

## Christ the King 24 November 2024



Welcome: Brian & Barbara Smith  
Flowers: Debby Hardy  
Coffee/Tea: Alison Yule & Rosie Sharp  
Reader: Barbara Smith  
Kids Church: Kerry Lawson  
Music: Jim McWhinnie  
Church Rep: Kerry Lawson  
Worship Leader: Frances Davy  
Speaker: Evelyn Ashley

## Advent 1 1 December 2024

Welcome: Rosie Sharp & Janette McWhinnie  
Flowers: Flowers kindly donated  
Coffee/Tea: Kerry Lawson & Jan Robinson  
Reader: Pauline Terblanche  
Kids Church: TBA  
Music: Jim McWhinnie  
Church Rep: Andrew Telfer  
Worship Leader: Andrew Telfer  
Speaker: Evelyn Ashley



### Readings from the Lectionary

2 Sm 23:1-7  
Ps 132:1-12, (13-18)  
Rv 1:4b-8  
Jn 18:33-37

Jer 33:14-16  
Ps 25:1-10  
1 Thes 3:9-13  
Lk 1:39-45, (46-55)



## South Mandurah Uniting Church

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Members of the Leadership Team: Rev. Mike Fawcett, Ps. Yoy Alberastine, Kerry Lawson, Sherryl Smith, Andrew Telfer & Raelyn Punch

### Halls Head Bendigo Bank details for electronic transfers:

A/C Name: Uniting Church in Australia-South Mandurah Congregation  
BSB: 633-000 A/C No: 117072207

It is optional whether you include your name as a reference for the payment.

24 November 2024



# The Messenger

South Mandurah Uniting Church's Weekly Newsletter

Welcome to our Sunday Service of worship,  
commencing at **9-30am** every Sunday

## Kings Leading by Example

Perhaps you have heard this story. It's a great story: Many years ago, when Hitler's forces occupied Denmark, the order came that all Jews in Denmark were to identify themselves by wearing armbands with yellow stars of David. The Danes had seen the extermination of Jews in other countries and guessed that this was the first step in that process in their countries. The King did not defy the orders.



He had every Jew wear the star and he himself wore the Star of David. He told his people that he expected every loyal Dane to do the same. The King said, "We are all Danes. One Danish person is the same as the next." He wore his yellow star when going into Copenhagen every day in order to encourage his people. The King of Denmark identified with his people, even to the point of putting his own life on the line.

It's a wonderful story with a powerful point. The only problem is it isn't true. It's an urban legend. It's been around for a long time and told thousands of times over. And now with the internet we are getting a lot of these legendary stories retold. Too bad! What an image for a king, identifying with his people.

"Are you the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked. "Is that your idea," Jesus said to him, "or did others talk to you about me?" That's how these legends get started. Other people talking about what other people have said. Jesus was essentially crucified on gossip and rumour. An urban legend had developed around his ministry that he was going to lead a revolt against Rome.

In his conversation with Pilate, Jesus finally does imply that he is a king. "My kingdom," he explains, "is not of this world." Not of this world. That's what it takes. That's what it takes to find a King who identifies with his people. A King of heaven, a King of kings from some place other than this world. A place where those who truly believe can join him for eternity.

[Sermons.com](https://www.sermons.com) (Edited)



A very warm welcome is extended to any visitors. We trust that you will be blessed during this time of worship and invite you to fellowship with us after the service.



## Jesus Wins, Pilate Loses

George III of England, America's enemy in the Revolutionary War, felt terrible about the loss of the colonies. It was said, in fact, that for the rest of his life, he could not say the word "independence" without tripping over it. He was an odd duck in many ways, but he had good insights. When the fighting in America stopped, King George and all his royal cronies in Europe were sure that George Washington would have himself crowned "Emperor of the New World." That's what they would have done. When he was told, on the contrary, that Washington planned to surrender his military commission and return to farming at Mount Vernon, George III said, "Well, if he does that, he will be the greatest man in the world." There is power in giving up power, in emptying oneself. Jesus knew it, Pilate didn't.



William R. Boyer, *A Confusion of the Heart*

## In and Out of Favour

How quickly the opinion of crowd can change (cf. Acts 14:8-19). Amazingly, these were the same people who, moments ago, "were speaking well of Him". Fast forward three years and we witness another extreme shift in attitude during Jesus' last week of ministry. "Hosanna" (an expression of adoration to God) would swiftly turn into the deadly cries of "Crucify Him!"



A coach of an eastern states AFL club was being interviewed by a reporter after his team won one game and then lost the next. The reporter asked him, "Don't you ever tire of the yo-yo nature of the game and the commentary by the press?"

He said, "Nah, I've been around long enough to know that each week you are either in the penthouse or the outhouse!"

ChristianGlobe Illustrations (Edited)

## Pastoral Care

For pastoral care or spiritual guidance please contact:

Rev. Mike Fawcett

M: 0412 243 677

E: [fawcettmichael176@gmail.com](mailto:fawcettmichael176@gmail.com)

OR Any member of the leadership team (their names are overleaf)



Happy  
birthday

Desney Gordon Saturday 30 November

God Bless and warm wishes  
To you upon your birthday



Our Vision: "United in Christ we reach out to build loving relationships that deepen faith and enrich lives."

## Annual Christmas Concert Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November

We will be celebrating the start of Advent with our traditional annual Christmas Concert on Saturday evening 30<sup>th</sup> November. There will be food, music, singing and lots of fun.

### The Evening's Program:

5-30 to 6-30pm—Dinner

6-30 to 7-30pm—Carols

7-30 to 8pm Dessert & coffee/tea



Make sure you write the date in your diaries and tell all your friends and family to save the date. This is our most popular event of the year and we want even more people to come than last year. Please bring a plate of your favourite food to share, and your own drinks.

For more information about the catering please contact Kerry Lawson M: 0409 885 988. If you would like to join the singers and/or musicians for the concert please speak to Ken Lehmann M: 0417 955 149.

## Christmas Appeal—Toys for Fathers in Prison

We are collecting toys for children whose fathers are in the Bunbury Prison. **This year we are collecting toys for children who are no more than 10 years old.** The toys need to be in extremely good condition or preferably new. A box will be placed in the church forum where you can place the presents. For more information please contact Peter or Raelyn Punch E: [prpunch@lasar.net.au](mailto:prpunch@lasar.net.au)



## Special prayer requests this week...

*This week we continue to offer prayers for Yoy and Anita Alberastine and their families. We pray that Yoy fully recovers from his illness and is able to return home soon, and we pray for Anita who needs your love and support through this very difficult time. Lord, we look forward to Yoy and Anita being able to return to South Mandurah and join us singing your praises.*



*We offer prayers too for all the people who are in hospital, and for the medical staff caring for them, asking that You bless them and guide them as they care for their patients.*

*Lord, we ask for your hand of healing, love, and support, to be upon these your children, as they seek You in their time of need. We lift them up to you, through Christ our risen Saviour. Amen*