



28 NOVEMBER 2021



First Sunday in Advent

Please join us online via our Facebook page to worship with us this weekend.

Lectionary Readings

This week 28 November, 2021

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

Next week 5 December, 2021

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 1:68-79
Philippians 1:3-11
Luke 3:1-6

COVID Return Reminders

Church returns next Sunday 5th December and the Op Shop re-opens this Wednesday 1st December.

Craft Group, Men's Group and Ladies Bible Study are all meeting as usual.

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Jeremiah 33:14-16 & Luke 21:25-36

In our Bible readings today, we are warned to be prepared. Christianity acknowledges that in God's appointed time, Christ will return himself as he brings creation to its fulfilment. While the world awaits this climactic and wonderful time, people are left waiting, anticipating, wondering about the future. During this past couple of years throughout the effects of Corona on the world, I too, have wondered what the future holds for us. I have had conversations with friends, wondering if we will ever return to the world we knew just at the beginning of last year. As a Christian, I hold to God's promise of salvation, but it hasn't stopped me wondering, worrying about what might transpire in the meantime. When modern day people hear a preacher using words like "redemption" and "conversion". They could easily be thinking they were on the floor of the stock exchange talking about bonds and securities. In some ways, this is not too far off the mark. "Redemption" does actually mean to "buy back". It was God's intention, from the fall of Adam, to liberate us from the slavery of sin. We Christians know and believe that God's love has purchased our redemption. No wonder Jesus is saying, in Verse 28 **"stand up and lift your heads because redemption is drawing near."**

Advent for the non-Christian comes with its promise of happiness and hopefully good will. For the Christian, it is far, far more.

Advent is the reminder that we already have new life in Christ. Advent reminds us that God has taken the initiative and we are ready for the second coming, should we be favoured to be in the generation who will be on the earth when it occurs.

Prepare yourselves. Life is limited in its length and we are warned by Christ to be forever ready for his appearing. Are you? Adrian