

Pastor Leon Rosenberg

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21st December 2008— 4th Sunday of ADVENT

WELCOME to all worshipping with us today.

Greetings to any visitors here with us. We are pleased to have you join us and we trust you have felt welcomed and pray the Holy Spirit may enlighten and empower us with the message shared with us today.



Tea & coffee is available in the Fellowship Centre following morning service
Please feel welcome to join us.

TWO MINUTES

One of my favourite pieces of music is the "Hallelujah" chorus from Handel's Messiah. Besides the majestic music and wonderful choral sounds, I always get a kick out of being reminded of the titles given to Jesus in this piece of music.

In the readings today we are also reminded of God's promise to David all those years ago, the birth foretold to Mary by the angel Gabriel that the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David and the promise made real in the birth of Christ. It is truly a reason for rejoicing and praising God as we get closer to celebrating the birth of our Saviour.


".....He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High."

".....and he shall reign...forever....and ever...and ever...., King of kings, and Lord of lords,"

It is truly a reason to sing Hallelujah!

Robyn Oatey

Worship Opportunities

 Readings for today 2 Sam. 7:1-11, 16 Rom. 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38 Readings for 28th Dec Isaiah 61:10—62:3 Gal. 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40	Today 21st Dec	9.30 am 6.30 pm	Contemporary worship Christmas Play (<i>First Dress Rehearsal</i>)
	Christmas Eve 24 Dec	7.00 pm	Christmas Eve Drama " The Shoe Box "
	Christmas Day 25 Dec	9.30 am	Christmas Day worship with HC
	Sunday 28th Dec	9.30 am 6.30 pm	Contemporary worship with HC Salt Factory worship
	Sunday 4th Jan 2009	9.30 am 6.30 pm	Contemporary worship DVD series (<i>instead of Salt Factory worship</i>)

Family Friendly Worship

At Golden Grove, we love **everybody** to be involved in worship.

Please encourage children and visitors to join in the singing and prayers, and to stand and sit at appropriate times when they are able. This is best done by leading by example!

For our 'little ones' - Quiet bags & busy books are available for worship time from the children's area in the church.

Activity sheets for young readers and writers—Families with children of all ages, please notice there are new activity sheets (e.g. word puzzles) available for various age groups. The sheets will be changed over periodically. Please help yourself - they can be found with the children's toys, pens and papers etc.

It is not appropriate for unattended children to play in the foyer at any time during the service. Please ask an usher if you require assistance, or speak to a "Ministry Leader" if you would like to help young families during worship times.

Thank you for worshipping with us!

Pastor's Column

A special welcome to those who are worshipping with us this morning because of Lilly Kumela's Baptism. Lilly Anna and her mum and dad, Sarah and Syzmon are from Wingen in the Hunter Valley. Amy Rosenberg and Nick Schultz are the sponsors.

This morning I am doing something a little different. I am preaching a sermon that I presented at Salt Factory two weeks ago. It wasn't that I didn't think that you (who were there) were not listening but this text has so much to offer and you can gain from **a second rendition of how this woman who washed Jesus feet responded to God's love in Jesus** and what this passage teaches us how we can respond to his love at Christmas. I believe you'll hear things you didn't hear the first time around. For this purpose the text (**Luke 7:36-50**) is included in full at the bottom of this Pastor's Column.

Next week I shall complete the series by looking at **Jesus in this story**: how he was sent, how he is holy and how he waits, and what that means for us.

This evening instead of our Salt Factory worship we are having a "dress rehearsal" of our Christmas Eve drama "**The Shoe Box**". This serves three purposes. Yes, it is a dress rehearsal. But I believe it will be an excellent presentation for those who can't make it to worship here at GGLF on Christmas Eve. Thirdly, I believe it will convince you to bring your friends to worship on Christmas Eve.

I hope you can make it to our **Christmas Day worship** this Thursday. We are featuring plenty of carols and carol tunes to some of the liturgy. Ezekiel Greg Leach is being baptized. The theme for the address is "The most precious gift": It's a phrase from the Shoe Box play.

Please note the **Advance dates** (dates for 2009) in last week's Bulletin. Also note that I will be taking part of my annual leave from 29/12/08 to 11/1/09.

³⁶ When one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner with him, he went to the Pharisee's house and reclined at the table. ³⁷ A woman in that town who lived a sinful life learned that Jesus was eating at the Pharisee's house, so she came there with an alabaster jar of perfume. ³⁸ As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.

³⁹ When the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would know who is touching him and what kind of woman she is—that she is a sinner."

⁴⁰ Jesus answered him, "Simon, I have something to tell you."

"Tell me, teacher," he said.

⁴¹ "Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴² Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?"

⁴³ Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven."

"You have judged correctly," Jesus said.

⁴⁴ Then he turned toward the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I came into your house. You did not give me any water for my feet, but she wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair.

⁴⁵ You did not give me a kiss, but this woman, from the time I entered, has not stopped kissing my feet. ⁴⁶ You did not put oil on my head, but she has poured perfume on my feet. ⁴⁷ Therefore, I tell you, her many sins have been forgiven—as her great love has shown. But whoever has been forgiven little loves little."

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

⁴⁹ The other guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?"

⁵⁰ Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

Pastor Leon



Baptism

Joining God's family today through the gift of Holy Baptism is

Lilly Anna Kumela

We are delighted to share in the celebration of this special occasion with Lilly, together with her parents Syzmon & Sarah, and Lilly's sponsors Amy Rosenberg & Nick Schultz along with other family and friends here with us today.

We pray Lilly may continue to grow in the love & strength of God



Baptism, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

In lieu of Salt Factory worship tonight come along to dress rehearsal for our Christmas Eve drama "The Shoe Box"

6.30 pm TONIGHT

YOUTH SPOT

The **REV 320** camp is fast approaching. It will be from Friday 16th to Sunday 18th January 2009, and is for everyone in years 7 – 9. It will be held at Glenhaven campsite and will include many different activities and small group times, where we will tackle the topic of 'taking the next step'. If you are interested in coming along please call me and I will get you all the information! ☺ I hope to see many young people there!

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas, I hope you enjoy the time celebrating our Saviours birth!

Alyssa ☺

NEW FEATURES FOR OUR CHURCH

A new Song Request Book – is in the foyer. All requests considered! If you'd like to be contacted when your choice is to be played, please put your name in the book too.

Coming soon to the Library – STORY TIME!





BREAD MINISTRY

The ministry to our community through the bread ministry is in danger of coming to an end.

We need extra people in the new year to collect bread from Bakers Delight at Golden Grove Village on Friday evenings at 5.20pm and deliver it to the

church.

If you can help out approximately every 6 weeks, please ring Jenny Rawolle on 8251 3448.

Scene 3 Children's Practice for Christmas Play TODAY at 4.00 pm.

QUIET Christmas Craft available TODAY

for the little ones in the children's area (*to the right of the seating*) after the Children's Address. Older children who wish to assist are welcome to join in.

Christmas Flyers for our Christmas service times

You are invited to take some A5 Christmas flyers available from the Church Foyer for distribution in your neighbourhood and to friends and family. There are also a few A4 size flyers available if anyone would like to take one and put it up at your local shopping centre. *Thank you*

Offering Envelopes for 2009



Sets of offering envelopes are available from the entrance table for GGLF members 18 years and over. For married couples only one set has been allocated per couple.

We also remind you of the opportunity of giving electronically via the REG (Regular Electronic Giving) system. Forms and information about this method of giving are available from the Church Foyer. If you decide you would like to take up this option details on the form for our congregation are Golden Grove Congregation REG Account No 28190 S1 GOL at the LLL (BSB No 704-942).

For members who already use the REG system for giving please consider using a specially printed card (available from the entrance table in Church Foyer) to place in the offering plate rather than taking a set of envelopes.

Why Jesus is Better than Santa Claus

Santa Claus lives at the North Pole ...
JESUS is everywhere.

Santa Claus rides in a sleigh ...
JESUS rides on the wind and walks on the water.

Santa Claus comes but once a year ...
JESUS is an ever present help.

Santa Claus fills your stockings with goodies ...
JESUS supplies all your needs.

Santa Claus comes down your chimney uninvited ...
JESUS stands at your door and knocks, and then enters your heart when invited.

You have to wait in line to see Santa Claus ...
JESUS is as close as the mention of His name.

Santa Claus lets you sit on his lap ...
JESUS lets you rest in His arms.

Santa Claus doesn't know your name, all he can say is "Hi little boy (or girl), what's your name?" ...
JESUS knew our name before we did. Not only does He know our name, He knows our address too. He knows our history and future and He even knows how many hairs are on our heads.

Santa Claus has a belly like a bowl full of jelly ...
JESUS has a heart full of love.

All Santa Claus can offer is HO HO HO ...
JESUS offers health, help and hope.

Santa Claus says "You better not cry" ...
JESUS says "Cast all your cares on me for I care for you."

Santa's little helpers make toys ...
JESUS makes new life, mends wounded hearts, repairs broken homes and builds mansions.

Santa Claus is a "jolly old elf" ...
JESUS is the King of Kings.

Santa Claus may make you chuckle but ...
JESUS gives you joy that is your strength.

While Santa Claus puts gifts under your tree ...
JESUS became our gift and died on a tree.

Prayer Opportunities

Prayer Chain: Means a lot of people praying about an urgent or special need. For urgent prayer requests during the week you are invited to contact one of following people and the prayer chain will be set in progress. (Chris Hahn, Jan Wegener, Pastor Len & Claire Tscharke, Catharina & Wim Belgraver, Joan Hochwald, Tanya Wilson, Judith Whaites.)

All requests will be kept confidential.

The prayer chain is available for everyone in both the church and school communities. Likewise if anybody feels they would like to be a part of the prayer chain we'd love you to join us.

Video Ministry

Each service is video taped, with copies available immediately after each service. Please see the library to loan a copy. Even if you can't make it to the service, you can still participate in worship.

Bibles

Bibles are available at the back of the church so that you can follow the Readings and Bible references in the Sermon.

We offer you one of these Bibles to take home, if you need one, and possibly bring back each week (so that *the one you use at home is the one you use in church*). If you would like to make a donation towards it - \$10 would be appreciated.

Meals Ministry

(A practical way we can share & show God's love) **Families rostered to support Meals Ministry in December are: Knapp, Neale & Nelson.**

When donating meals for the freezer we ask that you please attach some details to the container, eg name of the meal, date meal was prepared, a list of main ingredients, and heating instructions.

Thank you.

Library

Don't forget the Library is open for browsing and borrowing.

Christian greeting cards always for sale from the Mobile Unit in the Fellowship Centre — Cost \$2

GGLF Attendance & Offerings

(Offerings do not include electronic giving amount of \$9567 per month from 35 contributors.)

	Attendance	Offerings
Sunday 14/12 9.30 am	107	\$ 604.35
6.30 pm	30	\$1062.10

LLL 2009 calendars & annual reports

Available today from our Church Foyer.

The Australian Christian Diary 2009

Three copies of this diary are available for purchase at \$10 each. If you would like to purchase one please see Judith.

St Stephen's congregation and the choir of St Peters, Blackwood invite you to join them for Lessons and Carols, with Holy Communion, at 11 pm Christmas Eve at St Stephen's Lutheran Church, 152 Wakefield Street, Adelaide."

Wanted: pre-loved toys and books

It's time to tidy up / top up the children's busy bags to keep our little ones entertained during services.

If anyone is having a clear out, please consider donating clean, small, quiet toys and books, especially board books, so they can be loved some more!

There is a box in the foyer at the library end for your kind donations!

If there are any questions, please ask Lesley Friedrich, 0402036183.

Internet access to weekly GGLF bulletin, Sermon, Life in the Vine, rosters and other info. You can get to it by going to www.gglf.org.au and then clicking Files.



LUTHERAN MEDIA

Also refer to flyer on noticeboard for program details.

RADIO—Listen to **FACE TO FACE** Download or listen online at www.facetoface.org.au

21st Dec Christmas Is For Everyone— Pastor John Henderson

The story of Jesus' birth at Christmas is as relevant today as it has been throughout history. It goes beyond cultures, religions and political ideologies. Join us this week with our guest John Henderson. He'll show how the story of Christmas is for all people, because it's a story of love.

25th Dec Christmas Special "Christmas In The Bush "

WEBSITES—
For Christmas news, resources and free E-cards go to www.lca.org.au
Discover what's available on www.lutheranmedia.org.au

Children... Go to www.redboots.com.au
Check out www.happyland.com.au. **Happyland is growing!**

TELEVISION—View **ON MAIN STREET**, a half hour talk show tackling socially relevant issues.

Australian Christian Channel
4:30pm Saturday (AEST)
Austar Digital 182, Foxtel Digital 182, Optus 49 / Digital 182
Digital 44 (Sydney), Transact (Canberra)
www.onmainstreet.org.au

Contact us
Lutheran Media
Reply Paid 65735, 197 Archer Street,


BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Wed	24 Dec	Jessica McLuckie
Thurs	25 Dec	Barry Taylor
Fri	26 Dec	Garry Heinrich

We hope your special day is blessed with God's love & grace

GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP

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