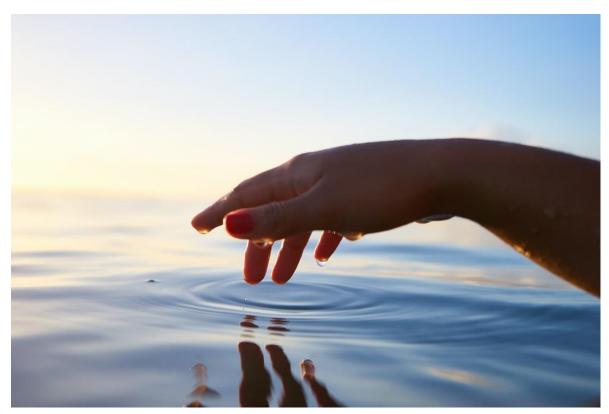
The Anglican Parish of St Luke Toowoomba



Come to the water of life.

Baptism of our Lord 9 January 2022

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Introit: 'There's a light upon the mountains' (TIS 276)

There's a light upon the mountains, and the day is at the spring when our eyes shall see the beauty and the glory of the King; weary was our heart with waiting, and the night-watch seemed so long, but his triumph day is breaking, and we hail it with a song.

There's a hush of expectation, and a quiet in the air, and the breath of God is moving in the fervent breath of prayer: for the suffering, dying Jesus is the Christ upon the throne, and the travail of our spirit is the travail of his own.

He is breaking down the barriers, he is casting up the way, he is calling for his angels to build up the gates of day: but his angels here are human, not the shining hosts above; for the drum-beats of his army are the heart-beats of our love.

Hark, we hear a distant music, and it comes with fuller swell the great triumph song of Jesus, of our King, Immanuel: Zion, go you forth to meet him; and, my soul, be swift to bring all your finest and your dearest for the triumph of our King!

Henry Burton. Words and music by permission Methodist Publishing House, UK

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And also with you.

Sentence:

The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.' *Luke 3.22*

Prayer of Confession

Lay Assistant:

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Silence may be kept.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

Merciful God, our maker and our judge, we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and in what we have failed to do: we have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves; we repent, and are sorry for all our sins. Father, forgive us.

Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie:

Lord have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord have mercy. A short time of silence is held.

Absolution

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Collect for the Baptism of our Lord.

Spirit of energy and change, in whose power Jesus was anointed to be the hope of the nations: be poured out also upon us without reserve or distinction, that we may have confidence and strength to implant your justice on the earth; through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The First Reading, from the Old Testament, Isaiah 43:1-7.

¹ But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³ For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶ I will say to the north, 'Give them up', and to the south, 'Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth - 7 everyone who is called by my

name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Notes on Isaiah 43:1-7.

Last week we were reminded of the breadth of the vision which found expression in the delight of Epiphany and so many messages which stretch us to think beyond ourselves. Here in this passage of Isaiah we are also reminded of the personal, intimate interest which God has in each of us, every person, yes even YOU! God knows you and you name and when God utters YOUR name it is with love.

Psalm 29

- ¹ Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven: ascribe to the Lord glory and might.
 - ² Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name: O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness.
- ³ The voice of the Lord is upon the waters:

the God of glory thunders, the Lord upon the great waters.

- ⁴ The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation: the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
- ⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees: the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.
 - ⁶ He makes them skip like a calf: Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- ⁷ The voice of the Lord divides the lightning-flash: the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of the desert, the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh.
 - ⁸ The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees, and strips bare the forests: in his temple all cry 'Glory.'
- ⁹ The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood: the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.
 - ¹⁰ The Lord will give strength to his people: the Lord will give to his people the blessing of peace.

Notes on Psalm 29

We see God everywhere, even in this delightful and playful celebration of an extraordinary storm! There is nowhere that God is not. God is all and in all.

The Second Reading, from the New Testament, Acts 8:14-17.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Notes on Acts 8:14-17.

There are many places in the New Testament where it is acknowledged that entering into a relationship and connection with God is a journey. It doesn't always happen completely immediately for everyone. Here the apostles had met some people who had, with enthusiasm, grasped part of the message. What they were able to do then was to take these people further along their journey. For most of us that is what we can do. We are companions on a journey to those who are entrusted to us.

Gradual Hymn. 'Christ, when for us you were baptised' (TIS 250)

Christ, when for us you were baptized, God's Spirit on you came, as peaceful as a dove, and yet as urgent as a flame.

God called you his beloved Son, called you his servant true: sent you his kingdom to proclaim, his holy will to do.

Straightway and steadfast until death you then obeyed his call, freely as Son of Man to serve and give your life for all.

Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord, your cross on us be signed, that likewise in God's service we may perfect freedom find.

Francis Bland Tucker

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint Luke, chapter three, beginning at the fifteenth verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' 18 So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. 19 But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰ added to them all by shutting up John in prison. ²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Hear the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.

Notes on Luke 3:15-22.

This is a convoluted passage because it seems to refer to a variety of time frames. It includes words and actions 1. before Jesus appeared where John was baptising; 2. in the moment when Jesus was baptised by John; and 3. events surrounding John's arrest. In all three timeframes, though, John's purpose was to point attention towards Jesus. It takes great humility for a powerful and charismatic person, such as John, to point beyond themselves in such a way. For this we recognise the strength and witness and blessing of John.

The Sermon.

Apostles Creed

Amen.

Lay Assistant:

With the Church, throughout the world and across the ages we say together:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

The prayers of the people.

Prayers are led by a member of the congregation.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray, as Jesus prayed with His friends:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

The Greeting of Peace.

We are the Body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

All may safely exchange a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn. 'Lord, the light of your love is shining' (TIS 675).

Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining; Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring usshine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance; by your blood I may enter your brightness: search me, try me, consume all my darkness-shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness so our faces display your likeness, ever changing from glory to glory: mirrored here, may our lives tell your storyshine on me, shine on me.

Graham Kendrick 1950-

The collection is usually taken in a bowl at the door. Please see our notices pages to see how donations can be made. The ministry and mission of the Church is paid for by the contributions made by those who value what we do and how we serve. Thank you for your generosity.

Blessing of gifts

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ, who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life, he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people. In baptism you have united us to him and brought us out of darkness into light. You pour your Spirit upon us, filling us with your gifts, and calling us to serve you as a royal priesthood. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you for these gifts of your creation, this bread and wine, and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit, we who eat and drink them may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread; and when he had given you thanks he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

> 'Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup, and again giving you thanks he gave it to his disciples, saying,

> 'Drink from this, all of you. This is my blood of the new covenant shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded: proclaiming his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again, we celebrate, with this bread and this cup, his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Renew us by your Holy Spirit unite us in the body of your Son, and bring us with all your people into the joy of your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father, in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND COMMUNION

As this broken bread was once many grains, which have been gathered together and made one bread:

so may Your church be gathered from the ends of the earth into Your kingdom.

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Administration of Communion

All those who are baptised and who would usually receive Holy Communion in their home churches are welcome to share in the sacrament here. Due to restrictions we receive only the bread today.

Prayer after Communion.

Living God
in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.
may the power of your love,
which we have known in word and sacrament,
continue your saving work among us,
give us courage for our pilgrimage,
and bring us to the joys you promise.

Most loving God, you send us into the world you love. Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage in the power of your Spirit.

Prayer for Vision

We pray together

Gracious and loving God, our lives are in your hands, our past, present and future belong to you. Bless us with vision, so that we may see clearly; bless us with compassion, for one another and for all whom you love,

bless us with faithfulness, that we may seek your will always, bless us with wisdom, so that we may seek to understand, bless us with love, so that the focus of our lives will be outside of ourselves.

Grant us the patience and the courage to embrace change, as we seek your future together.

Amen.

Notices

The Blessing

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Dismissal

Lay Assistant:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Missional Hymn: 'Lord, your almighty word' (TIS 447)

Lord, your almighty word chaos and darkness heard, and took their flight: hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light.

Saviour, who came to give those who in darkness live healing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind, now to all humankind let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love, life-giving holy dove, speed forth your flight; move on the waters' face, bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place let there be light.

Holy and blessèd Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might, boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride, through the earth far and wide, let there be light.

John Marriott 1780-1825 alt.

Readings included in this service are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Holy Bible. © 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

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Welcome

- All attendees need to check in, using the "Check In Qld" App. If you have any concerns, please contact the Parish Office.
- Please do not attend if you are unwell, show any symptoms, or you have any underlying health concerns. *We do ask that you let us know if you are unwell so that we can stay in touch. Email us at stluke.tmba@bigpond.com or call the Parish Office.
- Each attender will need to use hand sanitiser as they enter.
- Families can sit in groups, but each group will be spaced apart by at least 1.5m. Sides persons will be on hand to assist.
- If you are looking for a church community you can belong to and wish to know more, please speak to some of our friendly leaders and parishioners after the service. Newcomers, please feel free to fill in a "Welcome!" card, but it would be great if you could pop into the Parish Office to say hi. We can then get your details, so you can be kept up to date with what is happening in our church community.
- Please take this booklet and a copy of the sermon with you, along with the prayers, readings and reflections into your week ahead. Feel free to pass this booklet onto a friend or neighbour!

Plant Stall

Pesky weeds: Our Plant Stall is now in recess until the 22nd of January. Gordon has asked if some green-thumbed volunteers could go around and remove the weeds from established pot plants. With the recent rain and sunshine, the weeds have multiplied exponentially; unfortunately, they are not included in the sale of the plant! Gordon says that just an hour a day would make a huge difference. All other aspects of the garden have been taken care of.

Resolutions: I don't suppose any of our parishioners will include in their new year's resolutions to volunteer more? ...But just so you know, Gordon is always keen to recruit new volunteers, whether they be behind the scenes or participating in the Saturday Plant Stall. Please consider this and get in contact with him or David Gywnne.

Parish Pantry

This week, we need the following:

- Tinned Peas/Beans
- Tinned mushrooms
- Tuna (S/M/L)
- Coffee
- Tinned meals
- Oil
- Washing powder, toilet rolls
- Tissues

This list is updated weekly to reflect the immediate needs. Thank you to all who regularly contribute. Please make a habit of putting at <u>least two items</u> in your trolley each time you shop and bring them to the Parish Office.

Our last Larder day was the 22nd of December and we will re-open on the 12th of January 2022.

Upcoming Services

The usual services at each of our centres will run as per normal while Paul is on leave. Our retired clergy, including Rev Malcolm Twine and Bishop Clyde Wood will be our guiding lights through January.

Other Support



If you would like to contribute on a regular basis, please feel free to use this QR code printed here to access the donations page for this parish **OR** the banking details are as follows: Account name: Toowoomba St Luke's Parish BSB: 704 901; A/C: 0001 2774. **OR** use our Donation Tap

Point, inside St. Luke's Church.

Parish Office

The Parish office will open from Tuesday the 4th to Friday the 7th of January, but with limited hours and volunteers. Amanda will be officially back on Monday the 10th of January, in full swing for the new year!

Prayer

Please Pray for John Warbrick & Sarah McLeod, Sue Warbrick,
 Kim & Dave Booth, Tessa Tamvakis, Paul Merry, Wendy Garthe, Joyce Hendon,
 Marie & David Harris, Lyn Hooper, Merle Bradford, Judy Lee, Melissa,
 Irene Gregg, David, Martin, Kay Pern, Sidney Leo, Liz & David Twine and
 families and Archdeacon Lizzie Gaitskell.

The Anglican Parish of St. Luke is committed to protecting your privacy. The people here have personally requested prayers; please let the Office know if names need to be removed. Please take and use these suggestions for prayer (as well as the other plans and events mentioned throughout this bulletin) to let all what we are doing, and all our plans inform your offering of prayer.

Pray Daily: Sunday 9 January

- Iglesia Anglicana de Chile
- The Diocese of Canberra-Goulburn: †Mark Short; Assistant Bishops †Stephen Pickard, †Carol Wagner; Clergy and People
- The Parish of Milton Anglican: Ceri Wynne, Illtyd Loveluck
- Mission to Seafarers
- St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School, Corinda: Principal Toni Riordan; Chaplain
 Gillian Moses; Chair of School Council Stephen Green; School Council members; staff & students

Pastoral Care Coordinators

St Luke's:

Evie Rennick 0407 064 778 Jeanette Maguire 4638 2904

St Mark's:

Val Johnston 4635 5428 Joy Lemin 0434 406 340 Jennifer Murray 0439 011 494

All Saints:

Sue Smith 0412 228 255
Helen Moffatt 0437 440 580

Please make contact to share needs.

Pray for State School Chaplains

Joeleene Lochel –

Rangeville

Kevin Murray –

Toowoomba East

Jason Berry –

Centenary Heights

Readings for the 16th of January

1st reading: Isiah 62.1-5

Psalm: 36.5-10

2nd reading: 1 Corinthians 12.1-11

Gospel reading: John 2.1-11

COVID updates

As we are all aware the Government directives regarding COVID requirements changed recently. Our borders are now more open and from Friday 17 December new regulations came into force.

To comply with these regulations we will be ensuring that our facilities (church buildings and halls) do not exceed the capacity of 1 person per 2 square metres. Sings are displayed showing these limits of the number of people who can be present.

Masks are encouraged but not compulsory.

Keeping physical distancing and other healthy practices continue to be encouraged (using sanitiser, keeping 1.5m apart, no handshaking, etc). For usual services and gatherings people who are unvaccinated are welcome. Their presence will not affect the way we are required to act. If any person is anxious about the possibility of contracting the virus in these circumstances please be more attentive to physical distancing and other healthy practices and wear a mask for mutual protection.

Restrictions DO apply to private gatherings in our facilities where unvaccinated people are present and hirers have been informed.

Please contact Paul or the Parish Office if you have any concerns.

Emergency Contact

Paul will be away on leave from the 27th of December to the 27th of January. If you need help during this time with an urgent matter, emergency or crisis, please contact Rev Malcolm Twine on 0412 247 879.

Live Streaming

Services will NOT be live-streamed from 2nd January to 23rd January 2022 inclusive.

Rector's Warden

Judy Bond: 0412 010 668

Parish Wardens

Steve Rigney: 0408 718 173 Sandy Lee: 0407 578 658

Centre Wardens

St Luke's

Gordon Lee: 0417 726 930 Alan Rennick: 0428 214 649

St Mark's

Patricia Wilson: 0429 351 196 Jeffrey Martin: 0408 157 455

All Saints

Stephen Hart: 0435 845 144

Kimberley Browning: 0438 598 626

Privacy Notice

Services at St Luke's are being broadcast online. If you have any concerns about being seen online please speak to the clergy or sides people.

Service Times

St. Luke's

Corner of Herries and Ruthven Streets,
Toowoomba City
Sunday 8am – Eucharist
Thursday 10.15am – Eucharist

St. Mark's

Corner of High and Angle Streets, Rangeville Sunday 9.30am – Eucharist

All Saints

26 Arthur Street, East Toowoomba Sunday 4.30pm – Eucharist

Worship with us Live on Facebook

Sundays 8am & weekdays 8.30am (except Tue) www.facebook.com/StLukesParish

Past recorded services and weekly service materials also available on our website www.stlukestoowoomba.org.au

Parish Clergy:

The Reverend Canon Paul Mitchell 0437 391 910

rector@stlukestoowoomba.org.au

Paul is not available on Tuesdays.

Paul will be on annual leave from Monday 27 December to Thursday the 27th of January. For any urgent inquiries, please contact Rev Malcolm Twine on 0412 247 879.

Honorary Associate Priest:

The Reverend Sharon Mitchell 0407 735 327

Our retired clergy are:

Bishop Clyde Wood – 0439 877 240

Rev. Bill Watson – 0400 094 438

Rev. Malcolm Twine - 0412 247 879

Rev. Terry Leonard – 4696 2046



Web: www.stlukestoowoomba.org.au

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9.00am to 1.00pm

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PO Box 2434, Toowoomba QLD 4350

Email: stluke.tmba@bigpond.com

Facebook:

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www.facebook.com/StLukesParish

We acknowledge the Jarowair and Giabal peoples as the original custodians of this land.