



Worship at St Luke's this weekend

Sunday am: Holy Communion

(Hymns: TIS 158, Deep in darkness vv1-2, MP 88, MP 210, TIS 283)

Sunday 9am: Family Service (also streamed via ZOOM*)

(Hymns: TIS 265, Deep in darkness vv1-2, TIS 272, TIS 270, MP 75)

* <https://zoom.us/j/7210725462> or by telephone (07 3185 3730, meeting ID 721 072 5462).

Contact the office for the password.

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.

Mark 1.15a

Rev'd Timothy writes...

Robin Mark's modern hymn 'Days of Elijah' begins:

*These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the word of the Lord
And these are the days of your servant Moses
Righteousness being restored
And though these are days of great trial
Of famine and darkness and sword
Still, we are the voice in the desert crying
Prepare ye the way of the Lord*

This neatly sums up the message of our gospel passage this week for the second Sunday of Advent.

For the people of Israel in Jesus' time, Elijah was one of their greatest prophets, one who rebuked even the king for forgetting God and calling people to repentance. He is described in 2 Kings 1:7-8 as "a hairy man with a leather belt round his waist." For the Jews he would come again when the reign of God was at hand.

So when John the Baptist came out of the wilderness, "wearing clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist" (Matthew 3:4), and calling for people to repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near" (Matthew 3:2), it was clear to them that John was Elijah; this was the day of Elijah, the day when God's reign was coming. And they would have heard John's question 'are you ready for God to come amongst you?' The answer was, no, and so they flocked to John to confess their sins and be washed in the Jordan River.

Reading this passage in Advent, the same question is posed to us. Are we ready for what Christmas stands for? The nativity is a joyous message, but there is also cause for repentance.

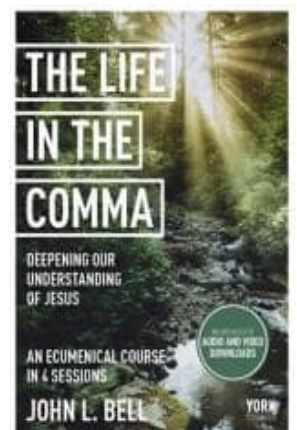
And perhaps too, we need to heed the sentiment at the end of the Robin Mark verse; we too are called to proclaim the 'day of Elijah' to those around us.



Advent Study—The life in the comma

Our Advent study this year is written by John Bell who observes that The Apostle's creed moves from the Virgin Mary to Pontius Pilate with only a comma in between, and it is only through understanding what is represented by the comma, Jesus life, that we can really understand Jesus.

Continues Tuesdays 10am or Thursdays 7.30pm. Contact Rev'd Timothy or June for details.



Readings for 2nd Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 11:1–10 The prophet speaks the promise from God that a shoot will grow from the root of Jesse, bringing new leadership and way of being. This leader will judge in righteousness, and there will be peace across the land.

Psalms 72:1–7, 18–19 A prayer that God will give the king the ability to rule with righteousness and justice. In his ruling, the writer prays that the nation will prosper and live in peace.

Romans 15:4–13 is Paul's prayer of encouragement to the Gentiles to live in one mind and one voice to glorify God. Paul quotes from the scriptures, reinforcing the importance of the ministry amongst the Gentiles.

Matthew 3:1–12 John the baptiser prepares the way for the coming of Jesus, announcing that he, John, baptises with water, but the one coming will baptise with the Holy Spirit.

First reading

A reading from the book of Isaiah

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,

and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together,

and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-21

¹ Give the king your judgement, O God: and your righteousness to the son of a king,

² That he may judge your people rightly:
and the poor of the land with equity.

³ Let the mountains be laden with peace
because of his righteousness:
and the hills also with prosperity for his
people.

⁴ May he give justice to the poor among
the people:
and rescue the children of the needy, and
crush the oppressor.

⁵ May he live while the sun endures:
and while the moon gives light,
throughout all generations.

⁶ May he come down like rain upon the
new-mown fields:
and as showers that water the earth.

⁷ In his time shall righteousness flourish:
and abundance of peace, till the moon
shall be no more.

¹⁸ Let his name live for ever:
and endure as long as the sun.

¹⁹ Let all peoples use his name in blessing:
and all nations call him blessed.

²⁰ Blessed be the Lord God, the God of
Israel:
who alone does great wonders.

²¹ Blessed be his glorious name for ever:
and let the whole earth be filled with his
glory. Amen. Amen,

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Romans

⁴ For whatever was written in former days
was written for our instruction, so that by
steadfastness and by the encouragement
of the scriptures we might have hope.

⁵ May the God of steadfastness and
encouragement grant you to live in

harmony with one another, in accordance
with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you
may with one voice glorify the God and
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as
Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of
God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has
become a servant of the circumcised on
behalf of the truth of God in order that
he might confirm the promises given to
the patriarchs, ⁹ and in order that the
Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy.

As it is written,

‘Therefore I will confess you among the
Gentiles,

and sing praises to your name’;

¹⁰ and again he says,

‘Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people’;

¹¹ and again,

‘Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,

and let all the peoples praise him’;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

‘The root of Jesse shall come,

the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;
in him the Gentiles shall hope.’

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all
joy and peace in believing, so that you
may abound in hope by the power of the
Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:4-13

Gospel Reading

A reading from the gospel of Matthew.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared
in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming,

² ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has
come near.’ ³ This is the one of whom the

prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

‘The voice of one crying out in the
wilderness:

“Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.” ’

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.

⁵ Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, ‘You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?’

⁸ Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹ Do not presume to say to yourselves, “We have Abraham as our ancestor”; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to

raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ ‘I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

¹² His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.’

Matthew 3:1-12

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Word of the Day

In today’s readings from Isaiah and the gospel of Matthew, there is a hope for a coming leader who will change the way things are. In Isaiah, we hear of the shoot that will rise from the stump of Jesse and bring peace to the world. In Matthew, John the baptiser prepares the way for Jesus, who will bring a different way of being to the people. Both passages are filled with hope for the future and seem like words full of promise. The reality is that often people would prefer to stay with their lives as they are, comfortable and complacent.

John the baptiser is portrayed as a strange figure with an alternative lifestyle. Living in the desert with his unique diet and clothes, John brings strong words about the future. He calls for people to repent, completely change their perspective and direction in life. Who would want to listen to this craziness? John calls people not to define themselves simply by their ancestry and their current lives, but to dream of a larger hope and a grander vision of peace in our world. John’s message is not about less, but about more. It is an invitation to dare to dream of more peace, more love, more compassion in our world. It is an invitation to leave our well-trodden paths and take a new way found in Jesus, our Immanuel.

Ideas for Reflection

- What would it look like to create our ‘to-do’ list beginning with God’s dream for

our world?

- What gets in the way of leaving the comfort of our lives to walk the new way of Jesus?
- Where in your life are you longing for more—more peace, more love, more grace, more compassion, more Christ?

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AUSTRALIAN
ANGLICAN
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CALENDAR

Orders are now being taken for the 2025 Anglican Australian Church Calendar. Please sign the list at the back of church (or contact the office) if you would like a

CHRISTMAS AT ST LUKE'S EKIBIN

Sunday 14th December

6pm Carol Service

preceded by a community sausage sizzle at 5pm.
There will be a collection supporting the community outreach work of the 96.5 family radio station

Christmas Eve, Wednesday 24th December

5pm Family service with nativity story and communion

11pm Holy Communion by candlelight

Christmas Day, Thursday 25th December

9am Family Service with communion also streamed on Zoom, contact the office for details

193 Ekibin Road East, Tarragindi

3848 2123

www.stlukesekibin.org.au

For our Prayers

Prayer for the day

God of all peoples, whose servant John came baptising and calling for repentance: help us to hear his voice of judgement, that we may also rejoice in his word of promise, and be found pure and blameless in that glorious Day when Christ comes to rule the earth as Prince of Peace; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The World

Pray for those affected by flooding in South-East Asia.

The Anglican Communion

The Church of Bangladesh

The Diocese of Brisbane: †Jeremy Greaves; Assistant Bishops – †Cameron Venables, †John Roundhill, †Sarah Plowman; Clergy and People

The Parish of Bulimba: Paul Mitchell, Sharon Mitchell, Greg March

Southern Queensland Correctional Centre:

Hillbrook Anglican School, Enoggera: Principal – Mark Zietsch; Chaplain – David Adams; Chair of School Council – David Marsland; members of School Council; staff & students

Our missionary partners

Danie Middeldorp, SU chaplain at Wellers Hill State School

Local Schools and colleges

Wellers Hill Primary, Junction Park Primary, Moorooka Primary

Our parish

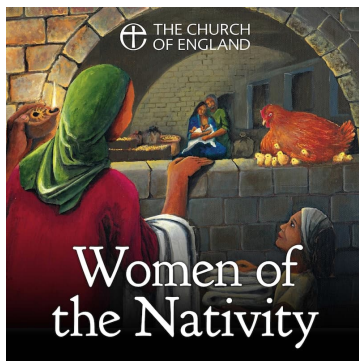
Give thanks for the year of Children's Church and for their dedicated and talented leaders.

Those who are sick, frail or emotionally stressed

Ryan, Jocelyn Hawes, Peter F, Peter Pressdee, David F., Jan Moody, Robyn and Maxine McElnea, Rita Johnson, Sharon L., Margaret Sheehan, Don Rennie, Georgina Crawford, Glenda, Sue, Liz and Angie Lockhorst, Rev'd Shane Hubner, Natalie McHue, Lynette Coop, Sue, Rose, Al, Nancy Capern, Jennifer D, Sandy Tonello. Mary Bickerdike, Lee.

From the Parish Book of Remembrance

7 December: Edward Arthur Cairns; *10 December:* Mabel Evelyn Killen, Joyce Bertram; *12 December:* Edith May Bell, Edward John Erickson, Druzilla Ruth Newnham; *13 December:* Robert Henry Davidson, Albert Irwin Rock .



Evening prayer will also be said on Zoom on Saturdays at 6pm in Advent, including Women **of the Nativity** stories by Paula Gooder.

December Church News

Printed copies of Church News are available at the back of the church today.

Also available on line on Parish website:

notes.stlukesekibin.org.au/church-news/church-news-december-2025

Containers for Change

Donate your '10c refund' bottles and cans to St Luke's. Either by bring them to church or take them direct to TOMRA (9/655 Toohey Road, Salisbury) and use the parish code: C10686424

Services This Week:

Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday

6pm: Evening Prayer (Zoom)

Tuesday 9th December

1.30pm Carols at Regis, Salisbury

Sunday 14th December

(Third Sunday in Advent)

7am: Holy Communion

9am: Family service

(St Luke's/Zoom)

6pm: Carol Service at St Luke's

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-10, Song of Mary (APBA P9), James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

Also part of St Luke's:

**Little Angels
Tarragindi**

Anglican Childcare
opening early 2026:

littleangels.qld.edu.au




St Luke's Theatre Society:

stlukestheatre.asn.au

Keep in touch:

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 3848 2123 (Rectory and Office)

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 @stlukesekibin

Parish Wardens:

Brian Wood (0466 656 149)

Alison Lampe (0408 183 701)

Lynn Mitchell (0409 150 861)

Offerings:

Bank details
(internet
banking):
Anglican Parish
of Ekibin
A/C 0000 7820
BSB 704 901



Or scan the QR code to give online:

<https://www.bpoint.com.au/pay/TIM/?BillerCode=1709377>