Bulletin - No. 47 22 November 2026 - Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ASHMORE

Weekly Bible Readings

Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday 22 November
Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24
Ephesians 1:15–23
Matthew 25:31–46

Monday 23 November
Genesis 19:15-29

Tuesday 24 November
Romans 2:1-16

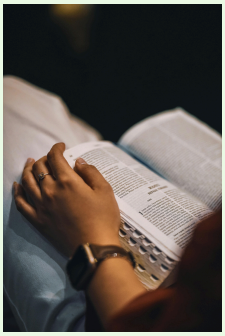
Wednesday 25 November
2 Corinthians 4:16 – 5:10

Thursday 26 November
Revelation 2:1-11

Friday 27 November
Revelation 20:11 – 21:1

Saturday 28 November
Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19

First Sunday of Advent
Sunday 29 November
Isaiah 64:1–9
1 Corinthians 1:3–9
Mark 13:24–37



Devotion

Seeing Christ in Our Neighbour

Matthew 25:31-46

As a child growing up in the jungles of Borneo, Christmas was my favourite time of year. Sometimes American missionaries or congregations from Singapore would send gifts to our community. Most of the presents were not new, but that did not matter to me. To a child living far from the cities and modern comforts, those gifts meant something much greater than the items themselves. These presents gave me hope. They reminded me that someone cared for us.

I think about those Christmas memories through a question asked by the righteous in Matthew 25 ‘When did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you’ the King replies, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

The righteous are surprised by the King's words. They were not keeping a record of their good deeds. They were not serving others so they could earn favour with God. Their acts of love flowed naturally from hearts transformed by Christ.

As I reflect on this passage during Advent, I find myself asking: Who will we bless this Christmas?

Some of us may bless people far away through an ALWS Gift of Grace, supporting families in places such as South Sudan, Burundi, Ethiopia, Nepal or Indonesia. A simple gift can remind someone that they are not forgotten, just as those Christmas gifts encouraged me as a child.

But God also places people right beside us. We can bless family members, friends, neighbours and strangers by sharing the story of Jesus, offering hospitality or simply taking time to listen. Perhaps during this Advent season, we might pray that the Holy Spirit would bring people into our lives who are unfamiliar with Christmas traditions in Australia by inviting them for a meal or a conversation. Through these simple hospitality acts, people may experience Christ's love that naturally flows through our conversations and actions.

The key lesson of Matthew 25 is not focusing on our good works. It is about being connected to Jesus. As we abide in Him, His love naturally bears fruit in our lives. We begin to see the hungry, the lonely, the stranger and the forgotten. And in serving them, we serve Christ Himself.

This Christmas, may God help us to see opportunities to bless others near and far. May our acts of kindness others may come to know the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

Pastor David Lazarus





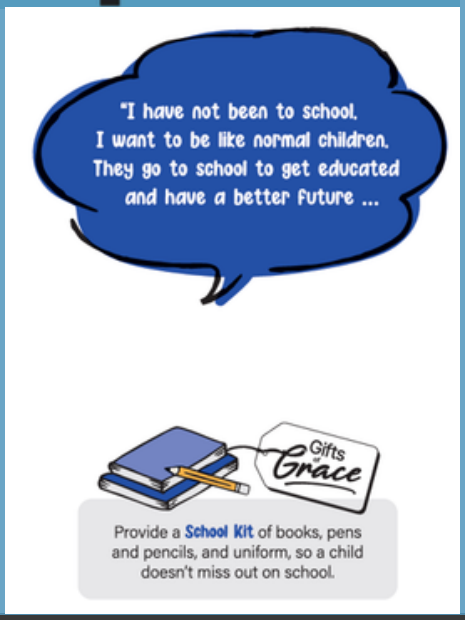
Read more about Priya and Grandma Pasmila in the story book 'Grandma's Gift of Grace.'

This Christmas, your gift can help parents provide for their children, farmers grow more food and communities build stronger futures. Give a gift that makes a lasting difference.

Gifts of Grace 2026 - Australian Lutheran World Service

Australian Lutheran World Service





SISTER SPACE FELLOWSHIP

Join Us for Our Vintage Christmas Brunch!

Celebrating Faith, Sisterhood & Shared Blessings



Here is a glimpse from our wonderful November Sister Space gathering! We had such a special morning sharing travel mementos, personal stories, and rich fellowship around the table.

🗓️ **DATE:**	**Saturday, December 5th**
⏰ **TIME:**	**10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**
📍 **LOCATION:**	
🍲 **FOOD:**	Traditional Potluck — feel free to bring a Christmas dish to share!

Whether you've come before or this would be your very first time, there is always a seat saved for you at the table! Please RSVP to Anne Lambert. ❤️✨

Roster Time

It's time I got started on a new Roster.
Can you assist?
Do you want to keep doing what you are doing?
Are you going to be away for any length of time?
Would you like a change of job?
Please tell Lorraine.
We need our fabulous volunteers to keep our church running,
so please consider how you might help.
I try to roster people on just one Sunday a month.

Lorraine.e.thermomix@gmail.com
Or 0429 863 949

Christmas Bikkie Swap and Buy

December 20 2026

How does it work?
Contributors bake a batch or two of Christmas type biscuits and pack in lots of 5 in the bags provided. All the bags go on the table for sale.

3 bags of mix and match biscuits for $15's

Cash purchases only

Please message Lorraine to register and send a photo of your recipe for printing



Lorraine 0429863949
lorraine.e.thermomix@gmail.com



Christmas is almost here

Are you interested in helping plan our Christmas Services this year - including the Christmas nativity play?

If so, please contact Helen Teece.

A meeting of interested people will be held mid November.



Informal Lunch Meet and Greet
Pastor David Lazarus and Family

Sunday 29 November, 11.30 am
At Carole and Philip Morris' home
16 Stewart Parade, Ashmore
Ph 0422545753

- BBQ lunch - meats provided and cooked by
- Philip and Carole
- Non-alcoholic punch provided
- Please bring along some food to
- compliment the BBQ meats
- And bring your chosen beverages



Sign-up sheet (for catering purposes) at Sunday church
Or call Ph 0422545753 or email plpmorris1@gmail.com to confirm attendance

I look forward to seeing you there
Philip Morris (Chair TLCA Church Council)



Our web-site needs updating.

If anyone has a working knowledge of WordPress we'd appreciate your assistance

Contact Helen or Desley

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ASHMORE
NOTICE OF UPCOMING BUDGET & ELECTIONS MEETING



Our Budget & Elections Meeting will be held on Sunday 22 November 2026 immediately after our church service and morning tea.
The 2027 budget will be presented at the meeting. As well, all positions on Church Council and our committees will become vacant and are available for election.
The holders of the following positions have indicated they are unable to continue:

- Chair of Property Committee
- Member of Property Committee
- Pastoral Assistant
- District Synod Delegates x 2
- Church Council member
- Please also give prayerful consideration to the role of Treasurer, currently held by Desley Maurer, who has been in the role for a few years now. If there is anyone who can step into the position, this would be most helpful.

Papers for the meeting will be emailed in the days before the meeting.

Nominations for church council 2027

The Nominations Committee has received (re)nominations from the following people:

Chair Philip Morris
Vice Chair Kevin Lambert
Secretary Sue Specht
Treasurer Desley Maurer
Other member Michael Alfson
Other member Vacant
Other member Juliane Dwyer
Other member Rob Fysh
Pastoral Assistant Abbi Stumer
Pastoral Assistant Vacant
Lay Reader Jackie Keily
Lay Reader Philip Morris
Chair of Property Committee Vacant
Property Committee member Vacant
Pastoral Care Coordinator Sue Fysh
Pastoral Care Committee member Abbi Stumer
Pastoral Care Committee member Ken Kleidon
Pastoral Care Committee member Tony Qualischefski
Pastoral Care Committee member Sari Kessler.
Sunday School Coordinator Michael Alfson.
Safe Church Helen Teece
Safe Church Vacant
District Synod Delegate (Two positions) Vacant
General Synod Delegate Sue Fysh
General Synod Alternate (Reserve) Delegate Vacant

In particular, we need persons interested in assisting our Secretary and our Treasurer. Training will be provided. Please consider. When we all take our turns in these positions, the load can be spread fairly. When the same people are left to put their hand up, year after year, burn out and exhaustion can occur.

There is still time to submit a nomination. Please consider serving our congregation in this way in 2027.

Rob Fysh, on behalf of the Nominations Committee.

TLCA and Encounter Joint Prayer Meeting Prayer Items

17 November 2026

1. Praise God for the TLCA community groups which are working well to unite the members of the congregation to create better connections and unity.
2. Pray that God will respond to our plead to have clarity as individuals and as congregations to know how to reach out and serve God in effective and productive ways.
3. Pray for spiritual awakening in both congregations for all the members to grow spiritually individually and collectively.
4. Pray for the small pastoral care team to work well under **Pastor David's** leadership and guidance.
5. Pray that the joint Christmas eve and Christmas day service this year will bring, not just our visiting families, but also people from the College, the neighbouring suburbs of Ashmore, Nerang, Benowa, Southport, Molendinar and beyond, to our weekly Sunday services.
6. Pray that we will be contagious Christians and our congregations are outward facing through God's granted boldness and discernment to share the good news/gospel.
7. Pray for the **Maurers** as they grieve the loss of **Kai** last Saturday that they might find comfort in God's assurance of **Kai** in the care of our Lord God.

Join us on one or many Tuesdays at 5.00 pm by clicking this link (note that it is a new link):

Join Zoom Meeting https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87840329134?pwd=r9HAKhpXf5mkCLcZszFJtoS6pTsjba.1

Meeting ID: 878 4032 9134
Passcode: 5PaGCB

Blessings,
Tuesday prayer ministry group.

Prayer Focus

Sunday 22 November, 2026
Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

WORSHIP & THANKSGIVING: Thank you, God!

- Praise: God, you are good. Psalm of the day: Reflect on Psalm 95:1-7a
- For our new Pastor **David Lazarus, his wife Annie and children Jenniver and CJ**. Thank you for sending them to us. We pray for them as they settle in to their new home. Bless them in their work in our congregation. Prayers also for the family as CJ continues his studies in Adelaide.
- For the Sundays after Pentecost: the Season of Growth, learning to step out in faith.
- Our Volunteers: those who work to organise the Sunday service such as order of Service and PowerPoint presentation.
- For our Featured Ministry this Week: Games and Chat.

- For Encounter Lutheran Church, our church plant. Bless **Chaplain Tala** and his team, and all the new ventures happening, including Sunday School, Adult Bible study group and Youth Fellowship. May God encourage all who are new to the Gospel.
- For the opportunity to pray together every Tuesday at 5pm in the joint Trinity Ashmore and Encounter prayer meeting (see Bulletin for Zoom Prayer meeting link)

TRUST & CONFESSION

- Repentance: God, we need your help. Forgive us, Lord, for the times we have allowed the noise of the world to drown out your voice, and for when we have failed to love our neighbours as ourselves. Cleanse our hearts today and restore to us the joy of your salvation.

COMPASSION: God, we need Your help. We place our worries in your hands and pray for:

- **Desley and Klaus Maurer** and family as they mourn the death of their son **Kai**. Surround them with your loving care. May we as a congregation reach out to them in this difficult time.
- For our Church Council and the TLC Going Forward group as they plan our future direction.
- Our Church Family: for members who have recently been in hospital, hospital including **Martii and Jan**.
- Health & Healing: For those experiencing pain or illness, those facing cancer, and those managing mental health challenges. Give them relief and the assurance that they are deeply loved. We pray especially for **Jan and Darryl; Fay and Martii.**
- Our World: for an end to violence and a path to peace in the Middle East, especially in Israel, Palestine, Lebanon and Iran; also in Myanmar, Ukraine, Africa and other areas of conflict.

This week we pray for our members by name: **Suleen; Juliane, James.**

Amen

OUR COMMUNITY PRAYERS
Any individual prayer requests may be sent to **Sue Fysh**, Prayer Chain coordinator.
Ph 0413996204 email: suefysh@bigpond.com





Gold Coast Lutheran Churches

Have a look at what is happening around the Lutheran churches on the Gold Coast. This website is for all Gold Coast Lutherans. If you would like to have an event or something else added to the site, please contact Rob Fysh 0481207709.
Click on the following link to check it out:
https://www.goldcoastlutheranchurches.org/

Offering Options

Regular Electronic Transfer (RET).
LLL: Ashmore Trinity Lutheran Church:
BSB: 704942
Account No: 100217974



For your **Cash offering** - place in a sealed envelope and place in the "Offering Basket"

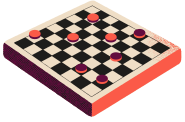
The church also has a designated **QR code.**
Offerings to either Encounter church or Trinity church can now be made by card transactions.
(Fees apply)

Donations to Trinity Welfare Fund may be made by direct transfer.
Account Name: Trinity Ashmore
BSB: 704942
Account No: 100217974
Reference: Trinity Welfare Fund

Trinity Church Plant Donations
Whilst the Church Council has been awarded a grant to help meet costs of this mission, donations from individuals are also welcome. This can be done either through REG - earmarked to the Church Plant, or in an envelope with your Sunday offering, again marked as Church Plant.

What's Happening this Month?

November

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30.						1. Trinity Worship 9.00am Encounter worship 4.00pm
2.	3. **Church Plant Prayer Meeting** See p5 for details	4.	5. **Coffee, Chat and Craft Group** 10.00am 	6.	7. **Sister Space** 9.00am Host: Anne Lambert	8. Trinity Worship 9.00am Encounter worship 4.00pm
9.	10. **Church Plant Prayer Meeting**	11.	12.	13. **Games and Chat** Trinity Southport Hall 10.00 am 	14.	15. Trinity Worship 9.00am Encounter worship 4.00pm
16.	17. **Church Plant Prayer Meeting**	18.	19.	20.	21. **Man Space** 8.00am Host: Rob Fysh 	22. Trinity Worship 9.00am **Budget and Elections Meeting** Encounter worship 4.00pm
23.	24. **Church Plant Prayer Meeting**	25.	26.	27. **Games and Chat** Trinity Southport Hall 10.00 am 	28.	29. First Sunday of Advent 

Contact Details



Pastor: David Lazarus
Mobile: 0449 542 184
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Office Administrator: Helen Teece
Email: tlcachurchoffice@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Team: Sue Fysh
Mobile: 0413 996 204
Email: suefysh@bigpond.com

Chairperson: Dr Philip Morris
Mobile: 0422 545 753
Email: plpmorris1@gmail.com

Secretary: Sue Specht
Email: secretary.tlcashmore@gmail.com

Congregational email
ashmore.trinity.church@gmail.com

Pastor's availability

Pastor David's working hours

- Tuesday–Wednesday: in the office, 8:00 am–4:00 pm
- Tuesday: Zoom Prayer Meeting (for Trinity, Ashmore and Encounter Church), 5:00–6:00 pm
- Thursday–Friday: home and hospital visitation

Please phone or email Pastor David to arrange a meeting or visitation. I will normally be available at the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, except where I have a prior booking. Please feel free to come, sit with me, talk with me and share with me.

Survey



1. Why do you come to Trinity?
2. Why do you stay at Trinity?
3. Do you know why Trinity worships the way it does?
4. In five years' time, what kind of church would you like Trinity to be?
5. If you were in my shoes as the pastor, what would be your highest priority?
6. If you could change one thing to make Trinity a better church, what would it be?

As I mentioned in my Sunday sermon, I have developed a six-point survey, but it is not a written survey. I don't want people simply to fill out a form. I want to hear their voices because God often speaks through His people, through their stories, hopes, concerns and dreams for the church.

This "survey" is really a conversation that helps us listen together for the places where God may be redirecting our church, where He may be inviting us to welcome His messengers, release our grip on comfort and step into new fruitfulness.

So please:

- Invite me to your Bible study.
- Invite me to your group.
- Invite me to your home for a cuppa.

Your voice matters. Your story matters.

Tell me where you see God redirecting us.
Tell me where you sense the vineyard needs tending.
Tell me where you believe fruit is ready to grow.

Pastor David Lazarus