

# LIVING IT

ST PETER'S LOXTON

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024



What does joy look like?

How might the picture to the left illustrate joy?

In Zechariah, joy is born from God's mercy, when he heals shame and restores the hope of his people. This is echoed by John the Baptist as he calls people to repent and receive the joy of God's radical grace.

## St Peter's Lutheran Church

[www.stpetersloxtton.church](http://www.stpetersloxtton.church)  
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PO Box 960, Loxton 5333  
[office@stpetersloxtton.church](mailto:office@stpetersloxtton.church)  
**(08) 8584 5522**



# Today in Worship

## **Bible readings for celebrating the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent:**

Readings: Zephaniah 3:14-20; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Next week: Micah 5:2-5a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55

## **In our prayers this week:**

- † Gilbert Schutz, Darren Doecke, Norm Doecke, Warren Falting, Barry Mangelsdorf and Kristen Doecke.
- † Those members in nursing homes in the area: Betty Bradtke, Gloria Farley, Melvin Fielke, Shirley Lipacis, Norma Ray, Ruth & Gilbert Schutz.
- † For those in our local community doing it tough in the leadup to and during the Christmas/New Year period. For us to be open to Holy Spirit's promptings about how we can be God's hands and feet to respond.
- † The Work of Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) and the farming community we support in Burundi.
- † Leanne Reichstein as she moves into Retirement after 41 years of service at Loxton Lutheran School.
- † For the Loxton Lutheran Parish as together we navigate the new thing God is doing amongst us so we can more effectively invite others into God's family.

## **S.O.A.P Journal: Philippians 4:4-7**

Scripture: Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Observe: What grabs your attention? Are there links to other parts of the Bible? How does it connect to the context of the chapter?

Apply: What does this mean for me? How might it challenge me? How might it comfort me?

Pray: Record any prayer points that have surfaced through your study.

## FAQ

**Holy Communion** is an important aspect of our meeting together in worship. Jesus meets us in an intimate way giving himself to us, his body and blood, in the bread and wine. It is a gift of grace where we receive forgiveness and are strengthened in our faith. We warmly invite those who trust in Jesus Christ as Lord to join us in this special meal when celebrated. Please speak to Pastor if you are unsure or would like to learn more.

**Children** are very welcome at St Peter's, and we love to see them join in worshipping God with their gifts. The pray-ground is for younger families to be closer to the action and have more room to move. Colouring and activity sheets are also available for children in the dark green plastic tub.

**The freewill money offering** is part of our worship service where we offer our thanks and trust to God. We respond to God's grace and acknowledge him as the giver of everything.

### **Regular Electronic Giving (REG) Details:**

*BSB: 704-942 Account Number: 52667 Name: St Peter's Lutheran Church, Loxton*

**National Grower Registration (NGR) Number: 13985291**

## Serving in Worship

Ministry Area	8.30am (22/12/24)	10.30am (22/12/24)
Steward Team	Darren Z, Tania & Tony Klix	Darren N, Gordon Z, Nathan & Charlie W
Service Leader	Pastor Jason	Pastor Jason
Band/Organ	Rosemarie Hetzel	Leanne Kaesler
Tea and Coffee	Ian & Daphne	John & Bronny
Bible Reader	Les Burgy	Oscar Burgy
Data / Sound Desk	Janice & Terry	Daniel Reimann/Band
Welcoming	Ralene G and Stan Z	Clarke, Geoff & Beth Haddon
Holy Comm Asst.	n/a	n/a
Flowers	n/a	Beth Reimann
Offering Count Leader	n/a	Theo Kaesler
Cleaning Leader	n/a	Rob & Joy Ziersch
Thrive Creative Response	n/a	n/a

*Are you ready to get involved or change your involvement in the worship life at St Peter's? If so, Contact Jo at the Ministry Centre on 8584 5522.*

# St Peter's News

## WELCOME!

We're glad to have you with us today, whether it's your first time, you're a returning visitor, or just passing through. If you need assistance, look for our ushers in purple lanyards - they're here to help. To stay connected, fill out a connect card and drop it in the offering box. If you have questions about Christianity or want to learn more about Jesus, please get in touch with our Pastor. We're here to support you in any way we can!

## Small Groups News

- "Chappies" care group's Christmas Lunch is on today (15<sup>th</sup> Dec), 12.30pm at the Loxton Club (Woolshed Bar).

## Coming Up



**St Peter's Christmas Lunch**  
12 noon—2pm Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December  
Peace Hall, 60 Bookturning Tee Loxton  
pension and concession card holders free  
other a donation appreciated  
a welcome

**Please RSVP by Thursday  
19<sup>th</sup> December!**

please contact Jo to reserve your spot  
8584 5522 or [jo.oldman@stpetersloxton.church](mailto:jo.oldman@stpetersloxton.church)

## Coming Up This Week

- Today**      8.30am – HC Traditional Worship  
10.30am – HC Contemporary Worship  
12.30pm – “Chappies” care group (Loxton Club)  
1.00pm – St Peter’s Prayer Group (Main Church)
- Mon 16<sup>th</sup>**      9-5pm – Toy Library Open (Peace Hall)  
10-3pm – Ministry Centre Open
- Thurs 19<sup>th</sup>**      9-5pm – Toy Library Open (Peace Hall)  
10-3pm – Ministry Centre Open
- Fri 20<sup>th</sup>**      7.00am – Men’s Breakfast (Peace Hall)  
10.30am – Carols @ Melaleuca House
- Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>**      8.30am – Traditional Worship  
10.30am – Contemporary Worship  
1.00pm – St Peter’s Prayer Group (Main Church)

### Next week in worship:

As we come to the close of the advent season, we will hear Mary’s song (Luke 1:39-55) – also known as the Magnificat. Mary’s song draws us into the heart and mind of the early church who used these songs to worship God and teach the gospel. What words and themes stand out for you as you read this text? How might they show us how God operates today?

## St Peter’s Staff

**Lead Pastor: Jason Sander** (Tuesday’s off)

[jason.sander@stpetersloxton.church](mailto:jason.sander@stpetersloxton.church)

**Pastoral Care Director: Jo Oldman** (Monday, Wednesday & Thursday)

[jo.oldman@stpetersloxton.church](mailto:jo.oldman@stpetersloxton.church)

**Office Secretary: Brenton Reimann** (Monday & Thursday)

[office@stpetersloxton.church](mailto:office@stpetersloxton.church)

*Reception attended Mondays and Thursdays 10am - 3pm*

*(Please contact the Ministry Centre 8584 5522 to make an appointment with Pastor outside these times)*

# Announcements

- **The Parish Future Directions Working Group** thanks everyone for a very pleasing number of responses to our survey and presents the results, with our reflections and an outline of next steps. Please look out for these on your email, or collect a printed copy at the front of the Church or Ministry Centre.
- Volunteers are still welcome to bless the residents at **Melaleuca House for Carols** on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30am (for about half an hour). Please let Gordon Zimmermann know on 0427 345 660.
- Don't forget to **RSVP for our Christmas Lunch** (25<sup>th</sup> December, 12 noon, in Peace Hall) by Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December so we can cater accordingly. Thankyou!
- **Time Out Devotionals** for 2025 have arrived at the Ministry Centre. If you have ordered one, please come in on Mondays or Thursdays to grab your copy. \$26 each. Thankyou.
- **We give thanks for Leanne Reichstein** for her dedication to Loxton Lutheran School. Leanne has retired after 41 years of teaching at LLS (her entire teaching career!).
- **Offering envelopes** have arrived for 2025, please take your box from the back pew opposite the pigeon holes. Thankyou.
- Les Burgemeister will have his 'famous' **Dill Cucumbers** available for sale after service starting on 8<sup>th</sup> December. They are \$10 a bucket and all sales at church go towards St Peter's Mission Project.
- An **Advent Devotional** by Lutheran Tract Mission is now available from by the lectern. There is a donation box to contribute to the printing costs. Thankyou!
- The last **"Happenings"** for 2024 (Term 4, Week 9) from Loxton Lutheran School are now available online. Just click [here](#).
- **Coming up this year:**  
Christmas Eve (Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>) Worship - 6.30pm  
Christmas Day (Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>) Worship - 10.30am  
Christmas Day Lunch - 12pm (Peace Hall) – RSVP by 19<sup>th</sup> December





## Growing FAITH at home

THIRD SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT

YEAR C

One more  
powerful  
is coming



GrowMinistries  
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



[www.growministries.org.au](http://www.growministries.org.au)



### CONVERSATIONS

*Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:*

1. What makes you anxious? What are you worried about?
2. What is God's promise to us in Philippians 4:6-7?  
How does this reassure us?



### BIBLE READINGS

*Read the following Bible readings throughout this week.  
Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.*

<b>S</b>	<b>Luke 3:7-18</b>	One more powerful is coming
<b>M</b>	<b>Zephaniah 3:14-20</b>	Restoration of Israel's remnant
<b>T</b>	<b>Philippians 4:4-7</b>	Rejoice in the Lord always
<b>W</b>	<b>Acts 13:16-31,38-39</b>	Paul preaches about John
<b>T</b>	<b>Acts 17:22-31</b>	Paul speaks of repentance
<b>F</b>	<b>John 15:1-8</b>	Producing fruit in Christ
<b>S</b>	<b>Isaiah 12:2-6</b>	Songs of praise

### VERSE OF THE WEEK

Do not worry about anything, but pray and ask God for everything you need, always giving thanks. And God's peace, which is so great we cannot understand it, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18





## CREATIVE RESPONSE

As a household set aside time during this week to read one or two favourite Christmas stories, share past Christmas memories, and sing Christmas carols.

Sit around your meal table or Christmas tree, light a candle and play Christmas music.

You might also enjoy a cup of hot chocolate and some Christmas treats.



## ACTION RESPONSE

Make the gift of service one of your Christmas gifts this year.

Talk together about acts of service that could be offered to different household members.

For example, doing the dishes, making a bed, helping prepare a meal, giving a massage, time spent gardening.

Have each person select an act of service they could offer to each household member (these don't need to be the same). Write these down on index cards and collate booklets of redeemable 'service vouchers' to give to members of the household at Christmas time.



## MEALTIME PRAYER

Lord Jesus, bless our home with hope this Advent. As we enjoy your gifts, make us ready for your coming again. Amen.



## PRAYER

Lord Jesus, bless us with the Holy Spirit. Make our hearts burn with love for you. Amen.



## BLESSING

May the Lord Jesus watch over your heart and your mind and give you his peace.