Christ.

### *Themes for Prayer*

- ❖ For the messengers of God: pastors and bishops, evangelists and missionaries
- ❖ For those who, like Paul, are imprisoned for their faith
- ❖ For the rulers of the earth, especially for our own state and federal governments
- ❖ For those who have sinned, that they repent and believe in Christ
- ❖ The we prepare the way for the gospel by pursuing justice in our society
- ❖ That just as we await summer and the harvest and holidays, we may be prepared for the coming day of the Lord

Lord God, as your servant John the Baptist called your people to prepare a way for the Lord, let us always be prepared to receive the blessings that you freely give us through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## ***The Second Coming of Christ***

<b>Mon</b>	Genesis 46:1-7, 26-27 Psalm 42	<i>Travelling Families</i> <i>Receiving in times of need</i>
<b>Tue</b>	Exodus 2:1-10 Romans 15:4-13	<i>Adopted Families</i> <i>Our Lord Sustains us</i>
<b>Wed</b>	Ephesians 4:1-16 Micah 4:1-7	<i>Family Support</i> <i>Swords into ploughshares</i>
<b>Thu</b>	Exodus 3:1-10 Luke 1:26-35	<i>Concern for family</i> <i>The Incarnation</i>
<b>Fri</b>	Luke 3:7-18 Isaiah 12:2-6	<i>What must we do</i> <i>Sing to the Lord</i>
<b>Sat</b>	Zephaniah 3:14-20 Philippians 4:4-7	<i>The Lord will renew us by his love</i> <i>Rejoice the Lord is near</i>

*Lord's Prayer, Morning or Evening Prayer from the Catechism*

**Morning Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

**Evening Prayer**

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

**Blessing:** The God of love and comfort, fill you with the good news of Jesus Christ and give you peace. Amen.

*Then go joyfully to your work, singing a hymn, or in the evening, then go to sleep at once and in good cheer*

**Hymn/song of the Week: LH 13 'On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry'**

**Verse 1**

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings.

**Verse 2**

Then cleansed be every heart from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within;  
Prepare we in our hearts a home,  
Where such a mighty guest may come.

**Verse 3**

For Thou art our salvation, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without Thy grace we waste away  
Like flowers that wither and decay.

**Verse 4**

To heal the sick stretch out Thy hand,  
And bid the fallen sinner stand;  
Shine forth, and let Thy light restore  
Earth's own true loveliness once more.

*Jordanis ora praevia  
Charles Coffin (1676-1749)  
Tr. John Chandler, 1837  
'Hymns Ancient and Modern', 1861*

**Looking forward to:**

**Third Sunday of Advent (Violet)**

**12 Dec '21**

*Zephaniah 3:14-20*

*The Lord will renew us by his love*

*Isaiah 12:2-6*

*Sing to the Lord*

*Philippians 4:4-7*

*Rejoice the Lord is near*

*Luke 3:7-18*

*What must we do*