

A Blue Christmas Service:
If You're Hurting at Christmas

24 December 2021, 6PM
Boronia Park Uniting Church
Lead: Mrs. Robyn Harvey

Welcome

Prayer

God of mercy and love,
we gather here today as hurting people,
bringing our pain, our sorrow
and our confusion to this safe space tonight.
Would you meet us in our darkness,
and give us freedom to struggle together
as we seek your presence.
We ask for strength for today,
courage for tomorrow
and peace for the past.

Amen.

Light the central candle

Reading: John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The empty chair

Light the first outer candle

Light the second candle

Light the third candle

Light the fourth candle

Focus on the central candle

Prayer

O God, be with us in our darkness. Make your face shine upon us and give us peace.

We pray for your Holy Spirit to be at work within us, all of us who are gathered here tonight, may your Holy Spirit comfort us, may it sustain us, may it remind us of your constant love for us.

We trust this time of listening to you and ask you to open our hearts and our minds to whatever it is that we need to hear from you tonight. Amen.

Time to Remember

Music and the lighting of individual candles

Closing: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,

I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

Prayer

* Blue Christmas Service is a gentle, contemplative service for those who are carrying pain or loss during the season of celebration.

* We, Boronia Park Uniting Church, will hold a Christmas Day Service on Saturday 25 December, 9:30AM.