



# Our Common Life

## Blackall Range Uniting Churches

Maleny | Montville | Palmwoods



Uniting in Christ | Acting with love | Living with hope | Witnessing in faith | Working for justice

**19 December 2021**

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**



**Prayers**

**9:00am at Maleny**

**Montville 8:15am: Worship Service**

**Maleny: 9:45am: Worship Service**

**Palmwoods: 10:00am Holy Communion**

**RCL Year B Readings**

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

Catch up on our E-Broadcasts on the BRUC Web-page:

[www.ourcommonlife.org.au](http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au)

**Next Sunday 26 December 2021**

**Montville 8:15am: Worship Service**

**Maleny: 9:45am: Worship Service**

**RCL Year B Readings**

**1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 ; Psalm 148  
Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52**

**Love came down**

God bless us and disturb us

As we celebrate the feast

Which marks how heaven's highest

Came to earth to be the least.

Lest we consign to Satan's power

All those whose joy has ceased.

*O Come, Christ the Saviour*

*From below, from above*

*And infect the depths of earth*

*With heavenly love.*

**(Wild Goose Worship Group)**

**\*\*LECTIONARY THEMES\*\***

**The Upheaval of Christmas**

**Luke 1:47-55**

In Thessalonica, Paul and Silas were accused of turning the world upside down (Acts 17:6). It was, of course, their message that upset people, disturbing their customary ways. That's what God's action in and through Jesus does, and has done from the time of his birth in Bethlehem. God upsets the usual self-centredness of human life. Instead of choosing the rich, the proud and powerful to redeem humanity God used very ordinary people to bring about the most extraordinary deliverance.

The poem known as Mary's Song or The Magnificat tells us that God has brought low the proud and powerful and looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant Mary and also the lowliness of the nation Israel. Of all the tribes, peoples, nations and empires in the history of the human race, God chose to make his fullest, clearest revelation and to effect a fundamental transformation of what it means to be human through a small, politically insignificant people living in enemy occupied territory.

God, in the birth of Jesus, turned the world upside down. The great aim in life is no longer to be the greatest, the wealthiest, the most powerful, the most beautiful or the most famous. The whole of the Christmas story emphasizes this: "There was no place for them in the inn"; it was to lowly shepherds that the announcement was made. It is God who is re-making the world.

Humans get carried away with their own successes into thinking that they can fix everything, but God has set in motion a process by which all things will become new (Revelation 21:5). We are being called to live that transformation, to be part of what God initiated in the birth and life of Jesus.

If you think that Christmas is a great upheaval each year, it's nothing to the upheaval that the birth of Jesus means for human life in general.

- In what ways does Jesus turn the world upside down?
- What changes does he want to make in your life?
- Read 1 Corinthians 1:27-29. How does it relate to Luke 1:47-55?
- How should we best celebrate the birth of Jesus?

**Rev Ron Potter**

**Piula Publications**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 24<sup>th</sup> December**  
7:00 pm - Christmas Carols at Maleny UC

**CHRISTMAS DAY 25<sup>th</sup> December**  
Montville 7:30 am – Worship Service  
Maleny 8:00 am Worship Service  
Palmwoods 9:00 am Worship Service

### CAROLS:

**Today:** : Carols on the Lawn' Maleny Baptist Church  
**21 December** (Tuesday): Witta Community Carols'  
Lutheran Church  
**24 December** (Friday) 7:00pm: Christmas Carols @  
Maleny

### OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2022

Packs of envelopes for weekly giving in 2022 are now available for those who use this system. Online banking is an even better way of making regular offerings for the work of our Church. Over 60% of Blackall Range offerings now come by electronic bank transfers.

**The church office will close from 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021 to 20 January 2022**

### Montville UC Advent Display – Love Came Down at Christmas

This Christmas Display becomes our Reflection Gallery display for Advent.

The Cross at the front of the church will also be lit.

This display makes use of a number of beautiful banners on loan from the Sandgate Uniting Church: The theme being Love came down at Christmas



### The grief of loss

I know it is Christmas and I know our theme is JOY, however I am sure I am not alone in wondering why the whole world has not come to stop, or at least pause, when a jumping castle got swept into the sky and children fell down to earth. The tragedy at the school in Tasmania and the death of 5 young children is and always will be incomprehensible. Tragedy strikes each day, each hour, each minute, for someone somewhere. This is the nature of our human lives. But it is only part of our life stories. There are other parts too. And it is in this time of Advent, on Christmas day that God, the Divine breaks through into our world to change it forever! And God became flesh and came to dwell among us, one of us! Our eyes saw him our ears heard him, our hands touched him and he touched us and saw us and heard us. Also today when we cry: *kyrie eleison* – Lord, have mercy! Shalom Liena



### LightUP@Christmas

It's time to LIGHT UP our building and grounds for Christmas. Our decorations are a wonderful witness of the miracle of Jesus in our community. And, this year, we will be joined by 14 other community organisations.

- ❖ From **Saturday 18th to Thursday 23rd the Maleny UC** is hosting the **Christmas Lights Trail**. Visitors will be invited to pause for a Cuppa. The tea or coffee and cakes are a fundraiser for Range Care. Your help in providing dainty delicacies would be much appreciated. (Donations can be delivered on the night or made ahead of time and left in the freezer).
- ❖ Cooks please add your name and food type to the list. THANK YOU.

**THANKS YOU** for those who have filled the welcoming roster. An email will come with a plan for your shift.

### OFFERING

Kindly remember to continue to give your weekly/monthly offerings. They can be Direct Debited to Blackall Range Uniting Church.

**ANZ Bank, BSB 014-507. A/C 3762 29735**

### Ministry Contacts:

**Minister:** Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874  
[minister@ourcommonlife.org.au](mailto:minister@ourcommonlife.org.au)  
Friday off-day.

**Church Office:** Jing Wang 07 5429 6995  
Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 9 am to 12 noon  
Email: [admin@ourcommonlife.org.au](mailto:admin@ourcommonlife.org.au)

**Community Pastor** Pastor Kay Nixon  
[kaynxn43@gmail.com](mailto:kaynxn43@gmail.com) 0412 539020

**Tongan Community** Siale Lolohea 0476 306 815  
**Internet:** <http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au>



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# Fund Raising Ideas

Please share photos of any fundraising events you have had or any ideas for raising funds you may have.

## Containers for cash

The containers for cash fund raiser has kicked off and we have raised more than \$30, or recycled more than 300 containers!. Thanks to all who are already dropping their cans and bottles.

**C10478264**



## Plate200 and/or Cuppa100

These are fun fundraising activities! Invite 10 persons to dinner and have them contribute \$20 to the dinner this will raise \$200. And make sure to invite a couple you do not know well or want to

introduce to others!. And if like me, you cannot cook, but can bring ice-cream and strawberries for desert, buddy up with someone who can cook!

them to contribute \$10 for the bottomless cuppa and scones and raise \$100!!

