



FEATURED NEWS



MISSION PARTNER



WELCOME

Welcome! We're delighted that you have been able to join us for worship and we pray that you might find a place to belong. We'd love for you to complete one of our Welcome Cards. If you are a baptised member of any denomination, you are welcome to join us for communion. Please join us after the service for refreshments!

FROM THE VICAR

Advent calls us to prepare—not just for celebrations, but for the coming of Christ. In this season, we hear the voices of the prophets, calling us to readiness and repentance. Their words remind us that God's promises come with an invitation to transformation. In Malachi 3:1-4, we encounter the promise of God's refining presence:

"See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple... But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap."

Malachi's imagery of fire and soap can be unsettling. Fire purifies by burning away impurities, and soap cleanses by scrubbing away stains. This is not a gentle process, but it is a necessary one. God's refining work prepares us to reflect His righteousness, cleansing what is unworthy and making us whole.

As we continue our Advent journey, Malachi reminds us that the coming of Christ is both a gift and a call. God meets us as we are, but He also works to transform us into who we are meant to be. Are we ready to be refined?

In Christ
Rev'd Chris

GENERAL NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 15 December - Carols & Glow Sticks 6.30pm
- 24 December - Christmas Eve Service 6.30pm
- 24 December - Christmas Eve Service 11.30pm
- 25 December - Christmas Day Service 8am
- 29 December - ONE Service Only 8am

CHRISTMAS HAMPER CHEER:

Thanks to the wonderful response of parishioners, we were able to make up a new record of 25 hampers!! These were received with much joy and delight. A huge thank you once again for your kindness and generosity.

CHRISTMAS ROSTER:

There is a blank roster in the porch area for people to add names to assist with the three Christmas Services. Many thanks to those who have put their names down, however there are still plenty of spaces to fill. Thank you very much.

CHRISTMAS CARDS:

There is an assortment of Christmas Cards, \$1, and greeting cards \$1.20, in the foyer. These are for sale to support the Algester Branch of Anglican Mothers' Union Australia.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES 2025:

Sets of envelopes for giving in 2025 are now available in the foyer.



WEEK 2



MALACHI - THE MESSENGER IS COMING

SUNDAY MORNING *SERMON NOTES:*
Foretold: God has Spoken by his prophets

READINGS

SENTENCE:

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.78–79

A READING FROM MALACHI, CHAPTER 3, VERSES 1-4:

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

For the Psalm: SONG OF ZECHARIAH

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel:
who has come to his people and set them free.

The Lord has raised up for us a mighty Saviour:
born of the house of his servant David.

Through the holy prophets, God promised of old:
to save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us,

To show mercy to our forebears:
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear:
holy and righteous before him, all the days of our life.

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High:
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation:
by the forgiveness of their sins.

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

To shine on those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death:
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL
TO THE PHILIPPIANS, CHAPTER 1,
VERSES 3-11:**

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that on the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

**THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS
CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE,
CHAPTER 3, VERSES 1-6:**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." '

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jesus Christ, as we anticipate your coming, prepare our communities and make a straight path through our hearts; convict us to repent, show us how to embody your love.

Hear our prayer;

Let our cry come to you.

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith.

Hear our prayer;

Let our cry come to you.

We have prepared our homes, and our gifts, Lord, but we need help in preparing our spirits to receive your message of Peace. Free us from the stresses and strains of this time and place your peace which passes all our understanding in our hearts.

Hear our prayer;

Let our cry come to you.

Lord, if we see one more list of things to do, we think we might scream. We have made list after list, in preparation for the holiday season. We have shopped until we feel we might drop, we have baked, decorated, sent cards, planned festivities, gone to concerts, school performances, gotten ready for the church presentations. We are in a whirlwind of preparation. But what we have forgotten is to place your presence in our lives. You bring us hope and peace. You remind us that it is we who have created and succumbed to hectic schedules. Slow us

down, Lord. Bring us again to those moments in which we are not running lists of obligations through our heads. As we bring the names and needs of people near and dear to us into your presence for your healing and comfort, remind us that we also stand in need of your healing love. Help us to focus on you and the gift of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to take a "big breath" and to exhale slowly, letting the anxiety and stress out. Fill our lives with your peace as we continue this Advent journey.

Hear our prayer;

Let our cry come to you.

Incline your ear, O Lord, to our pleading, and by the grace of your coming to us enlighten the darkness of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who is alive with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Hear our prayer;

Let our cry come to you.

Accept our prayers as we sing the words Jesus Christ our Saviour taught us:

Our Father in Heaven . . .

Prayers compiled by Rhonda Nelson

ROSTERS

Date	8-12-24		15-12-24	
Roster	7.00am	9.00am	7.00am	9.00am
Worship Leader	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate
Preacher	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev'd Christopher Bate	Rev Chris Bate	Rev Chris Bate
LA Leader	Harry McGuire	Harry McGuire	Robert Kake	Dianne Bocquee
LA Assistant		Karl Lingard		Kath Lingard
Greeter	-	Rhonda Nelson	-	Joan Harvey
Sidesperson	Robyn Brodie	Sandra Pearn	Rosemary Kake	Kathy Carter
Reader 1	Norm Booth	Carol Booth	Michael Po Saw	Sandra Pearn
Reader 2	Sue Reade	Kath Lingard	Julie Elliker	Jenny Bullock
Offertory	Robyn Brodie	Sandra Pearn	Rosemary Kake	Kathy Carter
Chapel Prayers	-	Dianne Bocquee		Carol Booth
Morning Tea	Jeanette Clark	Malini/Cecelia	Sharon/Hugh	Jenny/Ruth
Music Leader	Ruth Barton	Ruth Barton	Michael Po Saw	Ruth Barton
AV Operator	Norm/Adrian	Rhonda/Ian	Adrian Scott	[No Zoom]
Prayers of the people	Rhonda Nelson		Sandra Pearn	
Counting	Ruth Barton		Kerry Tovey	
Kids Church		In Recess		In Recess

The heart of any thriving church community lies in the dedication of its volunteers who generously offer their time and skills. Currently, our church roster is in need of additional helping hands to support various essential tasks and ministries during our worship services. By joining the roster, we can continue to strengthen our church's mission and positively impact the lives of those we serve. We warmly welcome and encourage you to become an integral part of our dedicated volunteer team. Your contribution will make a significant difference to maintaining the vibrant spirit of our congregation.

CONTACT INFO

Rector

The Rev'd Christopher Bate

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Honorary Assistant Clergy

The Rev'd Juliana Bate

The Rev'd Simon Tang

Church Wardens

Kay O'Brien 0438 833 617

Adrian Scott 0449 824 748

Office

Parish Secretary: Kerry Tovey

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READINGS TODAY

Malachi 3.1-4

Song of Zechariah

Philippians 1.3-11

Luke 3.1-6

READINGS NEXT WEEK

Zephania 3.14-20

A Song of Isaiah

Philippians 4.4-7

Luke 3.17-18

SERVICES

SUNDAY

7AM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

9AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

BANKING DETAILS

Tithes and Offerings:

BSB: 704 901 Acc: 0000 1070

Please consider your capacity and commitment to give to the work of this parish, by creating a recurring transfer.

ABN: 93 894 007 519

Giving for July to Sep **\$19,401.10**

Budgeted Amount \$ 22,500.00

Giving Jan to Sep **\$65,206.85**

Budgeted Jan to Sep \$67,500.00

PRAYER AND PRAISE

The Anglican Communion:

- The Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
- The Diocese of Bunbury
- The Parish of Hendra-Clayfield
- Child Care Centres
- Matthew Flinders Anglican College, Buderim

Missions:

- We pray for our mission partner Christmas Bowl and their ongoing work

Our Community:

- Pray for the homeless , the lost, the lonely and those in need.

Our Parish:

- The Leadership team and each other as we follow God in our mission.

Those in need:

- Those known to us: Katherine, Susan, Tammy, John, Dennis, Russ, Jenny & Bough, Peter, Robert, Jenny, Daphne, Joyce, Pam, Sean, Betty, Brian, Karen, Steve & Julie, Allan & Varrie, Keitha
- We pray for all who are grieving the loss of loved ones.
- We pray for all who are suffering from conflict and natural disasters.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Merciful God,

who sent your messenger John the Baptist

to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation:

give us grace to heed his warning and forsake our sins,

that we may greet with joy the coming of our Redeemer,

Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

For more information: (07) 3132 7888 or visit www.holyspiritalgester.com