

LIVING JESUS' EXAMPLE

From The Pen of Pastor Judi

What a beautiful song this is, written by Placide Cappeau for a vocalist named Madame Laurey. Cappeau wasn't a religious man, however he wrote the song one evening after reading the account of Jesus' birth from Luke 2.

He took his lyrics to a well-known composer in Paris, Adolphe Adam. Adolphe was Jewish and didn't celebrate Christmas. Madame Laurey sang the song at a Midnight Mass, Christmas Eve 1847 which stunned the congregation. It soon became the most beloved French Christmas Carol of them all.

The song spread everywhere and was translated into English by an American Unitarian Minister, John Sullivan Dwight. Dwight was a major influence in the abolition of slavery and he was struck by its message of freedom.

However, church authorities banned the song because it was penned by an irreligious wine merchant and the melody was composed by a Jewish person who didn't believe in Christmas. It didn't matter though – people sang it.

Think of it this way. If the Lord could use those three individuals to spread the message of the Gospel through this carol, He can certainly use you and me.

The powerful phrases from those lyrics should inspire us to enter the Christmas season with restored hope; resounding joy; reassuring peace and renewed faith.



O night divine, O night when Christ was born.

Please have your mobile phone on silent



Sunday Services:

<u>December 15th</u>	3rd Sunday of Advent	Preacher:	Colin
Readings:	Isaiah 35:1-10 Marg Luke 1:46-55		Leah
Helpers:	Marg & Leah	Communion	Judi
<u>December 22nd</u>	4th Sunday of Advent	Preacher:	Judi
Readings:	Matthew 1:18-35 Di		
Helper:	Di	Communion	Noel



PRAYER MEETING & LADIES BIBLE STUDY: Is in recess until 7th February 2020



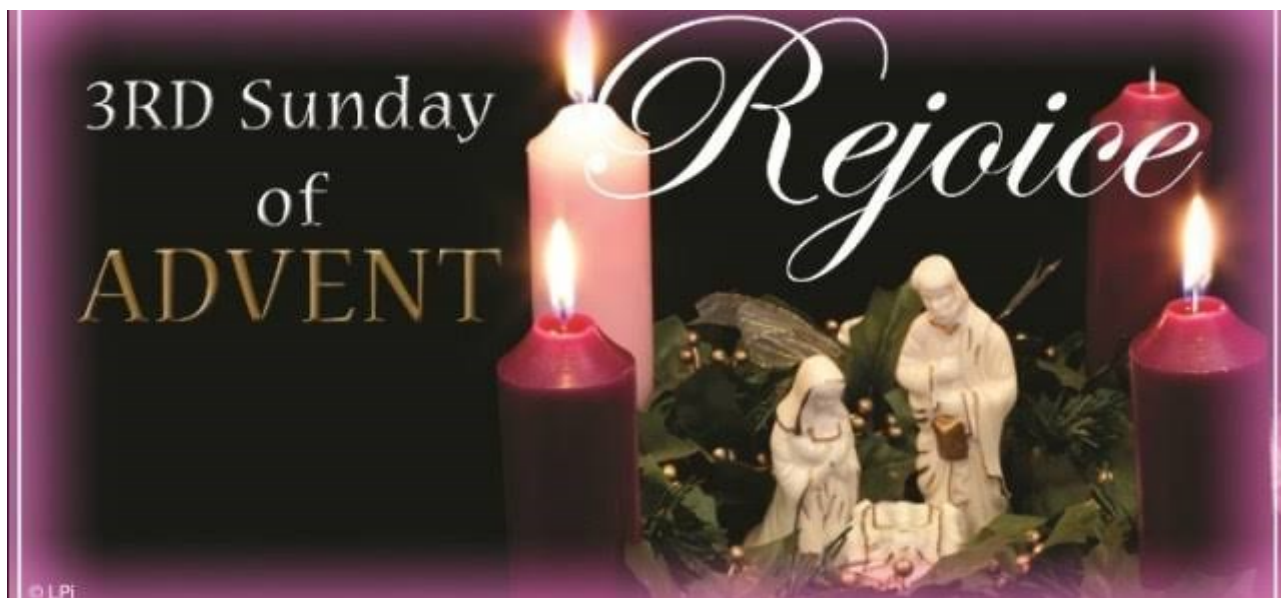
Pastoral Is In

Pastor Judi is in her office Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, in the mornings. She is able to make an appointment to see you Monday or Wednesday afternoons. These can be at her office or she can do a home visit.

Please phone Judi to make a suitable time on 0423 375 714.

Pastor Judi is not available on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays.

3-5 Blantyre Ave
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Rev. Judi - 0423 375 714
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Church Happenings

The outreach of our church was focused on last Wednesday, when David Ratten from CCVT visited. He called our Wednesday – Controlled Chaos – with so much support being offered to those of the surrounding community. He was stunned at what such a small church can achieve with Jesus as our example.

The video will be made available to the church early next year and will be shown at CCVT's Annual Conference in May 2020. All are welcome to attend the conference as it is a good time to meet other churches and see what they are doing.

Interchurch Christmas Carols Event was held on Sunday 8th December. Numbers were down this year possibly because the Kingston Council were running their own big event at Bicentennial Park.

Thanks go to Kevin and Ryan for the sound system and for Len as the official photographer.

Pastor Judi took the opportunity to personally thank Wayne (Anglican) who assists with the sound system as he was instrumental in enabling us to have an exemption regarding the grease trap.

Reminder of our Christmas Services.

Dec 22nd Community Lunch – our final lunch for the year – resumes in February 2020.

Dec 24th Christmas Eve please join us at 6pm for a fun-filled time as we explore the coming birth of Christ.

Dec 25th Christmas Day take time out amongst the Christmas lunch rush to meditate on what the birth of Jesus means to you with Carols in the chapel.

End of Year Breakfast and meeting – Pay It Forward. Our supporting Business Group were surprised on Wednesday when a jolly man in a red suit carrying a bell, a bag of goodies and singing Ho, Ho, Ho “gate-crashed” their breakfast. Santa also provided small gifts for our other breakfast patrons.

Thanks to Ruth – local lady who gave funds towards our pantry shopping. All funds are needed as we don't receive any Grants for this service.