

Welcoming
Growing
Sharing



LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF AUSTRALIA
where love comes to life

Sunday 5 May 2024

Chosen to love

Scripture

[John 15:9-17](#)

Reflection

I didn't know Jesus growing up. My family were not Christian. I became a Christian as an adult. There's a lot I can tell you about having a conversion experience, weeping tears of joy as I was overcome by the Holy Spirit the first time I ever went to worship at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Adelaide. I can tell you how transformational it was for me to read the Bible for the first time ever, and that I have kept a diary of that time in which page after page I tell God that I will follow him and live for him. Throughout all of that time, a small LLL tract was stuck to the wall right near my pillow, and I read what it said every night before I closed my eyes. A Lutheran friend had given it to me: 'You did not choose me, but I chose you' (John 15:16). Etched into my memory forever. I didn't really understand those words at the time, but they seemed important. Now I get it. We do not choose to follow God, God comes to us.

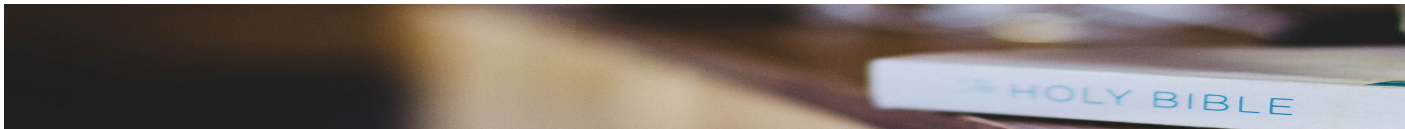
Three lost and found – or chosen – stories in Luke helped me to understand. The parable of the lost sheep (Luke 15:1-7): The sheep was too stuck and too lost to simply turn around and choose to follow the Good Shepherd again. But he went out looking for the sheep until he found it – and then threw a joyful party! That's our God. The parable of the lost coin (Luke 15:8-10): The woman searched high and low until she found her treasured coin – and then threw a party! That's our God. The parable of the lost son (Luke 15:11-32): The prodigal son was too disgraced to return as a beloved son, so he asked to be taken on as a servant. But the overjoyed father ran to meet and embrace him – and then threw a party! That is our God. God turns to us in love and joy. There will be rejoicing in heaven over you. You are chosen. Jesus says: 'Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you' (John 15:9,10,12). You are chosen to love.

Who can you show Christ-like love to today?

by Maria Rudolph

Prayer

Jesus, thank you for loving me as the Father has loved you. Help me to remain in your love by loving others. Thank you for choosing me to love, and for not giving up on me. Amen.



WE PRAY
Sunday 5 May 2024

Risen Lord Jesus:

- † We bring before you all those who we mother. For our children, God-children, neices and nephews, and others. For all those who look up to us, who learn from us, who rely on us. We place all of these precious lives into your hands. You knitted them together in their mothers wombs. May they be held by you, protected by you, blessed by you, loved by you. We pray that they will grow in faith and in love, that they will seek after peace and justice, that they will become wise and kind. Amen. (<https://arnoldprays.co.uk/2023/03/18/prayers-for-mothers-day/>)
- † We want to reach more and more people through our Mother's Day Family Service and Messy Church. We know your love will strengthen those who really need it. We are so grateful for the dedication of our volunteers who share the hope we have in you, Jesus.
- † We pray for those who work to end disputes, to establish peace and to guide processes of reparation and reconciliation. We give thanks for those people who provide medical and other health support for victims of war and for aid organisations which provide support for those suffering various kinds of loss on account of war.

Guide us, Lord, as we pray for:

- † The leaders you have appointed over the LCA/NZ, churchwide (LCA Bishop, Paul Smith, Assistant Bishop, Neville Otto, and the College of Bishops), and locally (District Bishop, Andrew Brook and Assistant Bishop for Mission, Stephen Schultz).
- † All pastors and parishes, principals and schools of the LCA in our South West Metro zone.
- † The Pastoral Care Workers of the South Western School Ministry Team. We pray for Coralie Sebestyen who supports students and families as well as the staff at SA Hospital Schools FMC Campus.
- † God filled relationships between Immanuel Church, College and Primary School. Be present with Paul Wright, Interim Principal IC, Bec Clements, Principal IPS and Pastor Simon Cooper, College Chaplain, motivating them by your love so that they may extend it to others.
- † The chaplains you have called to serve the defence forces, hospitals, Police, prisons, and universities in the SA/NT District and their coordinator, Heidi Smith.
- † The leaders you have appointed over our country: Prime Minister, Anthony Albanese, State Premier, Peter Malinauskas and all our local government leaders.
- † Healing, strength and comfort as we pray alongside Avis R, Barb K, Elle E, Keith E, Max J, Nannette H, John W, Tim S, their families and carers. You have the power to move in our lives and through our circumstances.



THANK YOU Pastor Simon Cooper for leading Family Worship with Holy Communion on Mother's Day, Sunday 12 May and Pastor Malcom Pech for blessing us through Worship with Holy Communion on Pentecost Sunday, 19 May.

We are also continually thankful to all our Lay Leaders and Guest Pastors for their time and talents enabling us to worship weekly. To allow us to serve well together at ILC, the Church Council has developed brief job descriptions for each of our key areas of formal service in the congregation [ILC Volunteer Handbook](#) Everyone is encouraged to be involved and play a role in the life of our community.

MOTHER'S DAY FAMILY SERVICE & MORNING TEA—Sunday 12 May

After Family Worship, join us for morning tea in the ILC foyer, where the mums don't have to serve. If you can provide scones, jam, cream or service please let Virginia know.

CHATLINE

Please email all your valued contributions for the next edition no later than **Sunday 12 May**. Chatline, the quarterly magazine of ILC, is an important part of communication and fellowship for our members. The Chatline Committee would very much welcome new volunteers.



MESSY CHURCH—Sunday 26 May 3:30

IPS Auditorium

A fun, family friendly church for all (meal provided).

CHANGES TO LUTHERAN LAYPEOPLE'S LEAGUE (LLL) BANKING SYSTEM

All customers have been sent information on the next steps in this transition and are asked to complete the Customer Nomination form by June. Forms will be available at church on Sundays from Heather or Pia.

AIRPORT BUNNINGS BBQ FUNDRAISER—Saturday 22 June

ILC have booked to have a Fundraising BBQ at the Airport Bunnings. Please save the date! A roster will be available soon! Very much looking forward to your support. Heather & Des Gillings

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Please leave donations of your unwanted metal retractable tape measures, for making gifts for the shoebox collections, in the Hartmann's pigeon hole in the ILC Room.



ST PAUL'S COMMUNITY CARE CENTRE—Mondays and Wednesdays 11:00–2:00

St Paul's LC, 48 Brighton Road, Glenelg

Emergency food relief, basic toiletries and volunteers needed.

Donation options are also available at <https://www.lutherancare.org.au/make-a-donation/>

WAY FORWARD UPDATE

In October 2024 General Synod delegates will be voting on a proposal to allow for the LCA NZ to function as 'one church with two different practices of ordination.' Sign up to Way Forward eNews for updates www.lca.org.au/wf-signmeup

ILC WORSHIP ROSTER JUNE–AUGUST 2024

Please note there will be **no roster reminders** emailed during May.

The June to August roster has been emailed with ILC's Family News. Hard copies will be available at the Welcome Table. Please make any changes promptly and inform the Lay Leader for the day you've swapped with another volunteer.

Thank you, David Boschma, for preparing PowerPoints for worship services. ILC Office will reopen on Wednesday 1 June. Thank you for your understanding.

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES—All welcome.

ILC Prayer Chapel—Thursdays & Sundays 9:00

During vacancy, when you have prayer requests, please contact Virginia mvklemm@hotmail.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK ... like, comment, share us on Facebook to help spread the Word!

www.facebook.com/ilcnovargardens

Ann Goodwin - ILC Office Administrator
 Email: agoodwin@immanuel.sa.edu.au
 Phone: 8375 1755

Chris Schutz—Nurture Team Leader
christine.r.schutz@gmail.com
 Phone: 0439 899 590

COMING UP

Sundays	9:00am 9:30am	Prayer in the Prayer Chapel- <i>all welcome</i> <i>Please join us for Worship Services</i>
Thursdays		Prayer in the Prayer Chapel- <i>all welcome</i>
Sunday 12 May	9:30am	Family Worship with Holy Communion-Pastor Simon Cooper-Ascension Day
Sunday 19 May	10:30am 9:30am	Mother’s Day Morning Tea-ILC Foyer Worship with Holy Communion-Pastor Malcolm Pech
Sunday 26 May	3:30pm	Pentecost Sunday Messy Church-IPS Auditorium

REGULAR ELECTRONIC GIVING (REG)

Fill and lodge a Direct Debit Request Form (available from the office), giving the LLL authority to transfer a specific amount from your bank account to ILC’s REG account.

Bank Account Details

Account Name: NOVAR GARDENS IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH REG A/C
BSB: 704942
Account No: 100100643 For donations from an account other than the LLL



LCA Child Safety Standards for Congregations

What does ILC do to keep our children and vulnerable people safe?

LCA Child Safety Standards for Congregations:

<https://www.lca.org.au/ministry-support/child-safety-standards/>

LCA Policies and Procedures:

<https://www.lca.org.au/services-resources-training/policies/>

Bible reading plans and resources

Reading the Bible is one of the best ways to grow your knowledge and understanding of God. While you can read it any way you like, it can be helpful to have a plan to help you work your way through God's word.

<https://lca.box.com/shared/static/n718fiy6f4z49s71icwltr15umkcm80j.pdf>