

December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023

# Advent Sunday– God Is Faithful

8.45am

**Song Pre-Service:** Your Promises (Elevation) [https://youtu.be/Rr3o6M0\\_lxs](https://youtu.be/Rr3o6M0_lxs) CCLI No. 7031507

**(Matt & Dodie)** Good morning and a warm Good Shepherd welcome to you all, especially if you're visiting with us. May you be renewed and blessed as we worship our Lord on this first Sunday in Advent. We're Matt & Dodie Dutschke your WLs today. Pr Robert Voigt will be our guest preacher today – and also leading some parts of our service.

*Housekeeping: mobile phones off/silent, toilets along the rear corridor to my right, Connect Cards to assist us with caring & connection in our community. Pencils are available in the chairs on the side.*

Praise Points from the past week (roving microphone needed)

If you'd like to share something from the past week that gives you reason to praise God, please raise a hand so we can bring a microphone to you.

Call to Worship

As you are able, please stand as we begin this time of praise and worship. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Advent Season Lighting of 1<sup>st</sup> Advent candle during songs

**Song:** By Faith (Getty) <https://youtu.be/fXB8ihpUpE> CCLI No. 5469291

**Song:** Even So Come (Bethel) <https://youtu.be/4s0Zb189Sco> CCLI No. 7036288

*(Please be seated)*

Call to Confession **(Pr Robert Voigt)**

**Heavenly Father,**

**We confess that our lives have not always reflected who we are in Christ.**

**We have sinned against you and each other through what we have thought, said and done.**

**We have not loved you above everything else in our lives. We have been unfaithful, yet you remain faithful and constant in your promises.**

**We have hurt others through our own selfish attitudes, words, and actions.**

**And there are those times we have failed to do good things when we had the chance**

*(pause for silent reflection and confession)*

**(Pr Robert Voigt)** We continue.....

**Lord, have mercy on us.**

**Because of Jesus' death for us, please forgive us all our sins.**

**Renew us by the power and presence of our risen Lord and pour out your Holy Spirit on each of us so we can live as your people and reflect your love to the world.**

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Declare God's Words of forgiveness **(Pr Robert Voigt)**

There is no other name given under heaven by which we must be saved! Jesus gave his authority to his Church to forgive those who repent and trust in Him as their Lord and Saviour. And so by the authority of the crucified and risen Jesus, I declare to you: 'Your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.' God's peace be yours, now and always. Amen

I invite you to stand as you are able for our next song

**Song:** Hosanna (Brooke Fraser) <https://youtu.be/NoM0AT8fBvs> CCLI No. 4785835

*(Please be seated)*

Theme of the Day: (Matt & Dodie) The theme for today is 'God Is Faithful'

Bible Readings: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (NIV) & Mark 13:24-37 (NLT) (Matt & Dodie)

Please stand as you are able and join me as we respond to God speaking to us in his word, by confessing our faith in him as the body of Christ, his church.

Confession of faith: **The Apostles Creed**  
(Please be seated)

Message: God Is Faithful (1 Corinthians 1:2-9) (Pr Robert Voigt)

I invite you to stand as you are able for our next song

Song: Your Promises (Elevation) [https://youtu.be/Rr3o6M0\\_lxs](https://youtu.be/Rr3o6M0_lxs) CCLI No. 7031507  
(Please be seated)

General Prayers & The Lord's Prayer (Matt & Dodie)

The Lord's Supper (Pr Robert Voigt)

Jesus' Words of Institution (Pr Robert Voigt)

Announcement for Distribution (Matt & Dodie)

Communion helpers will commune first, followed by rest of the congregation. Please use centre aisle to come to the front, the ushers will guide you. Together with the normal bread and wine, gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic grape juice are available. Please indicate your preference when you commune. After communing place your cup in the trays provided and return to your seats via the side aisles.

Distribution and Dismissal

*(Band are welcome to play quietly during distribution – song(s) of their choice)*

Announce Retiring Offering (Matt & Dodie)

Through our freewill offerings we honour God and join his mission of making Jesus known in our community. Many do this electronically. Otherwise, you are invited to place your freewill offerings in the bowls at the doors as you exit the church after the service. Connect Cards can also be placed in these bowls. It would be helpful for our offering counters if you can do this soon after the service.

I invite you to stand as you are able for our final song

Song: God Is Able (Hillsong) <https://youtu.be/JTSknArjnWM> CCLI No. 5894275

The Blessing (Pr Robert Voigt)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favour, and give you His peace.

Amen

*(Please be seated)*

Announcements: (Matt & Dodie)

**1. Thank you to our guest** pastor for today. Thanks Pastor Robert for your message and helping lead the worship.

**2. Celebrations: "5 or 0" Anniv's and B'days:** Evan Gaye has a special 0 birthday, and Ruth Schwartz is celebrating a special Baptism birthday.

**3. Para Vista Community Carols on Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.** This is a free event, but you need to book tickets on the website or through the Church Office. Postcards are available for you to give to family, friends and neighbours.

We also have posters that we would like to be displayed in the community. If you are able to help, please take one or more posters, to display in shop windows or notice boards, work places or schools. Please ask permission from the venues!

#### **4. Christmas Service times**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Eve morning service at 9.30am (carols and readings)

Christmas Eve evening services 5.30pm children's service / 7.30pm service

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Day service at 9.30am

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Dec – New Year's Eve morning service at 9.30am with Holy Communion

**5. SPIN camp 9-12 January for Years 4-6 at Barmera.** Only \$50 for first time campers, \$200 for returning campers with a \$50 discount for Good Shepherd members. For more details see Georgie, Rachel or Nicole Pfeiffer. Flyers available in the café area. Registrations close 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**6. Friendship and fun afternoon** Next Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 1-4pm in the church hall

**7. Prayer Available after service** in the quiet corner adjacent to the organ

**8. Hospitality.** Hasn't it been a privilege to worship our great God together? But is that the only reason we are here together this morning? We now have an opportunity to check in with each other and find out how we've been travelling with Jesus this week. If you are visiting with us this morning, we'd love to meet you and get to know you. So, everyone, please take some time now to say hello to someone you haven't met before, particularly if they are of a different generation to yourself. The cafe is open so grab a cuppa and chat.