



**GOLDEN GROVE LUTHERAN CHURCH**



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## 10th December 2017—2nd Sunday of ADVENT

**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 and at 5.45 pm a light meal is available prior to the 6.30 pm service.

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

### Before worship

#### Preparing

*A voice of one calling:*

*"In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord;  
 make straight in the desert a highway for our God" Isaiah 40:3*

Good preparation requires patience and attention to detail; two things that I do not have in abundance. Many years ago I received a new cricket bat for my birthday. I couldn't wait to start striking some balls with it and see some bright red 'cherries' on the face. But I had to wait. It needed to be oiled and then tapped in. So I spent three days preparing that bat before it saw its debut. The preparation made all the difference. That old bat served me for more than 10 years and countless days on the field before it, and I, retired. If I had not prepared the bat so well, it would have split or performed poorly. My patience was rewarded.

In Advent we have the opportunity to prepare well for Christmas. We can 'oil' our soul by spending time in God's word and reflecting on how it is directing our attitude and actions as we approach the season of goodwill. If we don't allow God's word to soak in, Christmas may find us dry and we may be hard and brittle in our dealings with family and loved ones. We can 'tap in' our soul by thinking of the love that God showed through his incarnation and how he continues to love us. We can also be thankful for the love we enjoy from our others as a reflection of God. Instead of seeing the preparations as a list of chores, we can view them as acts of service that will bless us and those around us when we celebrate Jesus, the light of the world, who comes to join us.

May the love and peace of God be with us all in our preparations.

Pastor Greg



**Readings for today: Isaiah 40:1-11  
 Mark 1:1-8**

**Salt Factory Tonight  
 6.30 pm**

**Come at 5.45 pm for food  
 and fellowship before the  
 service commences.**

**Gold coin donation.**

Look forward to seeing you there!

### **Worship Opportunities**

<b>Today 10th Dec</b>	<b>9.30 am 6.30 pm</b>	Contemporary worship with HC Salt Factory worship
<b>Sunday 17th Dec</b>	<b>9.30 am 6.30 pm</b>	Contemporary worship with HC Salt Factory worship
<b>Sunday 24th Dec Christmas Eve</b>	<b>9.30 am 7.00 pm</b>	Contemporary worship <b>A candle lit celebration of Jesus' birth with Carols and readings</b>
<b>Monday 25th Dec Christmas Day</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	Contemporary worship with HC

