

We extend a warm welcome to you on this beautiful Sabbath morning. If you are visiting us for the first time, we pray that your time with us will be blessed as we worship together. Feel free to visit with us again.

Today at Waitara Church
Sabbath 11 December 2021

SABBATH SCHOOL - 09:20am

Song Service	127 - 123 - 122	Yvette Bettini
Welcome & Prayer		Remy Leimena
Mission Spotlight	Overview of Project 5	Tendai Mpita
Offering & Hymn	Jesus Paid it All	No. 184
Bible Study	Deuteronomy in the Later Writings	Pr Josh Gonzalez

DIVINE SERVICE - 11:00am

Announcements		Ben Chapman
Song Service	121 - 132 - 143	Yvette Bettini
Welcome		David Pennington
Hymn of Praise	More About Jesus	No. 245
Offering	SPD: Mission to the Cities	Edric Saw
Invocation	Now, Dear Lord, As We Pray	No. 671
Main Prayer		Edric Saw
Sermonette	Walking against the Crowd	Pr Barend Nieuwstraten
Baptismal Pre-Lims		Pr Josh Gonzalez
Baptisms	Marcela, Tim & Alex	Pr Barend, Pr Fred
Special Music	To Mum Marcela	Maria & Nicole
Pastor's Call for decision		Pr Fred Chileshe
Introduction of new members		Pr Barend Nieuwstraten
Benediction		Pr Barend Nieuwstraten
Hymn of Dedication	Jesus Is Coming Again	No. 213
Conclusion		David Pennington

FORTHCOMING SPEAKERS

Next Sabbath TBA

Pastor's Comment

Gratitude

An elderly seminary professor once said; If we cannot learn to give thanks in hard times, we will never learn to give thanks.

In collating gratitude with suffering, there are some logical considerations:

Feeling grateful without **being grateful**, to God in particular, is like **feeling love**, without loving someone in particular.

We can be grateful to God for the good things in our lives.

But we should "give thanks **in all** circumstances" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). This is the most challenging step of all, a decision to find cause for thanks even for the hard times we experience.

We should learn an attitude of gratitude to God for every moment we experience.

Does this mean that we have to pretend that hard times are not hard? No, of course not.

To "give thanks for everything to God the Father" means to thank him for the good that we experience and for the ways he **will redeem** the bad.

It is to experience his presence as we suffer (Psalm 23:4), knowing that because we are in his hand (John 10:29), he feels all that we feel and grieves as we grieve. It is to walk with him through the waters and the fire (Isaiah 43:2) and find in his Spirit our hope (Romans 5:3-5), help (Psalm 34:19), and peace (Philippians 4:6-7).

And it is to believe that "the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us" (Romans 8:18).

Waitara Family Announcements!

Prayer Ministry

- Sabbath morning prayer meeting from 8:45am - 9:15am on Zoom or in person in the Teens SS classroom.
- Wednesday night prayer meeting from 7:00 - 8:00pm on Zoom.
- Zoom link - <https://adventistchurch.zoom.us/j/635245706?p-wd=OG9vbnFzdXZ0ZDBpUldUelBZUVVZVZz09> Meeting ID: 635 245 706 Password: 2300C).
- We welcome your prayer requests. Email to: prayer.ministry@waitarachurch.org.au
- Youth Intercersory Prayer: Mondays 6:00pm - 7:00pm (Messenger)
- **22 December - 19 January**
Genesis Bible studies will be on hold. In its place will be special prayers with focus on: Praise, Thanksgiving, Confession & Supplication.

Pastor Barend continues with Genesis 12 coming week: Promises to Abram. Join us to find out if God kept those promises. Come along for the uplifting midweek spiritual blessing! Bible study will be followed by Q&A and Prayer Session. Zoom in 6:55 for 7:00pm start.

Prayer Ministry Invitation

Please join us on Zoom for Wednesday night Devotional and Prayers. Jesus prayed frequently and consistently. Not for Himself, but for others. Let us emulate His example, to receive His blessings!

Sabbath School Offering Schedule:

4 Dec - Mission	1 Jan - Mission
11 Dec - Mission & Asian Aid	8 Jan - Mission & Asian Aid
18 Dec - Mission	15 Jan - Mission
25 Dec - Mission	22 Jan - Mission
	29 Jan - Mission

Next Week's Offering:
Sunset Times:
(times are approximate)

FUND FOR THE NEEDY
Tonight at 7:58pm
Next Friday at 8:02pm