TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ASHMORE



Weekly Bible Readings

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

Monday 30 November
Numbers 24:15-18

Tuesday 1 December
Joel 3:16-21

Wednesday 2 December
Micah 4:4-7

Thursday 3 December
Luke 17:22-37

Friday 4 December
Romans 13:11-14

Saturday 5 December
Psalm 85:1, 2, 8–13

Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday 6 December
Isaiah 40:1–11
2 Peter 3:8–15a
Mark 1:1–8



Devotion

A Hope That Shines

As we begin Advent, Psalm 80 gives voice to a people longing for God. Israel was facing hardship, confusion and the feeling that God seemed far away. So, they prayed, 'Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved' (verse 3). Their hope was not in themselves or in better circumstances. Their hope was in God's mercy and presence.

As Christmas approaches, it can be easy to become busy with shopping, gatherings and all the preparations of the season. Yet in the midst of the business, we, sometimes, stop noticing people around us who are searching for hope. Some are carrying grief. Others feel lonely, anxious or disconnected from God. Many go through each day longing for peace, purpose and reassurance, even if they never say it aloud.

Advent reminds us that our hope has a name. Psalm 80 points forward to God's chosen one, the 'son of man' whom God would strengthen and send to save His people. For Christians, this hope is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. He comes to us not with power and noise, but as a child in a manger. He comes to bring light into darkness, forgiveness into brokenness and life where there is despair.

Recently, I was reminded that the Holy Spirit is still at work in surprising ways. While I was at a shopping centre, a shopkeeper approached me and asked if I would pray for her. Later that same day, a staff member at the college came to me and asked for prayer because it was her birthday. Neither encounter was planned, yet both became opportunities to share God's care and blessing. These moments reminded me that many people are searching for hope, comfort and a deeper connection with God. They also reminded me that Christ is already at work in the hearts of people around us, drawing them to Himself in ways we may never expect. Just as the people in Psalm 80 cried out for God to let His face shine upon them, people today continue to long for His presence, often more deeply than we realise. Through simple prayers and everyday conversations, God lets His light shine into their lives.

This Advent, let us pray not only for ourselves but for our nation. Let us pray that Christmas will be more than a celebration of tradition. May it become a moment when people encounter the living Jesus. May families discover His peace. May those who have drifted from faith hear His invitation again. May those who have never known Him come to trust Him as their Saviour.

Our calling is simple: to reflect Christ's love through everyday conversations, acts of kindness and prayers for those God places in our path. As we do, others may come to see that God's grace is near and that true hope is found in Jesus alone.

Pastor David Lazarus

Asia Focus Australia Inc
Faith & Love in Action

Meet Esther (Hien)
Sharing the Gospel in Vietnam

Esther (Hien) is the dedicated contact for Asia Focus in Vietnam. A humble and passionate woman in her 30s, Esther feels called to share the Gospel with her own people.

Her ministry includes providing portable audio devices loaded with Bible teaching and Christian songs in Vietnamese, helping new believers; or those who are blind or illiterate to hear God's Word in their own language.

Esther also coordinates and translates intensive Bible teaching sessions for Vietnamese students through VALBI (Vietnam Australia Lutheran Bible Institute). She works alongside Australian pastors who teach via Zoom. More recently, she has been involved in her church's outreach to provide food for the poor in Ho Chi Minh City.

Esther is an inspiring example of faith, courage and service.
Please join us at the **Southport Trinity Lutheran Church hall on Tuesday, December 1st at 10am**, to hear Esther share about her life and ministry in Vietnam.



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:**	**Anne Lambert's Home (Wongawallan)**
🍲	**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. ❤️✨





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)

Coffee, Chat and Craft Group

Thursday 3 December

- 9.30 Bible Study
- 10.00-12.00 Craft
- 12.00pm Breakup lunch at the Ashmore Tavern

TLCA and Encounter Joint Prayer Meeting Prayer Items

24November 2026

1. Pray for God's guidance of the two congregations in terms of God's mission and ministry for his people, inside our congregations or out in the community.
2. Pray that we will be reflective and sensitive this Christmas season to those who have nothing or few things or lonely or sad that we will be able to serve them.
3. Pray for the Christmas eve and Christmas day services organising committee to be guided by God and use this opportunity to minister to the two congregations as well as using it as outreach to the people in the community and the College.
4. Pray that each individual of the two congregations will stop and listen to God's prompting to serve and being God's ambassador.
5. Pray that God will provide the right support for Encounter to replace Chaplain Samuel in 2027

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 29 November, 2026
First Sunday of Advent

WORSHIP & THANKSGIVING: Thank you, God!

- Praise: God, you are good. Psalm of the day: Reflect on Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
- 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.
- Thank you for members who have renewed their positions in our church, and those who have stepped up to new positions, after our Budget and Elections meeting last Sunday. Bless these people who give their time and talents to work in our church.
- For the Sundays -of Advent: a time to reflect on the birth of Jesus, and his promised return.
- Our Volunteers: those who serve on the Data and sound desk for Sunday services.
- For our Featured Ministry this Week: Sunday Music Group.

- 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** and family as they mourn the death of their son **Kai,** and celebrated his life on Wednesday with his funeral. Surround them with your loving care. May we as a congregation reach out to them in this difficult time.
- We pray for Encounter Church as they face the future without **Chaplain Sam**. Thank you for the faith and work of **Sam** in the Encounter Church, and be with him as he moves on to his new challenge in Mt Gambier. We place Sam, his new ministry and Encounter church into your loving hands
- 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: **Lorraine, Jacqui, James; Troy and Sallyanne and their children Campbell, Hayley and Zara.**

OUR COMMUNITY PRAYERS

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



This Week's Recipe

This week, our Chair, Dr Philip Morris, shares a recipe he received from a fellow doctor. The original recipe calls for halal lamb, which is usually available from halal butcheries. However, if you cannot find halal lamb nearby, you can readily substitute it with lamb from Coles, Woolworths, Drakes, or your local butcher. In my experience, there is very little difference in taste, although the cooked meat may appear slightly darker due to the higher blood content.

Halal BBQ Lamb

For this recipe, you need one deboned shoulder or leg of Halal lamb butterflied (1.2-1.5 Kg).Read the note above



Marinade: lemon juice, olive oil, salt and pepper, garlic paste, ginger paste, oregano, other spices to taste.

Mix marinade in well with meat in freezer bag, tie off the bag and leave overnight in regular section of fridge.

Use BBQ on high heat and sear marinated lamb on a clean griller on both sides until a caramelised (burnt) crust develops (5-10 min each side).

Place in an oven bag with half a small cup of olive oil and half a small cup of water and a small sprig of rosemary Seal oven bag and put small holes in bag at the top in five places Put the oven bag on a trivet in baking dish with 3/4 cup of water and 3/4 cup oil in base of the pan.

Cook in 180-200 degree oven for 1.5 hours (check meat is at required temperature in centre with meat thermometer) or 30 minutes for each 0.5 Kg of meat

Remove and rest meat 10 minutes

Cut into pieces

Sprinkle with lemon juice and serve on large plate with small tomatoes and small lemon wedges

Enjoy!

Philip Morris



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?

December

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
30. **November**	**1.** **TLCA - Encounter Prayer Meeting** 	**2.**	**3.** **Coffee, Chat and Craft Group** 9.30 Bible Study 10.00-12.00 Craft 12.00pm Breakup lunch - Ashmore Tavern 	**4.**	**5.** **Sister Space** 10.00am Host: Anne Lambert 	**6.** Trinity Worship 9.00am Encounter worship 4.00pm
7.	**8.** **TLCA - Encounter Prayer Meeting**	**9.**	**10.**	**11.** **Games and Chat** Trinity Southport Hall 10.00 am 	**12.**	**13.** Trinity Worship 9.00am Encounter worship 4.00pm
14.	**15.** **TLCA - Encounter Prayer Meeting**	**16.**	**17.**	**18.**	**19.**	**20.** Trinity Worship 9.00am Encounter worship 4.00pm
21.	**22.** **TLCA - Encounter Prayer Meeting**	**23.**	**24.** **Christmas Eve** Service 6.00pm 	**25.** **Christmas Day** Service 9.00am 	**26.**	**27.** Trinity Worship 9.00am Encounter worship 4.00pm
28.	**29.** **TLCA - Encounter Prayer Meeting**	**30.**	**31.**	1. **January**	2. **January**	3. **January**

Contact Details



Pastor: David Lazarus
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Office Administrator: Helen Teece
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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