



14 DECEMBER 2025



3rd Sunday in Advent

Welcome to worship this morning,
we hope you enjoy being with us.

Lectionary Readings

This week 14 December, 2025

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

Next week 21 December, 2025

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

Diary dates

Wednesday 17th December:

Hands and Feet Christmas morning
tea for all our wonderful clients and
volunteers.

Thursday 25th December: 9am as
usual. A morning of worship, fun
and celebration.

**Blue Christmas
Lighting a Candle in
Prayer and Remembrance**

Thursday 18th December 7pm

A quiet pause in the rush and
busyness of the Christmas season
to light a candle and spend time in
quiet reflection.

Attendees will be invited to light a
candle in remembrance of a lost
one and then leave in silence or
spend time in either private prayer
or guided reflections, poems and
illustrations

ALL ARE WELCOME
CHRISTMAS CAROLS
Night
SINGING OF CAROLS
SAUSAGE SIZZLE + CAKE STALL
LIVE BAND + PERFORMANCES
GLOWSTICKS & CANDLES
19 DEC | 6:00 PM
HOLROYD UNITING CHURCH
486 Guildford RD, Guildford West
HOLROYD.UCA.ORG.AU/



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Advent 3 Christmas Bowl Reflection on Isaiah 35:1-10

³ Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;
⁴ say to those with fearful hearts,
"Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come,
he will come with vengeance;
with divine retribution
he will come to save you."
They will enter Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will crown their heads.
Gladness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.
(Isaiah 35:3-4, 10b NIV)

Isaiah speaks of a joy that is transformative, restoring what has been lost and opening paths that once seemed impossible. "The tongue of the mute sing for joy" reminds us that God's joy comes to those who have known hardship, sorrow, or limitation, bringing new life and hope.

In Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, Eko* , his wife Mega* , and their daughter Dewi* had faced repeated floods that destroyed crops and threatened their entire way of life. Life as a farmer was unpredictable and exhausting and hope often felt fragile. But through the Christmas Bowl and Act for Peace's local partner, Yayasan Cita Wadah Swadaya (YCWS), Eko and Mega joined the DREAM program, learning sustainable farming techniques, adapting to climate change, and building resilience for the future.

The challenges remain, but they are no longer powerless; they are learning, adapting, and thriving. Isaiah's vision is coming to life here: joy rising in the midst of hardship, resilience replacing despair, and new life flourishing where once there was loss.

Through the Christmas Bowl, we join God's work of restoring joy, supporting communities like Eko's to flourish, grow, and experience the deep, sustaining joy that comes from hope, empowerment, and God's presence.



**Christmas
Bowl**