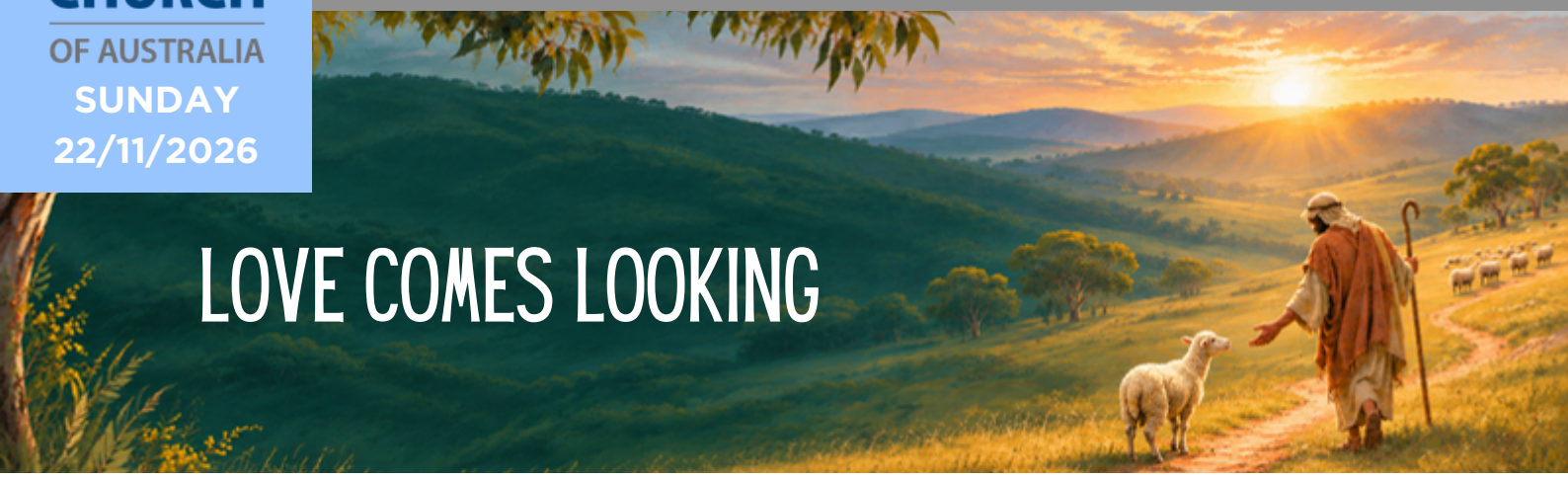
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

SUNDAY 22/11/2026

Last Sunday of Church Year

ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

CABOOLTURE AND BRIBIE ISLAND



LOVE COMES LOOKING

Upcoming Worship Service Times @ St Paul's

THIS WEEK

Sunday, 22nd November

Bribie Island @ 8am

Caboolture @ 9am

Monday, 23rd November

Aged Care @ 10am

NEXT WEEK

Sunday, 29th November

Caboolture @ 9am

Monday, 30th November

Aged Care @ 10am



Bible Readings

This Sunday	Next Sunday
Ezkl 34:11-16, 20-24	Isaiah 64:1-9
Ephesians 1:15-23	1 Cornth 1:3-9
Matthew 25:31-46	Mark 13:24-37

We can be surrounded by people and still feel lost. We can keep everything moving while quietly wondering who notices our weariness, understands our worries, or sees the things we would rather hide.

This week's readings reveal a God who sees us and comes looking. Through Ezekiel, he promises to gather the scattered, bind up the injured and strengthen the weak. In Ephesians, our eyes are lifted towards the risen Jesus, whose love holds our future. In Matthew, that same King directs our attention towards people whose needs are easily overlooked.

His love brings both comfort and challenge. God sees the wounds we carry and the wounds we cause. His Word exposes our failures to love, while his grace brings us back to Jesus, who bears our sin and gives us a fresh beginning.

The sermon and this week's devotions explore how receiving Christ's care changes everyday life: learning to accept help, finding hope amid unanswered questions, using our strength gently, and noticing the person in front of us.

Where do we need to receive Christ's love—and whose need might he be opening our eyes to?

What's On at St Paul's



UPCOMING MONTH

Heavenly Father, bless every gathering this month and draw us closer to You and to one another.

Each Tuesday From 1pm	**Bible Study** Exploring the previous Sunday's readings and sermon in depth.
Thursday 24th November 11am	**Ladies Fellowship - Caboolture** Christmas Break-up
Thursday 26th November	**Bible Study - Bribie Island** FINAL STUDY FOR 2026
Sunday 29th November from 9am	**ADVENT CELEBRATIONS** Worship / Morning Tea & Crafts / Carol Singing / Lunch
Wednesday 2nd December 6:30pm	**W.I.P.** An evening of craft, games and chatting for women of all ages
Thursday 3rd December 9:30am	**Ladies Fellowship Bribie Island** A regular gathering for women featuring faith, fellowship, friendship and encouragement.

LOOKING AHEAD





24 November 2026

A CENTURY OF FAITH, PEOPLE & PLACE

History book

Now available

Take home the story of St Paul's Lutheran Church Caboolture—a richly illustrated journey from the first Lutheran worshippers in 1873 to the congregation's centenary in 2026.

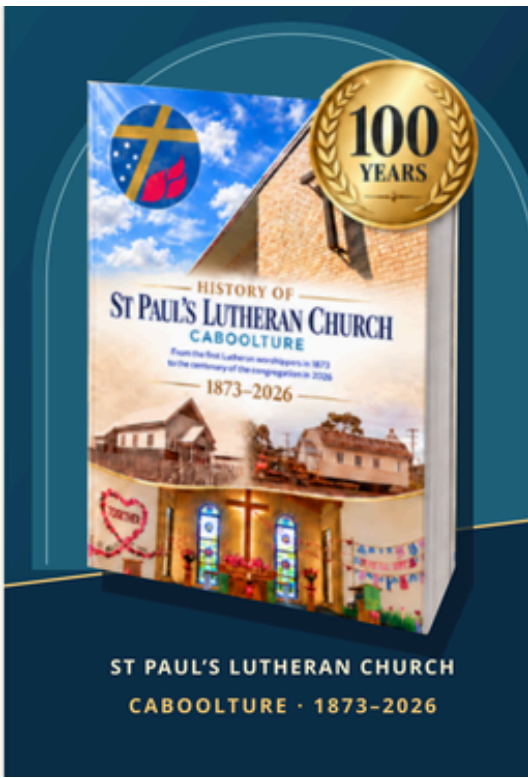
Through photographs, records and shared memories, meet the people, milestones, ministries and places that have shaped our life together.

A meaningful keepsake for members, families, former members and friends—honouring the past, giving thanks to God and carrying the story into the future.

$15 EACH

Available at the front desk at the church entrance

Payment options: cash or bank transfer



Making Room:

The God Who Welcomes Us



What would you make room for this Christmas if you knew you could bring your whole life with you? The longing you rarely put into words. The relationship you wish you could mend. The memories that make you smile and ache at the same time.

This Advent and Christmas, we'll follow the story of a God who makes room for us. As we light the candles of hope, peace, joy and love, we'll ask each week:

What are we carrying, and what does Christ give us here?

ADVENT 1 • *Hope*

Room for Longing

What are you still waiting for? God welcomes our honest cries and holds us in the waiting. We look towards the day when Jesus will come again and make all things new.

ADVENT 2 • *Peace*

Room for Change

What might change if you knew you were already forgiven? God's mercy gives us courage to face what we've got wrong and take a step towards reconciliation.

ADVENT 3 • *Joy*

Room for the Brokenhearted

Can joy and grief sit together at Christmas? God's promise to restore what is broken gives us a joy that still has room for tears.

ADVENT 4 • *Love*

Room for the Unexpected

Mary's plans took an unexpected turn when God sent her a promise. Her story invites us to wonder what it means to trust a love we could never earn.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Room in Our Mess

As we light the Christ candle, we'll hear how Jesus came into a world as messy as ours. The child in the manger is the Saviour who comes to bear our sin and bring us home to God.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Room in God's Family

Who is this child? The eternal Son of God has become one of us. In Jesus, we discover the wonder of being welcomed as God's own children.

Whether Christmas is something you look forward to or a season you find hard to get through, there's room for you here.

Come as you are and hear what Christ has for you.

Advent Celebrations

Sunday 29 November 2026

St Paul's Caboolture

Let's celebrate the beginning of Advent together!

9am • Worship



10am • Morning Tea & Cross-generational Craft Activities



11am • Carol Singing



12pm • Advent Lunch



Bring a Christmas Salad and/or Dessert to Share.

Sausage Sizzle will be provided.

Have a favourite carol?

Please send your carol song requests to the office by **25 November.**

Intergenerational Ministry

CASTING CALL!

NO MESS TOO GREAT

Our Intergenerational Christmas Eve Skit



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Would you like to join us in this year's Christmas Eve skit?
Contact Pastor James if you would like to take part.

We need people of all ages who know that families can be messy—especially over the Christmas season—and who would love to speak hope into that mess for others.

YOUNG SHEPHERDS, SHEEP & ANGELS WANTED!

Help fill out the nativity and lead the singing of a couple of carols.

Come and be part of the story!

St Paul's Caboolture

Ladies Fellowship

End of Year Christmas Break Up Luncheon

All people are welcome
to join the festivities and fun!

Monday
24th of November

From
11am

St Paul's Aged Care Village Hall



Work in Progress



An evening of creativity, conversation and connection.

Whether you're halfway through a knitting project, have a scrapbook gathering dust, enjoy sewing, painting, puzzles, or simply want to spend time with others, **Work in Progress** is for you.

Bring along an unfinished project, learn a new skill from someone else, play a game, or just come for a chat and a cuppa. There's no pressure—just a welcoming space to encourage one another and enjoy good company.

For women of all ages.

1st Wednesday of every month

Create. Connect. Encourage.

Next get-together: | **Wednesday 2nd of December @ 6:30pm**

Bribie Island

Ladies Fellowship

Faith • Fellowship • Friendship

First Thursday of every month

All women welcome!

For the address, please contact Linda
0431 570 299

Next fellowship time:
3rd December @ 9:30am

Bible Study

Fourth Thursday of every month

A relaxed, friendly group for **all ages** to explore the Bible, grow in faith and discover **God's great love** for you.

Led by
Pastor Michael Braunberger
Currently studying
the **Gospel of John**

3 Elizabeth Batts Court,
Banksia Beach

All welcome!
Come as you are.
Everyone belongs.

Hear. Learn. Grow. Together in God's Word.

Next Bible Study to be held on:
FINAL Study for 2026
26th November @ 1:30pm

ALL WELCOME!

Blokes' Breakfast

Saturday 28 November
8:00am

Café 63, Caboolture Square
60–78 King St, Caboolture



Please phone Neil if you're planning to attend | **0423 689 069**

GIFT & GIVING • NOVEMBER

Dorothee Orphanage

A celebration of joy. A reminder of belonging.



Dorothee Orphanage children visiting their garden at Karhale.
Gardening projects help find food without spending much. Children thus learn how they can feed themselves without market expenses.

HOW TO GIVE

Place your donation in the Gift & Giving bag at the front of the church, or give by online banking.

Westpac
BSB: **034-640**
Account: **169299**
Reference: **GandG**

Let's help this work of hope and care continue.

Story & photo: Tabitha Home of Hope and Peace

tabithahomeofhopeandpeace.org

ST PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

GROW GROUP

SHARE YOUR FAITH. GROW TOGETHER.

FOR PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN YEARS 6–12

Want to help your children or grandchildren explore the Christian faith?

Want them to understand what faith means to you?

Looking for space to ask questions and learn together?

You're invited to encourage and support them in a fortnightly faith-growing experience as we discover the great things God has done for us in Jesus.

FORTNIGHTLY SESSIONS BEGINNING IN 2027

These sessions replace the "Confirmation courses" of the past and previous "Step Up to Communion" lessons. If you would like to prepare for baptism, confirm your faith, receive Communion for the first time, or simply learn more about the Christian faith and God's love, this is for you.

Not your traditional "Confirmation Class"!

REGISTER YOUR FAMILY'S INTEREST

Please provide the young person's name, school year and a parent or carer's contact number.

Complete the registration form on our church website, or email Pastor James Leach:

james.leach@lca.org.au

Let's nurture faith across the generations.

Learning together. Growing together.

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Love Comes Looking

Found by grace. Held in hope. Freed to love.

Where do you need God's care — and whose need is he helping you notice?

Tuesday 24 November
From 1pm

Grab a copy from the church entrance or request a copy from Pastor James.



SAVE YOUR STAMPS

Stamps for Mission



Small stamps. A world of difference.

Your used postage stamps help share the love of Jesus through LCA International Mission.

Nearly $550,000 raised so far!

Stamps are sold to support pastor training, Christian education, and care for children and communities.

1 SAVE
Keep the used stamps from your mail.

2 COLLECT
Ask family, friends and workplaces to save theirs too.

3 GIVE
Pass them on to Stamps for Mission.

Every stamp you save can help God's mission grow.

Find stamp receivers and preparation tips:
lcamission.org.au/join-gods-mission/stamps-for-mission/

LYQ

Lutheran Youth of Queensland

YOUR SUMMER STARTS HERE!

LYQ Holiday Camps • Summer 2026–27

Make new friends. Find adventure. Grow in faith.

JUNIOR BLAST

14–18 December 2026

Years 3–6

SENIOR BLAST

14–18 December 2026

Years 7–11

SUMMER KIDS

11–15 January 2027

Years 3–6

SUMMER CLW

Christian Life Week

11–15 January 2027

Years 7–11

All four camps: Luther Heights Youth Camp, Coolum

School years are based on 2026.

Outdoor fun, team challenges and space to explore Christian faith — with caring leaders and a place to belong.

Come along for an unforgettable summer!

Explore camps & book:

lyq.org.au/holiday-camps/

Scan to find your camp

Growing Together:

Daily Devotions to Help You

BELONG | GROW | CONNECT | THRIVE | SERVE

Monday: You Don't Have to Hide Ezekiel 34:11–13

Most of us have ways of hiding when life becomes difficult. We keep conversations light, stay busy or say, "I'm fine." Sometimes we care for everyone else while avoiding our own struggles. Being honest can feel risky. What if someone discovers how much we are struggling– or how far we have wandered? Through Ezekiel, God promises to search for his scattered sheep and bring them home. Their distance has not ended his concern. This is grace: God takes the initiative.

In Jesus, he comes among people carrying shame, confusion and sin. Jesus bears our sin on the cross and rises to give us life. We can return to God because Christ has opened the way.

God's love also brings truth into the places we hide. He knows our excuses and the sins we avoid naming. We can confess them, trusting his forgiveness. Perhaps today your prayer can begin simply: "Lord, this is how things really are." You do not need to impress your Shepherd. He knows you and loves you. Sometimes receiving his care also means letting a trusted person know you need help.

- What do you find hardest to bring honestly before God?
- How does Jesus give you confidence to confess your sin?
- Who could support you today?

Lord Jesus, you know what I hide and the burdens I carry. Forgive me and help me trust your mercy. Give me courage to be honest and receive help. Amen.

Tuesday: Let Yourself Be Cared For Ezekiel 34:14–16

It can be surprisingly difficult to receive kindness. Someone offers a meal, and we insist we can manage. Someone offers help, and we worry about being a nuisance. We gladly serve others but feel uncomfortable when we need care ourselves. Underneath that discomfort may be a quiet belief: "My value depends on being useful." Ezekiel gives us a different picture. God feeds his sheep, gives them rest, heals their injuries and strengthens them. Their weakness draws his care. Your worth before God does not depend on your productivity. Jesus gave himself for you because he loves you.

In baptism, he joined you to himself. You belong to him when you are capable and active, and when you need help through the day. Our reluctance to receive can also reveal pride. We may want to remain in control. God teaches us that belonging to his family includes giving and receiving. His care often comes through ordinary people: a friend who cooks, a nurse who listens, a neighbour who notices. Today, receiving their kindness may be an act of faith. You can say, "Thank you. That would help."

- Why do you sometimes find receiving help difficult?
- Have you connected your worth with being useful?
- Through whom might God be caring for you?

Faithful Shepherd, thank you for loving me in my weakness. Forgive my pride and help me receive your gifts with gratitude. Teach me to rest in your care. Amen.

Wednesday: Strength That Makes Room Ezekiel 34:20–24

Confidence, experience and influence can be valuable gifts. But strength becomes harmful when it leaves little room for others. In Ezekiel, God confronts sheep who have pushed and scattered the weaker animals. He sees their suffering and promises to judge those responsible. God's love includes justice. Vulnerable people matter to him. This reading also asks us to examine ourselves. Do we interrupt? Dismiss someone's concerns? Insist on our preferences without considering the effect on others? Good intentions do not mean we have nothing to change. God's law exposes our misuse of his gifts. We cannot undo every hurt or make ourselves innocent. We need the forgiveness Jesus won through his death and resurrection. His forgiveness frees us to acknowledge harm, apologise and begin again. We can listen without defending ourselves at every turn. Jesus uses his authority to serve and gives his life for his people. Following him may mean making space for a quieter voice, sharing responsibility or challenging unkind behaviour. If you have been harmed, remember that God sees. Seeking protection and support is consistent with his loving care for you.

- Where do you have influence or strength?
- How could you make more room for others?
- Is an apology or change needed today?

Lord Jesus, forgive me for using my strength selfishly. Teach me to listen, protect and serve. Uphold those who have been hurt, and shape our communities by your mercy and justice. Amen.



Thursday: Hope for the Unfinished Things Ephesians 1:15–18

Some concerns remain unfinished for a long time. A relationship stays strained. A prayer seems unanswered. Someone we love continues to struggle. We want to trust God, but we also want to know when things will change. Paul prays that the eyes of the Ephesians' hearts will be opened to God's hope. They already believe, yet they still need help recognising the gifts of belonging to Christ. So do we. We need to hear God's promises again and have others pray for us when our own words become tired. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, God gives us forgiveness, a place in his family and the promise of eternal life. These gifts remain true while we wait. Our longing for certainty can become an attempt to control people or force outcomes. God calls us to repent and entrust to him what belongs in his hands. We can still seek advice, have the conversation and take the next sensible step. We do so knowing that Christ holds our future. You may finish today with questions unanswered. You will finish it belonging to the same faithful Saviour.

- What unfinished concern occupies your thoughts?
- Which promise of God do you need today?
- What can you do, and what must you entrust to him?

Heavenly Father, open my heart to the hope you give in Jesus. Forgive my attempts to control everything. Help me act faithfully and entrust the unfinished things to your care. Amen.

Friday: Power for Ordinary Faithfulness Ephesians 1:19–23

When we hear about God's power, we may imagine a dramatic solution or an unmistakable change. Paul points us to Jesus' resurrection. God raised the crucified Christ and seated him above every authority. Jesus reigns for the good of his church. The world can still feel frightening. Our circumstances can still overwhelm us. But no power can overturn Christ's victory over death. We depend on the risen Lord's strength in ordinary life. You ask forgiveness when pride tells you to stay silent. You resist sharing a cruel remark. You keep caring through a difficult season. You ask for help when shame urges you to hide. These actions do not earn God's favour. His favour is already yours in Christ. Through his Word, the Holy Spirit renews you and teaches you to live faithfully. Paul also calls the church Christ's body. We receive and share his gifts together. You do not have to carry every responsibility alone. Perhaps you feel you have little to offer today. Receive Christ's Word, lean on his people and take the next faithful step. Your risen Lord remains at work.

- What do you expect God's power to look like?
- Where do you need strength for daily faithfulness?
- Who could help carry your responsibilities?

Risen Lord Jesus, strengthen me through your Word and Spirit. Forgive my pride and discouragement. Help me receive support and take the next faithful step in your name. Amen.

Saturday: The Person in Front of You Matthew 25:31–46

We can care about people in general while overlooking the person in front of us. We may support a good cause but hurry past someone needing a conversation. We may value welcome while staying among familiar friends. Jesus names practical needs: food, drink, clothing, welcome, care and visits. His warning is serious. The good we leave undone matters to God. Our failures to love are sins requiring forgiveness. Yet we cannot turn acts of kindness into a ladder to heaven. Jesus speaks of receiving an inheritance prepared by the Father. Our hope rests in the King who dies for sinners and rises for their salvation. His grace restores us, and faith bears fruit in love. The righteous are surprised that their care has reached Jesus himself. He identifies with his vulnerable brothers and sisters, teaching us to take their needs seriously. Begin with attention. Who has become isolated? Who needs practical help? Who needs you to listen? You cannot meet every need, but you can respond to someone within your reach. When you fail, return to Christ. His mercy gives you a fresh beginning.

- Whose need have you overlooked?
- How does forgiveness free you to serve without keeping score?
- What act of mercy is within your reach?

Merciful King, forgive the good I have left undone. Thank you for giving yourself for me. Open my eyes, teach me to listen and make me willing to help. Amen.

Growing FAITH at home

PROPER 29

YEAR A

In serving those in need, we serve Jesus

GrowMinistries
LCA CHILD YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
Where love comes to life

www.growministries.org.au

Sunday 22nd Nov

CONVERSATIONS

Share your highs and lows, or respond to the following:

1. What does it mean to be thankful?
2. One way we show our thanks to God is by sharing with others, especially those who are in need. In what ways do you do this?

BIBLE READINGS

Read the following Bible readings throughout this week. Talk about what words or phrases stand out for you.

S	**Matthew 25:31–46**	The sheep and the goats
M	**Acts 2:42–47, 4:32–35**	Care given to the needy
T	**Romans 12:13–21**	Share with the needy
W	**Proverbs 11:16–30**	The fruit of the righteous
T	**Ezekiel 34:11–24**	Parable of the sheep
F	**Ephesians 1:15–23**	Thanksgiving and Prayer
S	**Psalm 95:1–7**	Let us sing for joy

VERSE OF THE WEEK

The king will answer, "Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me."

MATTHEW 25:40

CREATIVE RESPONSE

Create a 'Thanksgiving Box' to use this week. Decorate the outside of a shoebox or choose something else. Keep this box on your table.

Each day ask household members to reflect on their day, recall things for which they are thankful, and write these down on slips of paper to place in the box.

At the end of the week, open the box and read what has been written.

Say a prayer of thanks for all God has done for you and given to you.

ACTION RESPONSE

Spend some time together as a household this week recalling your church involvement during this past church year. Look at any photos, video or memorabilia you may have. Discuss:

- **What were the highlights?**
- **In what ways did you learn or grow?**
- **Who shared their faith with you?**
- **With whom did you share your faith?**

To mark the start of the new church year, take a photo of your household at your place of worship. Place this photo on your fridge or a display board in your home. As the year goes by, add other photos from your church experiences and involvements and give thanks!

MEALTIME PRAYER

Thank you for the world so sweet; thank you for the food we eat; thank you for the birds that sing; thank you, God, for everything. Amen.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus, help us to serve you by serving others. Amen.

BLESSING

May God the Father give you his Holy Spirit so that you grow to know him better.



St Paul's Lutheran Church

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Email: stpaulscab@gmail.com

Ph: 5330 3353

www.stpaulscaboolture.org.au

Pastor James Leach

Mob: 0473 461 506

Email: james.leach@lca.org.au

www.youtube.com/@StPaulsCaboolture

www.facebook.com/SPLCCaboolture



Lord God, govern our hearts by your Holy Spirit.
Make us mindful of the end of all things
and the day of your just judgment.
Stir us up to lead holy lives, and let us live with you forever.
We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.



Please pray for...

Health & Wellbeing, Recovery: Sue Ancell, Glenys Creevey, Clare Dopking, Marie Nicholson, Cynthia Schulz, Peter Thamm, Leanne Maroske, Geoff Stapleton, Ross Krieg, Wendy Riekstins, Ann Diment, John Smout, Dianne Kleidon, Gwen Horsfield, Jan Maroske, Val Siegle, Sean Giblin, Ann De Berg, Leslie Smith, Roy Kucks

