"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jeremiah 29: 11)

This is the gift of Christmas. The promise of a future with hope. We know so many don't have hope leading into this Christmas season. It is why Lifeline Crisis Support are answering more calls (and texts) than ever before. People are in desperate need of the hope that Jesus' birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension brings. We seek hope in many places. We go shopping to express love through gifts, and we do good deeds; we try to buy hope. Paraphrasing the Scarlet Pimpernel, "We seek hope here, we seek hope there, we seek hope everywhere," oblivious that hope has already arrived, as a babe in a manger on that night so long ago.

Reflection from Rev Linda Hanson, Associate Director of Mission – Mission Integration, Mission Team at UnitingCare Queensland.





# The Maroochydore Herald Maroochydore Uniting Church



19th December 2021 Fourth Sunday of Advent



We seek to be a prayerful and listening church
Please note the location of the Hearing Loop in the church

**Leadership Team** 

Chairperson: Winni Yun Property: Theo Quick Treasurer: Bev Lacey Korean Members: Gil Park

**Heather Webster** 

Abe Choi

**Secretary:** Jan Strudwick

Margaret Holmes and Jan Rossow

Worship Services Korean Leader: Ps. Gil Park

English Language Sundays, 8.30am M: 0413 836 557

Korean Language Sundays, 11am

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Thank you for the ongoing support for the Ministry, & Ministry of our Church. A reminder that direct deposit offering is available. Our Church

Banking Details: UCA Maroochydore Uniting Church

- St George Bank. BSB 334 040: Account No. 553864 511

Uniting Church Links - For Information from the Wider Church Qld Synod Information - https://ucaqld.com.au/For links an information to Synod Resources and Activities.

National Assembly News - https://assembly.uca.org.

**Please send any** notices for next week's 'Herald' to janstrudwickart@gmail.com by Wednesday afternoon

## **Bible Readings**

Dec 19 Advent 4

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1: 46b-55 or Ps 80:1-7

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

# Dec 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day

No readings in the lectionary

#### This week's prayer-Gracious God

They say hope is... a dangerous thing.

It can drive a man
Or woman insane.

They say it is

The most dangerous thing That you can give to a person.

Yet. O God.

You give us hope

In things unseen.

Hope beyond our comprehension,

Hope beyond our experience,

Hope, undomesticated.

Hope shaped by

the mystery of your unfathomable love.

As we celebrate and await, your constant coming into the world,

give us your love-shaped hope,

That we see beyond

The personal, the immediate and the transient.

And, impossibly, see into

the eternity of your promises. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Rev Peter Lockhart, Chaplain at Moreton Bay College.

#### This week

**Sunday 19 Dec** 8:30 am Rev Phillip Hulme

11.00 am–Korean Service – Pastor Gil Park

**Tues, Wed, Thurs** Korean Prayer meeting 6-7 am

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day 9 am combined service led by

Rev Jan Rossow. There will be no morning tea after this

service

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> No service today

### Birthday this week: Winni Yun (21st)

Indoor Bowls on Saturdays is in recess untill 15<sup>th</sup> January.

Sandra Quick had a heart attack last week, was transferred to Brisbane for open heart surgery, which she is having as the Herald "goes to press". Theo is still in Victoria, but their son Jason lives in Brisbane, so she has family around her

#### **Our Prayers**

Thankyou for Philip's successful surgery

For Meg's recovery after her surgery

For healing for Lindsay, and a streamlined move to Brisbane for Mavis and Lindsay

For full recovery after her stroke, for Cynthia Knight

For relief of Beth's cellulitis and asthma

For restored energy for Derick (Beth's husband)

For full and quick recovery for Sandra Quick

For Trish's son as he undergoes more chemo

## The Mountain.

If the mountain seems too big today then climb a hill instead. If the morning brings you sadness it's ok to stay in bed. If the day ahead weighs heavy and your plans feel like a curse, there's no shame in rearranging, don't make yourself feel worse. If a shower stings like needles and a bath feels like you'll drown, if you haven't washed your hair for days, don't throw away your crown. A day is not a lifetime a rest is not defeat, don't think of it as failure, just a quiet, kind retreat. It's ok to take a moment from an anxious, fractured mind, the world will not stop turning while you get realigned. The mountain will still be there when you want to try again, you can climb it in your own time, just love yourself til then. -Laura Ding-Edwards