

## SERVICES FOR SABBATH 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2012

### BIBLE STUDY HOUR – 10:00 am

The topic for this quarter is: *“Growing in Christ”*

This week’s study is on the topic: *“Last Things: Jesus and the Saved”* led by Brenya

### DIVINE SERVICE

O Come All Ye Faithful	
Prayer	
Reading	Isaiah 40:1-11
Lo how a Rose	
Reading	Mat 1:18-21
O Little Town of Bethlehem	
Reading	Luke 2:8-20
Hark the Herald	
Reading	Mat 2:1-12
Tithes and Offerings	
We Three Kings	
Reading	Luke 2:1-7
Children’s Special Item	“Away in a Manger” SDAH# 124
Children’s Story	Marcel
Meditation	Marcel
Joy to the World	
Silent Night	
Prayer	

#### Minister:

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#### Sunset Times:

Sabbath 22<sup>nd</sup> December – 3:40 pm  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> December – 3:45 pm

#### Church Address:

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## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

### The Gift – John 3:16

There is a special atmosphere that surrounds us all, at this time of the year. While there are many things, which make the end of December extraordinary, it is the Christian connection that interests me.

It is not too often that religious music is played in the shopping malls through the sound systems; it seems to be OK for anyone to hum a Christian tune while strolling through the streets (even if it is not in tune); it is acceptable to give people cards with a spiritual message and pictures; and it is very popular to extend invitations to people to attend a church service. In spite of all the historical inaccuracies surrounding the exact date, the actual event of the birth of the Lord Jesus seems to be one celebration granted to the Christian church by the secular society we live in. Just like the person at the centre of this event, Christmas is a Gift.

The question is: what do we do with this gift? Whether it is the open attitude the world has towards the church at this time, or whether it is the actual Gift that the Lord Jesus is to each one of us.

I received an email the other day outlining the top ten things to say about a Christmas gift you don't like. Here they are in descending order:

1. Hey! There's a gift!
2. Well, well, well ...
3. Boy, if I had not recently shot up 4 sizes that would've fit!
4. This is perfect for wearing around the basement!
5. Goodness! I hope this never catches fire! It is fire season though. There are lots of unexplained fires.
6. If the dog buries it, I'll be furious!
7. I love it – but I fear the jealousy it will inspire!
8. Sadly, tomorrow I enter the Federal Witness Protection Program (now you know where the email came from ;-))!
9. To think -- I got this the year I vowed to give all my gifts to charity.
10. I really don't deserve this.

So much for your planning to use any of these, this Christmas – let the creative juices flow!

However, in a way or another, our attitude towards the Gift which is the Lord Jesus is not dissimilar at times! Whether it is at work, or in our families, or with the stranger in the street – we are polite about this Special Gift, but dismissive! Compare this with what happened 2000 years ago – heaven could not contain its joy at the time when Jesus was born and burst into music and sharing the Good News!

May we take the opportunity afforded by this time of the year and share freely the spirit of giving as the Lord Jesus manifested it!

May we, ourselves, enjoy the blessing that Jesus is to us all!

May we go beyond what we are accustomed to and celebrate and Most Special and the Greatest Gift that humanity was ever given – the Son of God to be with His people!

Wishing you a blessed, music-filled, joyous, generous (especially to others) and special Christmas! May He become a reality in your lives during this year!

Love,  
M

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* **Welcome.** The pastor and congregation are delighted to welcome you to Dundee Seventh-day Adventist Church; especially if this is your first visit. May our time together be blessed!

\* We extend you all every good wish for the festive season. As you celebrate together with friends and families, may the joy of heaven be yours during this time of the year! May you share it with those who are in various difficulties!

\* We would like to extend a warm invitation to all who wish to join us for a festive meal immediately after the service

\* **Time off** - Marcel and Claudette will take a wee bit of time off during the last week of December and the 1st week in January. Should anyone need to speak with an elder during this time, please do not hesitate to contact any of them.

\* This afternoon, starting at 3:45, we are going to run our first **Messy Church program**. We would like to thank you all who have volunteered to help. It could not be done without your help.

\* **Bible Study/Prayer meeting** –The Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer meetings will have a **short break**. It is planned to resume in early February.

\* **Night of Prayer:** night prayer for the 29<sup>th</sup> December. Fasting and prayer after the communion service @ dundee church from 7pm -7am, open to all, fasting is up to each person. For more information about what we will be praying for on the night of prayer contact Rhoda Fleming.

\* **Lost Property** There are quite a few items that have been left behind in church. Please look on the pegs in the small corridor if you have mislaid an item.

\* **Mother & Toddler's Group Holiday** The Mother and Toddler group will be having a short break over the next 2 weeks; but will re-start on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 10-12 noon (£2 per family). Happy Christmas everyone!

\* **Bulletin.** Meeting organisers please Email details of themes, hymns and other items or announcements for next week's Bulletin to Petra (petra.spacilova@gmail.com) on or before the Wednesday preceding the Sabbath. Want to know what's happening but missed getting a Bulletin? Surf the web to [www.adventistdundee.com](http://www.adventistdundee.com) and then click on "Bulletins".

### Future Preachers:

29<sup>th</sup> Dec – John Walton  
5<sup>th</sup> Jan – Lineth Ndadzungira  
12<sup>th</sup> Jan – Pr. Marcel Ghioalda

### Future Events:

22<sup>nd</sup> Dec – Messy Church (pm)  
29<sup>th</sup> Dec. - Communion service  
29<sup>th</sup> Dec. - Night-long prayer & fast



# SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

## DUNDEE CHURCH BULLETIN



-- December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012 --

*We extend a warm welcome to you and hope you enjoy worshipping with us today!*

**Receiving** God's grace in our hearts  
**Responding** to God's grace in worship  
**Reflecting** God's grace to each other  
**Revealing** God's grace in service