



ROSEVILLE UNITING CHURCH

“Sharing the love & welcome of Jesus”



roseville.unitingchurch.org.au



@530worship



@rosevilleuniting

Are we nearly there? Are we ready?

“Advent is a paradoxical season: a season of waiting and anticipation in which the waiting itself is strangely rich and fulfilling, a season that looks back at the people who waited in darkness for the coming light of Christ and yet forward to a fuller light still to come...” (Malcolm Guite. *Waiting on the Word.*)

A recent Christmas card awakened me to the waiting, the hoping. This card was written by a young girl in another country, rescued from exploitation, now safe, living in an after-care shelter. (International Justice Mission: IJM)

**I drew stars because I remembered Jesus’ birth.
It really amazed me**

**Because even though they were in a
bad situation, God put them in a safe place
where no one could hurt them.**

And I always think of family when I think of Christmas.

And from another child in the same situation.

**I drew candles because they are bright and produce light and
hope.**

Stars, candles – symbols of light and hope. Symbols, yes – carrying meaning, stirring memory, rich sources for nourishing a new life which is just beginning to emerge. Life for these young people has been frightening, fragile and diminished, but with rescue, a new reality is dawning. They are beginning to tell a new chapter in their own life stories, even at some stage, perhaps to sing a new song: new life is being born again and taking shape.

Easy? Effortless? No, but with others coming alongside, new life, new lives are, indeed, being born and taking shape. And amazingly, we are part of all this: with UnitingWorld, for example, we are among those coming alongside. “The gifts you are sharing are changing lives by providing education, food security and God’s hope to communities facing poverty and injustice.” (Sureka Goringe, Uniting-World)

**Are we nearly there? Are we ready? “No, not ready yet – but
underway toward the great day of fullness.”**

**“Coming God, make us ready with overflowing
Love. May we be on the way to you even as you are
on the way to us. May we be glad and grateful as we wait.”**

(Walter Brueggemann. *Devotions for Advent. Celebrating Abundance*)

Margot

Sunday December 15th

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

9.30am **Service of Lessons and Carols with
Chris Goringe**
Organist: Robert bevan
In person and online...

5.30pm **Community Carols with Turramurra
UC, Cameron park Turramurra**

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Zephaniah 3: 14-20
Isaiah 12: 2-6
Philippians 4: 4-7
Luke 3: 7-18

What’s on this week...

Fri: eSoc trip to Balmoral 5.30pm

Sunday December 22nd

<https://roseville.unitingchurch.org.au/livestream>

9.30am **Service with Chris Goringe**
Organist: Sean Weatherley
In person and online...

11.00am **Healing & Wholeness Service**

5.30pm **Shared Meal**

Bible Readings from the Lectionary:

Micah 5: 2-5a
Luke 1: 46b—55 or Psalm 80: 1-7
Hebrews 10: 5-10
Luke 1: 39-45 (46-55)

SUMMER @ SIX

There is still the opportunity to host a gathering on Sunday 19th January. Talk to Chris or Cath.

Gordon Pymble Uniting Church are offering 2 workshops in the school holidays.

Thursday 19th December K-6

Tuesday 21st January High School

Flyers are on the table in the foyer



Christmas Bowl Celebrating 75 Years

For 75 years, church communities like ours have been giving hope to families who are displaced through the Christmas Bowl appeal. Funds

raised are invested in life changing support and programs around the globe that empower people to find safety in exile and rebuild their lives. Envelopes for donations are on the table in the foyer



Listening to the Christmas story at our last Kids Playtime for the year.



Join us in prayer....

Heavenly Father

We acknowledge that the world was once in darkness, and you sent forth the Light of the World, Jesus, who brought everlasting change. We pray for those in challenging situations to find illumination through those who follow you.

You provide us with Hope, encouraging us to slow down and prioritize what truly matters. This hope inspires us to open our hearts to new possibilities and positive changes.

You grant us Peace, prompting us to seek rest and renewal while promoting harmony in our homes, schools, and workplaces.

As we prepare for the holiday season, let the spirit of goodwill and readiness be our guide. Those of us feeling anxious seek comfort in your presence with us. Those with heavy hearts yearn for the joy that you bring. We are individuals navigating through darkness in search of light. Therefore, we humbly say, 'Come Lord Jesus.' Amen.

Maz



Roseville Ministry Contacts

Office Address

7a Lord Street
PO Box 44, Roseville 2069

Church Office

Cath Pinchin 9416 5185
office@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Office Hours Typically Tue, Wed and Fri

Website roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Minister

Rev. Dr. Chris Goringe
0402 012 418

Congregational Chairperson

Sue Drury

Direct Giving

Carrick Martin
0418 978 480

Asylum Seeker & Refugee Support

Gwyn Denton gwyn@dentons.id.au

Church Council Chair

Pauline Callan
0417 419 671

Church Council Secretary

secretary@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Treasurer

treasurer@roseville.unitingchurch.org.au

Safe Church Officer

Di Knowles 9498 4736