

## **2025 Blue Christmas Message**

**Rev Charissa Suli, President of the Uniting Church in Australia  
(for pastoral use until 22 December)**

Grace and peace to you this Christmas.

If your heart is heavy this year, I want you to know you are not alone.

2025 has brought a lot of joy and deep sorrow. Young lives lost, families grieving, burdens carried in silence and, for many, Christmas doesn't feel merry.

Yet the good news is that God comes not only in our celebration, but also in our pain. In the dark of the night, a child was born bringing light into the world. Emmanuel, the God with us.

So, this Christmas, light a candle. Say the names of those you miss. Offer a prayer. Reach out to those who may be doing it tough this Christmas.

And may Christ – the gentle light of every people – comfort you, hold your grief, and guide us all into the new year of hope and healing.