

Rosewood, Marburg, Lowood, Hiddenvale

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
27TH DECEMBER 2020
9AM ST LUKE'S ROSEWOOD**

Readings for Today:

Isaiah 61.10-62.3

Psalm 148

Galatians 4.4-7

Luke 2.22-40

Sentence:

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the
presence of all peoples, a light for
revelation to the Gentiles and for
glory to your people Israel.

Luke 2.30-32



Prayer of the day:

Saving God,
whose Son Jesus was presented in the temple
and was acclaimed the glory of Israel
and the light of the nations:
grant that in him we may be presented to you
and in the world may reflect his glory;
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

This week, the first Sunday after Christmas, is known as the Holy naming day as Jesus is blessed at the temple by the elderly priest Simeon who has been waiting faithfully for this moment believing it would come. From this time Jesus' earthly path has been set as he has been publicly identified.

In parallel, Paul, in his letter to the Galatians, refers to our identity as children of God, which calls us to reflect on the roles he has for us to fulfill, in this time and space, and what that means.

Please reach out to Revd. Rex or our wardens if you need support of any sort in coming days and weeks, as we are here for each other.

Blessings, Revd. Louise

Daily Readings for the coming week:

Mon: Jeremiah 31.15-20; Psalm 124; 1 John 1.5-2.2; Matthew 2.13-18

Tue: 1 John 2.30-11; Psalm 96.1-6; Luke 2.22-35

Wed: 1 John 2.12-17; Psalm 96.7-9; Luke 2.36-40; John 2.1-12

Thu: 1 John 2.18-21; Psalm 96.10-13; John 1.1-18; John 2.13-25

Fri: Numbers 6.22-27; Psalm 8; Galatians 4.4-7; Luke 2.15-21

Sat: 1 John 2.29-3.6; Psalm 98.8-10; John 1.29-34

Sun: Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.1-7,10-14; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

An Acknowledgement of Country

As we gather in the various churches of our parish, we acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, and their elders past and present. We honour the connection the traditional custodians have with this land.

Notices:

•**Revd. Louise** will be on annual leave from 28th of December to the 9th of January, please direct any concerns at this time to Revd. Rex, or warden Courtney Smith on the parish phone number and email listed on the pew sheet. This will also be the contact for registration for services for the first two weeks of January which will be at Rosewood 9am on January 3rd, and Marburg January 10th at 9am. Thank you to Revd. Rex and Christina for taking these services while Revd Louise is away.

•**Revd. Rex and Christina** have indicated that they wish to take a well-earned break following the services in January. We wish them well on their travels and pray God's blessing upon them.

•**January activities.** A reminder that midweek services, bible study, and Prayer and Praise will be in recess over January.

Upcoming Sunday Services in the Parish:

Please register for services on: **07 5464 2797**

3rd January 2021

9am St Luke's Rosewood—Rev'd Rex

10th January

9am All Saints' Marburg—Rev'd Rex

17th January

9am Morning Prayer St Luke's Rosewood
10.30am St Anne's Hiddenvale—Rev'd Louise

24th January

9am St James' Lowood—Rev'd Louise

31st January

9am St Luke's Rosewood—Rev'd Louise

Pray for those in need:

We give thanks for prayers answered and ask for continued prayers for: Norm, Julie and family. Lynn. Kim and family. Carin and family, Carmel, Kristy and family. Glenda and family, Mary and Peter. Kevin and Lynn, Benjamin and Tiffany Hanel. Jan, Anita and Gordon. Robyn. Paul, Ann Perkins, Sylvia.

Pray for those whose need is ongoing:

Ian, Brenda and David, May, Judy and Adrian, Mark, Graham and family, Wilma, Ron, Irene and Michael.

Parish Directory

Priest in Charge -Reverend Louise Orpe Phone 0402 482 174

Priest Email: louise.orpe@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

Honorary Assistant Priest—Reverend Rex Marré Phone 0411 162 517

Parish Office—Phone 07 5464 2797 Parish Website: rosewoodanglican.org.au

Postal Address: Post Office Box 176, Rosewood QLD 4340

Office Email: rosewood@anglicanchurchsq.org.au

The deadline for the weekly Pew Sheet is Tuesday Evening to Office email.

Churchwardens— Anne Parker 0423 369 000

Ann Abraham 0402 411 375

Courtney Smith 0474 769 660

Prayer chain coordinator- Desley Greensill-0437 374 407

Pastoral Care coordinator Ann Abraham-0402 411 375

Giving: Envelopes are available at each centre. To deposit offerings:

Anglican Parish of Rosewood BSB 704 901 A/c 00008030

Romans 8:28

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.””

27th December 2020. First Sunday after Christmas.

Isaiah 61:10

¹⁰ I delight greatly in the Lord;
my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness
and praise spring up before all nations.

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.

² The nations will see your vindication,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will bestow.

³ You will be a crown of splendour in the Lord's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Psalm 148 (APBA 378)

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴ But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.^[a] ⁶ Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba,^[a] Father." ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

Luke 2:22-40

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"^[a]), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."^[b]

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss^[c] your servant in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel."

³³ The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four.^[d] She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Homily by Revd. Louise Orpe. First Sunday after Christmas.

27th December 2020. Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

This day in the church calendar is known as Holy naming day.

We have the very moving recollection of the time when Jesus' faithful and obedient parents dutifully present their baby to the temple fulfilling the purification rite handed down by Moses.

And what a presentation it was as Simeon the very elderly priest is overwhelmed by the day he has waited for, for most of his life. It is such a very moving story as Simeon feels that his life's work is now done and asks that he as a servant may go in peace.

But our readings today reflect not only on the naming and identity of Christ, but of that of all who believe in him.

The shepherds reveal to Mary and Joseph that before the baby Jesus was born, they had a message from an angel telling them that the newborn babe was the Messiah.

In the same way we are told that God has known us and had his hand on each one of our lives before we were conceived in our mother's womb.

The apostle Paul points out to the people of Galatia today, that through the birth of Christ, God sent his Spirit into our hearts, so that we can call him Abba, Father.

Therefore, we understand that it is from this time, that we are no longer regarded as servants or slaves, where we hold the entitlements of an employee, but instead have been adopted as children of God. We have become part of a family, and in being part of that family like any children receive an inheritance, and that is the Kingdom of God and eternal life.

This is our identity and who we are.

In this life, many of us might have different titles, which identify us in a role, as we are also named, and can ask how does that title impact our behaviour and relationship to those around us?

For example, the role of Prime Minister brings with it certain expectations of behaviour and respect as does a teacher, a Doctor, a Priest or a parent or a grandparent.

In the same way, as adopted children and heirs to God's Kingdom we can ask as we wear this royal robe, what role is expected of us, and reflect on what relationship we sustain with our adopted Father, and how we carry the family name and what responsibilities that hold.

On that day in the temple, Jesus' identity was formerly recognized, and he had a clear task and role to play in this world as God's Son. He could not step off the bus but grew as a little boy into who he was created to be, and the task he was called to fulfill.

Jesus had a true calling in this world, and in the same way we can ask ourselves how we are fulfilling the role God has destined for us, as we seek our own destiny and fulfillment of God's presence in this place.

Make no mistake, that as Jesus presence here we have a role to fulfill.

Frederick Buechner describes our divine calling as "the place where our deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet."

We are here to feed God's sheep and have a role to fulfill. As we ponder this, we can imagine each one of us being presented before the Lord, and him saying "this is my Holy Child, may he or she be blessed in fulfilling the task for which I have created them."

Amen.