#### Pastor David Kuss 0474 229 959 david.kuss@lca.org.au

Holy Cross Office Closed Monday Tues/Wed 9.30am -1.30pm Thurs/Fri 9am – 2pm Ph 8532 4577 Pastor Paul Calnan 0417 466 611 paul.calnan@lca.org.au

Christ Church Office Mon - Fri 9 am -12noon Ph 8532 6553 www.cclutheranmb.org.au

## Email Addresses:

holycross.murraybridge.sa@lca.org.au christchurch.murraybridge.sa@lca.org.au

After hours please contact MVLC Council Chairperson: Joanne Pfeiffer 0417 802 052 or Pastoral Assistant John Pohl 0427 876 776

Pastor Pau is on personal leave, Annette is also on personal leave and Janelle will be at Holy Cross. Please note the office will be closed on Mondays & Thursdays.

## **SERVICES**

## Sunday 10th March

Led by Pastor David with H/C 9am Holy Cross (Baptism) (morning tea/ trading table) 10.30am Christ Church (Hall) (morning tea from 10am) Lay Reading no H/C 10.30am Monarto

## Wednesday 13th March ~ Mid-week Lent 4

Led by Pastor David 7pm @ Holy Cross ~ cuppa to follow

## Sunday 17th March

Led by Pastor David with H/C 9am Monarto (morning tea) 10:30am Christ Church (hall) Lay Reading - no H/C 9am Christ Church (in the church) (morning tea from 10am) 10:30am Holy Cross



# Murray Valley Lutheran Community

## Friday 8th March 2024

**Christ Church** 31 Swanport Rd Murray Bridge Holy Cross 31 Florence St Murray Bridge **Zion Monarto** 427 Schenscher Rd Monarto

## Welcome to all worshipping with us Today

## "Simul Justus et Peccator"

In our build up toward Easter we are having an incredible look into the humanness of Jesus - His cries, his pain, him caring for his mother. We also see his complete divinity as he takes our sin on his back to the cross. We look forward to Easter Sunday when he rises from death and lives eternally. How does he do it – a split personality?

Maybe we just need to look at self. We know we are complete sinners at every moment, around every corner – and yet we also know we are right with God through Jesus and saved for eternal life. We live with this dual tension every day and it's so natural we don't even think about it. The experts put it into Latin for us *"Simul Justus et Peccator"* 

(simultaneously just and sinner).

Why are the most useful and precious teachings written in Latin? DJK

<u>PRAYER</u>: Loving Father, when we were captive in the darkness of sin and death, your Son rescued us and brought us back to you. Teach us to trust in Him and to live as your people.

All Welcome – come along to events organised by the MVLC and form a close relationship with fellow members. Cut off for notices sent to either Office is Wednesday 10am for the Newsletter and midday on Thursdays for the Bulletin.

## **10th March Readings**

Psalm 139:13-16 Numbers 21:4-9; Ephesians 2:8-10; John 3:14-21

## Do you bank with the LLL?

There is an important update out - if you haven't seen it yet contact either of the offices.



**REG: Murray Valley Lutheran Community** BSB 704942 ACC# 101026587 MUSIC MINISTRY MVLC Mission & Outreach BSB 704942 ACC#101028369 Reference: Music Ministry

If you would like to be included in our Prayers or have your Birthday, Anniversary, Bereavement or any other special occasion announced in the fortnightly Newsletter, please email or call either church office.

## **Diary Dates:**

Mon 11	Public Holiday - offices closed	
Wed 13	9:30am CC Senior Care @ Ed Cen	
	1:15pm Women's Guild @ Concordia Hall	
	7pm Mid-Week Lenten Service @ Holy Cross	
Thurs 14	1:30pm - Romani Communion Service	
Fri 15	6pm Youth Meet @ the Cave	
	6:30pm Men's Group @ Murray Bridge Rifle Club	
Tues 19	1:30pm Romani Service	
Wed 20	7pm Mid-Week Lenten Service @ Monarto	
Thurs 21	1:30pm Resthaven Lutheran Service	
	2pm Emmaus Group @ Janet Bensch's	
Thurs 21 - Sat 23 Thrift Shop & Sat Car Boot Sale		
Sup 2/	Vouth 2-1nm @ Ahrens' House	

- Sun 24 Youth 2-4pm @ Ahrens' House
- Sun 14 10:30am Blessing of the Seed & Soil Save the date!

## **Baptismal Birthday Celebrations**

## Pray for:

- Pray for everyone who is feeling unwell and struggling with health issues. Comfort and relieve those challenged by serious and chronic mental and emotional illnesses. Lord, surround them with your healing presence that they may know that they are not alone.
- Pray for all who lost loved ones, we think particularly of Marj Haskell and her family on the loss of her husband, Bryce. Pray that God gives them comfort in their time of loss and grief.
- Pray for the Daisy Jaensch on her Baptism Day. May God's blessing of peace and joy be with Daisy and her family and her Sponsors and protect them all of their days.

## "LIFE THROUGH THE LENS"



THE TRANSFORMER

They hang on poles all over the place. Massive ones sit in yards scattered across the countryside, and we seldom notice they are there, apart from when they stop working or blow up. We sort of assume they are powerful. Actually, without an outside source of power, they are just hunks of metal and ceramic and other bits and pieces of stuff hanging on poles with wires coming in and going out. The transformer's sole purpose is to receive power and distribute it to areas needed in forms that can be used.

Next time you see a transformer, consider this. The great God of love used his son Jesus to transform and distribute his love so it could make a difference in the lives of humanity. He distributes this love to all people, to you and me. A living love so great that it can and does transform lives. A love that comes with the power to change lives in ways we don't always understand or see.

The electricity current coming from a transformer is not visible, but we can witness the result of that power to create and drive change and blessings for all.

Just as the transformer sends the power to many different places for diverse uses, God's love flows through Jesus to all people, and to those who accept it drives all manner of change and blessings. We would never understand this love of God without Jesus. Through his words of forgiving love and his actions of love when and where needed. Actions that showed "Love your neighbour", "stand against wrongs", "support the weak, the downtrodden", and "encourage those who worry". Those are some of the things he did.

Surprisingly to all who trust him, his words, and his promise, Jesus also says, "Truly, truly, I tell you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father". **(John 14:2)** 

What does this mean for you? Trust him, and you too can forgive; no longer let hurts or thoughts of revenge rule. You can love and accept love into your life. You can get up each morning knowing the God of Love is your friend for all this day and all the days to come. You need never feel lonely; he is always there to talk to, joke with and share your most heartfelt thoughts and feelings. That is just some of what comes when you let the transforming power of Jesus's love drive your life. Oh!Just a thought. When he provides the power, there are no blackouts.

God bless, Kevin.





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

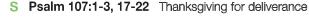
- 1. Share about a time when you felt really loved. What happened to make you feel that way?
- 2. The Bible tells us that God is love. How has God shown his love for the world?



#### BIBLE READINGS

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

S John 3:14-21	God so loved the world
M Numbers 21:4-9	The serpent of bronze
Ephesians 2:1-10	Faith is a gift from God
W 1 John 4:7-21	God is love
T Isaiah 12:1-6	Thanks to God, our Saviour
F Galatians 2:15-21	Saved through faith in Christ



## VERSE OF THE WEEK

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world but to save the world through him.

JOHN 3:16-17



#### **CREATIVE RESPONSE**

To help you think about God's love this week, draw and cut out a large heart shape from a sheet of poster paper.

Attach a piece of ribbon or string so that the heart can be strung up on a wall of your home.

As you go through the week spend time answering this question: **"Today God showed me his love by …"**.

Write all your household responses on the heart and watch as it fills up with signs of God's care for you!



#### **ACTION RESPONSE**

Make this "SHMILY" Week in your home.

SHMILY stands for "See-How-Much-I-Love-You".

Make 10 smiley-face paper "buttons" for each family member. Challenge each household member to give away their SHMILYs through performing ten acts of loving service to others in your household during the week e.g. giving a special hug or back rub, doing a chore without being asked, giving a special compliment.



## MEALTI

Lord Jesus, thank you for all the blessings you give us, especially this meal before us. Amen.





#### BLESSING

May you always know how much God loves you, and have life with him forever.

Lent is a time			
to reflect on			
God's saving			
love.			

FOURTH

SUNDAY

YEAR B





www.growministries.org.au