

*Sunday at
St Michael's*

25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
14 NOVEMBER 2021

“THE END OF THE AGE
OR THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ONE?”
GUEST MINISTER: REV PETER BURNHAM

MUSIC: CERIDWEN MCCOOEY (CELLO),
ROSE RIEBL (PIANO) & RHYS BOAK (ORGAN)

CANTOR: JESIKA CLARK

WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S

St Michael's is a vibrant, progressive, inclusive church with a long tradition of nurturing the spiritual well-being of the human person and working for the common good in society.

We are proud of our independent spirit; seeking continually to discover new ways to understand faith and to demonstrate it in our lives, and in the heart of the city.

As part of the Uniting Church in Australia, St Michael's is committed to involvement in social and national affairs. We hold foundational Christian values of the importance of every human being, the need for integrity in public life and concern for the welfare of the whole human race, irrespective of race, creed, gender, sexuality, status or age.

OFFICE BEARERS

Chairperson: Laura Beckett

Treasurer: Ian Cox

Secretary: Maree McDonald

Property

Chair: Peter Anderson

Deputy Chair: Jack Morgan

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Acting Chair: Cheryl Power

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Culture of Safety Contact

(Keeping Children Safe)

Val Gill

Contact and Care

Chair: Lyndell O'Brien

Deputy Chair: Joy Arnot

Programs

Chair: Lorraine Woolley

Deputy Chair: Neil Blood

Organist & Manager of Music

Rhys Boak

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 <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsmelbourne/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/StMichaelsChurch/videos>

Weekly eNews: media@stmichaels.org.au

Please send notices to office@stmichaels.org.au

by 11.30am Wednesday.



♥ OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS! ♥

While the coronavirus pandemic continues,
Sunday Gatherings are offered Online.

<http://www.stmichaels.org.au/>
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist/SundayatStMichaels>

THOUGHTS OF THE DAY

Herman Hesse (1877-1962)

“Now there are times when a whole generation is caught ... between two ages, two modes of life, with the consequences that it loses all power to understand itself and has no standards, no security, no simple acquiescence.”

Sigmund Freud (1856-1939)

“Anxiety is the fundamental phenomenon and the central problem of neurosis.”

Richard Bach, (1936-)

“What the caterpillar calls the end of the world the master calls a butterfly.”

Nicholas Cage, (1964-)

“Endings are scary and foreign. They split you up emotionally and put you in a place where you don't know what's going to happen next. But with every end of the world, there is a new world that follows.”



Justin Cronin, (1962-)

“If you are writing any book about the end of the world, what you are really writing about is what's worth saving about it.”

New world
Andrew Judd

ONLINE GATHERING NOTES

CANTORS

Jesika Clark, James Emerson & Christopher Watson

MUSICIANS

Zoe Wallace (Cello) & Rhys Boak (Piano & Organ)

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Andante from the Sonata for Cello in G minor
– S. Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

One of the greatest pianists ever to have lived, Sergei Rachmaninov was also an extremely gifted composer. Born in Russia, he emigrated to the USA after the Russian revolution of 1917. His output ranged from brilliant piano music to a great deal of sacred choral music and chamber music.

Zoe Wallace (Cello) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

POSTLUDE

Finlandia Op. 26 – J. Sibelius (1865-1957)

Jean Sibelius' tone poem *Finlandia* is one of the most moving and stirring pieces in all music. The work was transcribed for the organ with Sibelius' blessing, by his friend Herbert Fricker. The chorale that appears in the middle is not only the Finnish national anthem, but it has also been adapted to become a very well-known hymn tune.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

PROCESSIONAL

*The candles are lit.
The chimes call the hour of worship.
The people stand, as they are able, as the Bible is carried in.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY & WELCOME

The Eternal Spirit has long dwelled with the First People of this ancient land. For over 40,000 years the First People have taken care of the land, the fauna and flora and to save it for future generations. So today we acknowledge the traditional owners and the land upon which St Michael's stands, and pay our respects to their elders, past, present and future.

*Wherever you are on your spiritual journey,
wherever you've come from, wherever you're going to,
whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe,
you are welcome.*

HYMN

CELEBRATE THE COSMIC BIRTHING CANTOR: JESIKA CLARK



Celebrate the cosmic birthing,
flash of primal energy:
swirling gases, densing matter
stuff of galaxies to be.
Celebrate the life-force pulsing
through these 15 billion years;
trillion, trillion stars emerging
from the cradle of the spheres.

Celebrate the white-heat furnace-
life evoking mother sun;
Celebrate her planet-offspring,
nine, in cosmic dance as one.
Celebrate her favoured daughter,
Earth, in cloak of fragile green;
cragging rocks, and sounding ocean-
surface-lashed, beneath serene.

Join the mystic dance of species,
chaining, weaving, circling, one,
strong-competing, close depending,
life swift ending, new begun.
Sing our senseful keen awareness-
form and sound, scent, taste and hue.
High achieving, passing, transient-
living, dying born anew.

Words: Ian Cairns (1930-2000)

Tune: Hymn to Joy

Adapted from Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

PRAYER OF AWARENESS OF THE DIVINE

Holy Mystery, we come to this place,
together or by YouTube, to challenge one another,
to bear the cost and know the joys of love:
to celebrate its presence; to live with respect in creation;
to become love in the service of others, in the pursuit of justice,
and the resistance of evil;
to recognise our humanity and celebrate it together;
to see love and loss in one another's eyes,
and by them to be both convicted and freed.
May love bind us to one another so we might better serve the world.
As one, we proclaim: we are not alone for
we journey together in the spirit of love. Amen.

JESUS' PRAYER

*Gracious Spirit,
Who loves us like a mother,
Whose realm is blooming among us now. And within.*

*We pray that your compassion guide us in every action.
Give us what we need for each day,
and help us to be satisfied with the miracle of that alone.*

*Forgiver, whose embrace brings us to wholeness
without our asking,
may we reconcile ourselves to one another in humility.
And may we cancel the crushing debts
that imprison our neighbours
So that communities of joy and health may flourish.*

*May we neither profit from nor ignore evil.
But ever work to thwart it with non-violence
As we co-create the realm of peace in this world.
Now and each day.
Amen.*

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May the peace and presence of the Divine be with you.
And also with you.

*People are invited to offer greetings
and share signs of peace.*

SCRIPTURE: MARK 13: 1-8

MAREE McDONALD

For wisdom old and new,
We give thanks.

HYMN

DEEP IN THE SHADOWS OF THE PAST



Deep in the shadows of the past,
Far out from settled lands,
Some nomads travelled with their God
Across the desert sands.
The dawn of hope for humankind
Was glimpsed by them alone -
A promise calling them ahead,
A future yet unknown.

While others bowed to changeless gods
They met a mystery:
God with an uncompleted name,
"I am what I will be";
And by their tents, around their fires,
In story, song and law
They praised, remembered, handed on
A past that promised more.

From Abraham to Nazareth
The promise changed and grew,
While some, remembering the past,
Recorded what they knew,
And some, in letters or laments,
In prophecy and praise,
Recovered, held and re-expressed
New hope for changing days.

For all the writings that survived,
For leaders long ago,
Who sifted, chose and then preserved
The Bible that we know,
Give thanks, and find its promise yet
Our comfort, strength and call -
The working model for our faith
Alive with hope for all.

Words: Brian Wren (1936-)

Tune: Kingsfold

From an English and Irish traditional melody coll.

Lucy Broadwood (1858-1929)

harm. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

CONTEMPORARY READING

“Co-Creation” by Madeleine L’Engle

God created and it was joy: time, space, matter. There is, and we are part of that is-ness, part of that becoming. That is our calling: co-creation. Every single one of us, without exception, is called to co-create with God.

No one is too unimportant to have a share in making or unmasking of the final showing forth. Every-thing that we do either draws the Kin-dom of love closer, or pushes it further off.

For the words of wisdom and inspiration, ancient and modern.

We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Whoever you are, come forth - Kate Moore (b.1979)

This contemporary Australian work for solo cello was written by Kate Moore, an Australian musician now based in the Netherlands. The work is based upon Walt Whitman’s ‘Song of the open road’ and is part of the composer’s ‘Open Road’ cycle.

Ceridwen McCooey (Cello)

REFLECTION

REV PETER BURNHAM

“THE END OF THE AGE
OR THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ONE?”

*May these words be spoken and heard in the power of the love
that draws all to the Christ.*

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Spiegel im Spiegel - Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

This work was composed by Pärt in 1978 shortly before he left his native Estonia. The title of the work translates as ‘infinite reflections’ and is written in Pärt’s then newly adapted minimalist style.

Ceridwen McCooey (Cello) & Rose Riebl (Piano)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In thanksgiving and solidarity...

OFFERING PRAYER FOR THE MISSION OF ST MICHAEL’S

*A prayer dedicating the Sunday offering
and gifts given in other ways to support the work of the church.*

***May the gifts we bring
serve as symbols of our deep desire
for Divine love to transform our time,
our effort, and substance
into works of creative compassion for each other,
for our wider community and for the world beyond. Amen.***

NOTICES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MUSICIANS

HYMN

BE NOT AFRAID

1. You shall cross the bar-ren des-ert, but you shall not die of
 2. If you pass through ra-ging wa-ters in the sea, you shall not
 3. Bless-ed are you poor, for the King-dom shall be

thirst. You shall wan-der far in safe-ty though you do not know the
 drown. If you walk a-mid the burn-ing flames, you shall not be
 yours. Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall

way. You shall speak your words in for-eign lands and all will un-der-stand. You shall see the
 harmed. If you stand be-fore the pow'r of hell and death is at your side, know that I am
 laugh. And if wick-ed ones in-sult and hate you all be-cause of me, bless ed,

1. face of God and live. *to Refrain*

2. with you through it all. *to Refrain* 3. bless ed are you! *to Refrain Refrain* Be not a afraid. I go be-

fore you al-ways. Come, fol-low Me, and I will give you rest.

1. 2. *Final*

You shall cross the barren desert
but you shall not die of thirst.
You shall wander far in safety
though you do not know the way.
You shall speak your words in foreign lands
and all will understand.
You will see the face of God and live.
Be not afraid.
I go before you always.
Come, follow me,
and I will give you rest.

If you pass through raging waters
in the sea, you shall not drown.
If you walk amid the burning flames,
you shall not be harmed.
If you stand before the power of hell
and death is at your side,
know that I am with you through it all.
Refrain.

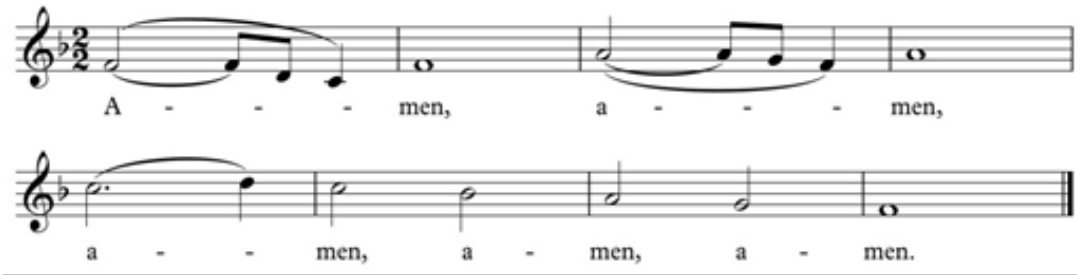
Blessed are your poor,
for the kingdom shall be theirs.
Blest are you that weep and mourn,
for one day you shall laugh.
And if wicked tongues insult and hate you
all because of me,
blessed, blessed are you.
Refrain.

Words and tune: Robert J Dufford, SJ

BLESSING

May the Holy Mystery who dances in creation,
and who embraces us with human love,
who shakes our lives like thunder,
bless us and inspire us to go from here,
to fill the world with love, justice and peace.
Amen.

SUNG AMEN



African-American spiritual

POSTLUDE

Finlandia Op. 26 – J. Sibelius (1865-1957)

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Rhys Boak (Organ)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Contemporary Reading. "Co-creation" by Madeleine L'Engle in *And It Was Good: Reflections on Beginnings*. Alt. Crown Publishing. 2017.

Prayer of Awareness by Gretta Vosper.

Jesus Prayer by Bret Hesla. In J. Nelson-Pallmeyer and B. Hesla, *Worship in the spirit of Jesus: Theology, Liturgy, and Songs Without Violence*. The Pilgrim Press. 2005.

Blessing adapted from Janet Morley - in Terry C Falla (ed) *Be Our freedom Lord: Responsive prayers for contemporary worship* (2nd edition). Open Book 1994.

Prayers of the people. Prayer for a Pandemic by Cameron Bellm. <http://krugthethinker.com/2020/03/prayer-for-a-pandemic/>

"Celebrate the cosmic birthing". Words: Ian Cairns.

Tune: Hymn to Joy. Adapted from Ludwig van Beethoven

“Deep in the shadows of the past”. Words: Brian Wren.
Tune: Kingsfold. From an English and Irish traditional melody coll.
Lucy Broadwood. Harm. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams.

“Be not afraid”. Words and tune: Robert J Dufford, SJ

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OFFERINGS

Offerings to support the ministry and shared life of St Michael’s are received with gratitude.

On our website, there is a ‘Giving’ button with instructions for online giving. A downloadable donation form is also available. Cheques may be mailed to St Michael’s Office. Online banking: St Michaels Uniting Church. BSB: 083004. Account: 515113338

GUEST MUSICIANS – CHURCH

Ceridwen McCooey

“When I was nine, I decided to play the cello after being told I was too small for the double bass. All these years later, I sincerely thank my nine-year-old self for making that decision as this instrument has allowed me to take diverse and exciting pathways through music. I am currently in my second year at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music where I study classical music. However, my main passions lies with electronic looping, improvisation and in general musical creation and collaboration. I am fortunate enough to play string quartets by day and hip hop by night.”

Rose Riebl

A pianist and post-classical composer, Rose’s work as a professional concert pianist has seen her debut at the Melbourne Recital Centre Salon, as well as tours through some of Asia’s leading concert halls (including Beijing, Shanghai and Jiaxing recital centres). Her compositional work extends her intimate relationship with the piano into a realm of more fragile, soulful and transcendent works that guide the listener into vulnerable emotional spaces. She has performed her own compositions in concert halls through Asia, Europe and Australia and has collaborated with multi-disciplinary

artists in performances that take her work into open air, immersive or alternate environments that provoke expansive listening experiences for the audience. “Do Not Move Stones” is her debut album of compositions, and was released in June this year via Icelandic label, INNI.

GUEST MUSICIAN – ONLINE

Zoe Wallace

A freelance cellist living in Melbourne, Zoe performs regularly with Orchestra Victoria, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra. As a member of the string quartet Quartz, she regularly performs at the Melbourne Recital Centre, Melba Hall and has recently performed with the Australian Bach Society, the Lyrebird Society and the inaugural Albury Chamber Music Festival in 2016. Zoe completed her Music Performance Diploma with high distinction at the Prins Claus Conservatorium in Groningen, The Netherlands in 2008 and was the recipient of a Makarov Foundation scholarship during her studies. She has performed with the North Netherlands Orchestra, Camerata Ardesko and the Alinga Duo and received cello tuition from Jan- Ype Nota and Michel Strauss whilst living in The Netherlands. Zoe has studied with Janis Laurs in Adelaide and Christian Wojtowicz in Hobart and was awarded a Bachelor of Music with first class honours from the Tasmanian Conservatorium of Music in 2004. Zoe held a full scholarship position at the Australian National Academy of Music in 2010, where she received tuition from Howard Penny and Nicholas Bochner.

NOTICES

NEXT SUNDAY @ ST MICHAEL'S

“The man who wrestled with God”

Reign of Christ Sunday – 21 November 2021

Guest Minister: Rev Peter Burnham

Music in Church: Zoe Black (Violin) & Joe Chindamo (Piano)

Music Online: Amir Farid (Piano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

SUNDAY SERVICES ONLINE AND AT THE CHURCH

St Michael's Sunday services are offered online and in-person at the Church.

To attend St Michael's, you will need to be fully vaccinated or have a medical exemption. St Michael's is responsible for ensuring everyone scans the QR code and provides evidence of vaccination or proof of exemption from an authorised medical provider. The card from the vaccination hub or your GP is unfortunately not sufficient.

There is important information from the Church Council on our website <https://stmichaels.org.au/the-church/covid-19-response/>.

The letter from Church Council explains the Council's discernment and decision, and our ongoing care for people who are not yet able to attend church in person. It includes information explaining how to download an electronic certificate to your phone or request a print certificate from Medicare. Please do read it carefully so that re-opening the church is a safe and happy occasion.

ST MICHAEL'S ZOOM CUPPA

With the resumption of in-person Sunday services at the church this week, St Michael's Zoom Cuppa has concluded. Occasional online Programs will continue to be offered. These will be advertised in the eNews and the order of service.

CONTACT AND CARE

If you are going through difficult times or would like to have a chat with someone, a member of our Contact and Care Team would be very happy to have a talk with you.

Any personal information shared will remain confidential.

You can speak with the Chair of Contact and Care, Lyndell O'Brien, on a Sunday at church, or leave your name and phone number or email address with the St. Michael's office and she will get in touch with you.

Lyndell O'Brien: Chair of Contact and Care

Joy Arnot: Deputy Chair

CARE AND PRAYER GROUP

We are a small group of people, part of the St Michael's Contact and Care team, known as The Prayer Tree.

We commit to prayer and support for you, or someone known to you, who is going through difficult times. All requests are treated with confidentiality, sensitivity and respect.

To request our support, please call the St Michael's office on 9654 5120 and ask for your first name and phone number to be passed on to Catherine Jones, who will then be in contact you. Or you can speak with Catherine following morning service. She will pass on your request to the remainder of the group.

We are here for you. Please don't hesitate to contact us.


Catherine Jones, Prayer Tree Leader

PASTORAL CARE

Our minister, Rev Dr Margaret, is available for pastoral care meetings by phone. Please call the office to arrange a time for Margaret to contact you. Margaret will be taking annual leave from 11-24 November.

ST MICHAEL'S SOCIAL MEDIA

 <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelsmelbourne/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/StMichaelsChurch/videos>

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

ST MICHAEL'S AGM & COUNCIL ELECTION

Sunday, 28 November, 11:45 am.

The Annual General Meeting and will be followed by the Church Council Election. Everyone is very welcome to attend the meeting, however, membership is a requirement for voting.

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME ORGAN RECITALS

We are delighted to announce the return of the Thursday Lunchtime Organ Recitals.

Every Thursday, the church doors open and the Grand Organ comes to life with performances from St Michael's organist, Rhys Boak, and guest artists.

When: Thursdays | 1.00pm to 1:30pm
Free Entry

Visit www.stmichaels.org.au/music for more details.

WOMEN'S POETRY DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesday, 24 November, 7.30pm – 8.30pm.

The second session of the Poetry Discussion Group will be held via Zoom. We will continue our discussions of some of the poems we have found to be meaningful and inspirational during our long lockdowns. Please join us to share our experiences of some of these poems.

Register with the church office, office@stmichaels.org.au, for Zoom connection details.

Facilitator: Pamela Blood

MEN'S DISCUSSION MEETING

Wednesday 1st December 2021 @7.30pm via Zoom

Fr. Martin Fleming, the Priest at St Ambrose Church Woodend, will give a talk on his experience as an Australian Army Chaplain over 15 years, attaining the rank of Major. He will reflect as a religious/spiritual person being in a very male dominated military context and culture.

Open to all men, including those who are Gender Fluid, Non-Binary, Transmen. People who are not members of St Michael's are very welcome.

Register with the office to be sent the Zoom link
office@stmichaels.org.au

MINGARY-CAIRNMILLAR COUNSELLING

The Mingary-Cairnmillar Counselling Service offers appointments for counselling and Vocational Assessments via telephone or video conference. There is no charge for counselling appointments.

For more information, please see the Mingary website.

<https://www.mingarycounselling.com.au>.

To make an appointment, call 1800 391 393 (free call) or email
clinic@cairnmillar.org.au