



**GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH**



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**Pastor Greg Fowler**

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**7th January 2018—First Sunday after Epiphany**

**WELCOME to worship today !**

May we all be encouraged and strengthened in our faith through the Word of God and the Lord's Supper which we share with one another .

*Tea & coffee is available following morning service*



**Please feel welcome to join one another. ALL WELCOME**

**Before worship**

The Baptism of Jesus

One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. As Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens splitting apart and the Holy Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, "You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy." (Mark 1:9-11)

Jesus' baptism is described in the first three gospels, where John baptises him and the Holy Spirit descends upon the newly-baptised Jesus. While we understand baptism to be a sacrament that removes original sin and sees us adopted by God the Father, it can be puzzling to understand why Jesus allowed himself to be baptised.

We know from the bible that Jesus had no sin that needed to be removed. We also know that he was the eternal Son of God the Father. So baptism for Jesus must mean something different than our own baptism. Jesus' whole incarnation was to deliver us from sin and the ultimate consequences of sin; separation from God. Therefore, his baptism, right at the start of his ministry, is an important part of his work to save us. He is not being forgiven and adopted, rather he is joining us in our sin.

Paul talks about this in Romans 6:4 where he writes 'We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life'. Just as we are joined to Jesus' work of salvation in our baptism, so Jesus joins us by taking upon himself our fallen state when he chooses to be baptised by John. This is another incredible demonstration of God's all-encompassing love for us.

May we always respond to His love and grace with praise and thankfulness.

Pastor Greg



**Readings for today: Genesis 1:1-5  
 Acts 19:1-7  
 Mark 1:4-11**

**HEALING SERVICE**

**Tonight 6.30 pm**

for the opportunity to receive prayer (for anything) - job opportunities, what pathway Jesus has planned for you, physical ailments, other ailments, anxiety, depression etc etc etc.

**No light meal beforehand as it's School holidays**

**Worship Opportunities**

<b>Today 7th Jan</b>	<b>9.30 am 6.30 pm</b>	Contemporary worship with HC <b>Healing Service</b>
<b>Sunday 14th Jan (one service only)</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Contemporary worship
<b>Sunday 21st Jan (one service only)</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Contemporary worship with HC
<b>Sunday 28th Jan (one service only)</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Contemporary worship



New Year Greetings to all.

We pray this new year will be blessed and full of new opportunities with God in your midst.

### Invitation to Prayer Time

Pastor Greg holds prayer time at 9.15 am before worship on Sunday mornings.

Anyone is welcome to come and join Pastor Greg.

It is held in the Youth room of the Fellowship.

### Kids at Heart

Kids at Heart is taking a break and will resume on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2018 with BibleSong.

During this time a children's worship activity bulletin will be prepared and available for children to complete (*if they wish*) while remaining in church.

These children's activity bulletins will be located in the church for collection.

## Teaching Saturday - A Bible Overview

Join us on January 20th for an **all ages** Teaching Saturday at Golden Grove Lutheran Church, Wynn Vale

Guest speaker, **Dr John Kleinig** will present 3 sessions

**9am** Introduction to the Bible

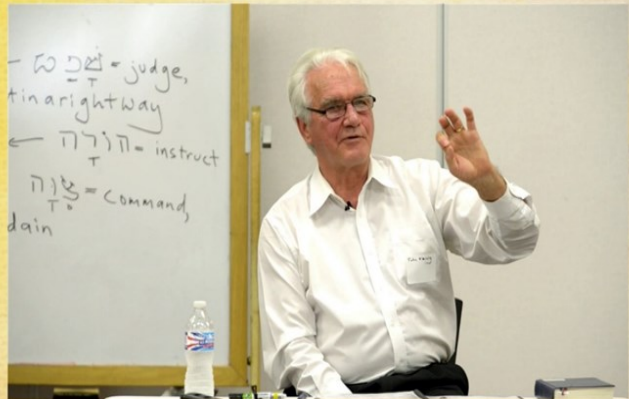
**11am** The Pentateuch

**1:30pm** The Gospels


\$10.00 per person for the day and a gold coin donation for part of the day. Morning tea and lunch provided. **Separate activities provided for children.**

Please register via the link <http://bit.ly/TeachingSaturday> (or return a printed registration form) by January 14<sup>th</sup> to assist with session planning and catering purposes.

Any queries please contact Ruth 0411 230601 or Pastor Greg 0413 075 665




Dr John Kleinig is emeritus professor of Australian Lutheran College of international renown. His biography and work can be found at [www.johnkleinig.com](http://www.johnkleinig.com)



Support for the work and ministry of **Lutheran Community Care** is ongoing and encouraged.

During the month of **January LCC** invite you to replenish their Emergency Relief shelves with donations of **Chick peas / Lentils; Sweet biscuits; Teabags; Tuna (425g).**

Boxes and bags are always in the Foyer waiting to be filled!



## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Wed 10th Jan                      Kerry Abraham

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

## RosTers for Next Sunday : 14th January

PA + Opening/Closing up	Power-point	Music Group	Greeters / Ushers	Readers	Children's Address Kid's Craft	Devotion for Bulletin Prayers	Assistants with HC	Flowers	Church Cleaning
Jon Schutz	Schutz	Jacque Schutz	Friedrich	Ken Campbell	Ps Greg -	A Dutschke J Fielke		Carolyn Wachtel	Kloeden