

Welcoming
Growing
Sharing



LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF AUSTRALIA
where love comes to life

Sunday 5 April 2026
From darkness into light

Scripture

[John 20:1–18](#)

Reflection

It is Easter morning. Many people are venturing out of their homes in darkness, just as Mary did, to go to a place to be with their Lord. It is still dark. This may be a church, a garden or other outdoor area. We need to turn on our car's headlights to guide us. Even though the weather at this time of year in Australia is quite mild, we are dressed warmly because the sun has not yet risen to provide some warmth.

We gather with our community in silence. We have walked the path of Jesus' death from Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and now we wait – in the dark.

And we, too, look into the tomb – where all logic tells us we should find the body of Jesus duly wrapped for burial.

But no! What does Mary see? Light radiated from the white of the robes of the angels seeking to comfort her.

And now, the sun rises, our surroundings are lit, and we join in singing, 'Christ the Lord is risen today, Hallelujah!' We are now surrounded by light – physically and within our hearts as the darkness of the burden of our sin is overcome. We rejoice in this gift of grace and love from our God through Jesus' death and resurrection.

We are no longer people of the dark, but people of light. So let your light shine and, as Mary did, go and tell others this good news.

by Faye Schmidt

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I thank you that you fulfilled your promise and provided a pathway for us from darkness to light through your Son, whom you raised from the dead and who lives and reigns with you. May I always walk in the light and share with others this wondrous gift of grace. Amen.



WE PRAY
5 April 2026

Risen Lord Jesus:

- † You are our hope beyond suffering, injustice, violence, and death. Through the cross, you have finished your saving work, and from the empty tomb you begin again—pouring out forgiveness, mercy, peace, and new life, and quietly renewing our hearts day by day.—based on a prayer by Rev Stephen Schutz
- † *‘With you is unfailing love and full redemption’* As we approach a time of prayer and fasting we’re grateful for your healing already known among us, and ask your help where there is pain, loss, or weariness. We pray for wisdom and unity as we continue the process of calling a pastor, and for peace in our world amid conflict and fear. Draw us closer to Christ and to one another, renewing us in faith and love as we listen for your leading.
- † We give thanks for Bishop Andrew as he leads us in worship on Easter Day, and for Pastor Joyce who will baptise Daniel next Sunday. Thank you for their faith, leadership, and service among us. Bless their ministries, and bless us through all that is shared and celebrated.

Guide us, Lord, as we pray for:

- † The leaders you have appointed over the LCANZ, the College of Bishops; LCANZ Churchwide Bishop, Pastor Paul Smith, LCANZ Assistant Bishop, Pastor Stephen Schultz and District Bishops including Pastor Andrew Brook, LCA SA-NT District Bishop.
- † All pastors and parishes, principals and schools of the LCANZ, especially those in our South West Metro Zone.
- † Pastoral Care Workers of the South Western School Ministry Team. *How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news! (Romans 10:14-15)*
- † The students, families, teachers and staff of Immanuel Early Learning Centre, Primary School and College. Pour out your blessings over their Principals, Stephen Jude and John Thompson, Leadership Teams, PS and College Councils, Chaplains and Student Counsellors, and Boarding House staff so that everyone grows in the knowledge of your love.
- † The pastors, lay-chaplains and spiritual care visitors you have called to serve the defence forces, hospitals, police, prisons, and universities in the SA/NT District and Chaplaincy Ministries 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 Barb K, Elle E, Tim S, their families and carers. You have the power to move in our lives and through our circumstances.

INVITATION TO PRAY AND FAST

As Jesus said to His disciples, “*This kind can come out only by prayer and fasting*” (Mark 9:29).

A group from our congregation will be entering a period of prayer and fasting from **Maundy Thursday 2 April at 6:00pm to Saturday 4 April at 10:00am**—a total of 40 hours. You are warmly invited to join us and fast as you are able. We will break the fast together at Camille’s home, beginning with an hour of prayer at 9:00am, followed by breakfast. Please sign up on the sheet available at or RSVP by 29 March to Virginia 0429 048 897 or Camille 0490 254 164.

EASTER SUNDAY-Sunday 5 April 9:30

Worship with Holy Communion led by Bishop Andrew Brook. Please bring flowers to decorate the chapel and hot cross buns for morning tea. Please see Virginia if you can help out with either of these requests.

CHANGE OF DATE FOR NEXT OCC GATHERING—Thursday 9 April 9:30-12

We have decided to hold our OCC get together on the second Thursday of April instead of Maundy Thursday. Ladies drop in for a cuppa and chat and enjoy fellowship and fun in the ILC Room. We’d love to see you there!

ADELAIDE CANTATA BAND presents Pergolesi's Stabat Mater-Good Friday April 3 8pm
Pilgrim Uniting Church, 12 Flinders Street, Adelaide

Free performance. For more information and to RSVP, visit www.bit.ly/goodfriday-acb

BAPTISM INVITATION-Sunday 12 April 9:30

Join us as we celebrate the baptism of Daniel Albert Fensom, led by Pastor Joyce Graue at ILC. After worship, please stay for a special morning tea in the foyer.



NOTICE OF ILC AGM-Sunday 26 April 11:00

All members are warmly encouraged to attend our Annual General Meeting. Your presence and participation help shape the life and direction of our congregation.



CANCELLED TOGETHER IN CHRIST:

LCA District Mission Team have postponed the one-day conference scheduled to be held in Murray Bridge on Saturday 2 May, due to ongoing uncertainty around fuel pricing and supply over the coming months.

GATHER & GROW at Immanuel LC Novar Gardens

NO G&G IN MARCH but join us in the ILC Room at 5:00pm on Sunday 26 April to grow together in following Jesus.

ST PAUL'S COMMUNITY CARE-Wednesdays 11:30-1:30

St Paul's Hall, 48 Brighton Road, Glenelg

Hours of operation for Emergency Food Relief is Wednesdays from 11.00am to 2.00pm. Donations of non-perishable food and basic toiletries greatly appreciated. Any inquiries can be made through St Paul's church office on 8295 6376 or

stpaul.glenelg.sa@lca.org.au

SHARE WITH US

Do you have a prayer request? Leave a note in the gold box on the Welcome Table — the ILC Prayer Group meets in the Prayer Chapel at 9:00am Sundays and 9:10am Thursdays to lift these prayers to God. All welcome!

We also welcome your feedback — please use the locked wooden box on the Welcome Table. Paper and pens are provided, and you're welcome to remain anonymous if you prefer.

PARISH VACANT

Ann Goodwin - ILC Office Administrator

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COMING UP at ILC † HOLY WEEK

Sunday 29 March	9:00am	Prayer in the Prayer Chapel— <i>all welcome</i>
	9:30am	Worship with Holy Communion—Palm Sunday— Pastor Tim Klein—First Communion of Annalise Doecke and Kate Kowald
	11:00am	Morning tea & Call Meeting
Thursday 2 April	9:10am	Prayer Group in the Prayer Chapel— <i>all welcome</i>
Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	Worship with Holy Communion—SSLP
Good Friday 3 April	9:30am	Worship without Holy Communion
Easter Sunday 5 April	9:30am	Worship with Holy Communion—Easter Sunday— Bishop Andrew Brook
	11:00am	Morning tea in the foyer

REGULAR ELECTRONIC GIVING (REG)

To use 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



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/>

THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READINGS

Acts 10:34-43

Summary of Jesus' life and ministry

Psalms 118: 1,2,14-24

Colossians 3:1-4

Your life is hidden with Christ in God

Matthew 28:1-10

The first Easter morning