

*Sunday at
St Michael's*

COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

21 NOVEMBER 2021

“THE MAN WHO WRESTLED WITH GOD

GUEST MINISTER: REV PETER BURNHAM

MUSIC: ZOE BLACK (VIOLIN),
JOE CHINDAMO (PIANO) & RHYS BOAK (ORGAN)

CANTOR: JERZY KOZLOWSKI

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

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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

Exodus 3:13-14

“The God of our ancestors has sent me to you, and they ask me ‘What is his name?’ What shall I say to them? God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” This is my name forever, and this is my title for all generations.”

Graffiti on a wall in London

“God is dead” signed Friedrich Nietzsche – “Nietzsche is dead” signed God.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)

“A God who let us prove his existence would be an idol.”

Martin Buber – Austrian Jewish philosopher (1878-1965)

“The atheist staring from his attic window is often nearer to God than the believer caught up in his own false image of God.”

Don Cupitt – After God (1934-)

“Israel emerged as the one who strives with God. Abraham (Genesis 18:22-33) has the religious courage to take on even Yahweh himself, and he prevails. That is faith – to beat God down.”

John A. T. Robinson (1919-1983)

“The term God denotes the ultimate depth of all our being, the creative ground and meaning of all our existence and the world is the field of his being and activity.”



Mt Chocorua
E.E. Cummings

ONLINE GATHERING NOTES

CANTORS

James Emerson & Georgia Wilkinson

MUSICIANS

Amir Farid (Piano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Marche des “Davidsbündler” contre les Philistins from Carnaval Op.9
– Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Schumann’s Carnaval is a set of variations on a theme by Schubert. Dating from 1835, of which this March against the Philistines is the final movement.

Amir Farid (Piano)

POSTLUDE

Toccata from the 5th Symphony for organ Op. 42
– Charles Marie Widor (1844-1937)

Composed in Paris in 1879, Widor’s second toccata for organ has become one of the most famous pieces not only for organ, but in all western classical music. Continuously a favourite piece for weddings and festive occasions this work has become much loved. Remarkably, despite being composed in 1879, the 88 year-old recorded the work in 1932 partly because he was upset as many organists had taken to playing his toccata too fast.

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

GOD OF FREEDOM, GOD OF JUSTICE
CANTOR: JERZY KOZLOWSKI



God of freedom, God of justice,
you whose love is strong as death,
you who saw the dark of prison,
you who knew the price of faith:
touch our world of sad oppression
with your Spirit's healing breath.

Rid the earth of torture's terror,
you whose hands were nailed to wood;
hear the cries of pain and protest,
you who shed the tears and blood;
move in us the power of pity,
restless for the common good.

Make in us a captive conscience
quick to hear, to act, to plead;
make us truly sisters, brothers
of whatever race or creed;
teach us to be fully human,
open to each other's need.

Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

Tune: Picardy

*French traditional carol melody, 17th - 18th cent.
from 'Chansons Populaires des Provinces de France'
1860 as in the 'English Hymnal' 1906*

PRAYER OF AWARENESS OF THE DIVINE

Holy Mystery, who some call God,
we give thanks for the dawn, a new day, a new beginning.
It gives us an opportunity to live out our lives together,
as there is so much more to learn and discover.
It is not always easy to follow the Jesus Way,
there are days when we prefer to do our own thing.
There are days when we place ourselves first,
before others and we know the hurt and frustration we have caused.
Help us to follow more closely the Way of Jesus
so that we may be more aware of the Divine presence
as we live out each day.
Amen.

JESUS' PRAYER

*Dear One, closer to us than our own hearts,
farther from us than the most distant star,
you are beyond naming.*

*May your powerful presence become obvious not only in the
undeniable glory of the sky,
but also in the seemingly base and common processes
of the earth.*

*Give what we need, day by day,
to keep body and soul together,
because clever as you have made us,
we still owe our existence to you.*

*We recognise that to be reconciled with you,
we must live peaceably and justly with other human beings,
putting hate and bitterness behind us.*

*We are torn between our faith in your goodness
and our awareness of the evil in your creation,
so deliver us from the temptation to despair.*

*Yours alone is the universe and all its majesty and beauty.
Amen.*

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

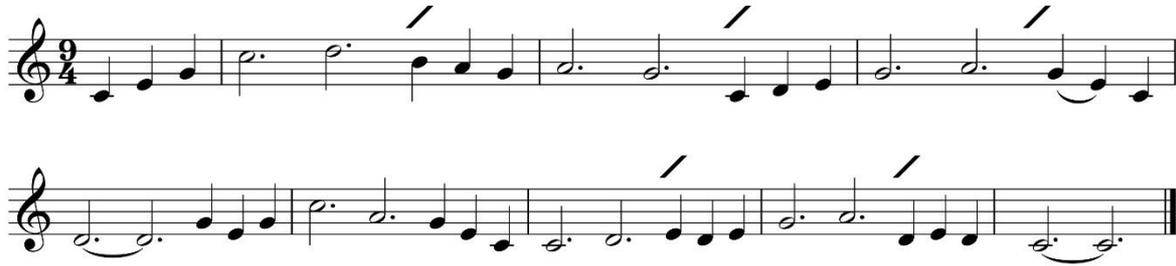
May the peace and presence of the Divine be with you.
And also with you.

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

SCRIPTURE: GENESIS 32:22-31

CATHERINE JONES

For wisdom old and new,
We give thanks.



God, the All-Holy,
 Maker and Mother,
 gladly we gather,
 bringing in prayer
 old hurts for healing,
 new hopes for holding,
 giving, receiving,
 loving and care.

Spirit, All-Seeing,
 knitting and blending
 joy in desiring,
 friendship and ease,
 make our belonging
 loyal and lasting,
 so that our pledging
 freshens and frees.

Christ, All-Completing,
 Nature enfolding,
 evil exhausting
 in love's embrace,
 weaving and mending,
 make every ending
 God's new beginning
 glowing with grace.

*Words: Brian Wren (1936-)
 Tune: Bunessan
 Gaelic melody*

CONTEMPORARY READING

“I thank you God” by E.E. Cummings

i thank you God for most this amazing
day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and the blue true dream of sky;and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes

(i who have died am alive again today,
and this is the sun’s birthday;this is the birth
day of life and love and wings:and of the gay
great happening illimitably earth)

how should tasting touching hearing seeing
breathing any – lifted from the no
of all nothing – human merely being
doubt unimaginably You?

(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)

For the insight of poets and writers into the mystery of God,
We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Meditation – Alexander Glazunov (1865-1936)

The Russian composer, Alexander Glazunov wrote a great deal of enduring and beautiful music. Glazunov was a hugely influential composer and musician during his life time, and served many years as the head of the world famous St. Petersburg conservatorium of music.

Zoe Black (Violin) & Joe Chindamo (Piano)

REFLECTION

REV PETER BURNHAM

“THE MAN WHO WRESTLED WITH GOD”

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

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Clair de lune – Claude Debussy (1862-1918) arr. A, Roelens

This extremely well known and often heard piece ranks as perhaps the most famous piece for solo piano. However, it is heard today in a wonderful arrangement for the violin accompanied by the piano, bringing a new dimension to this well-known work.

Zoe Black (Violin) & Joe Chindamo (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

HERE IN THIS PLACE (GATHER US IN)



Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away.
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old, who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt of the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

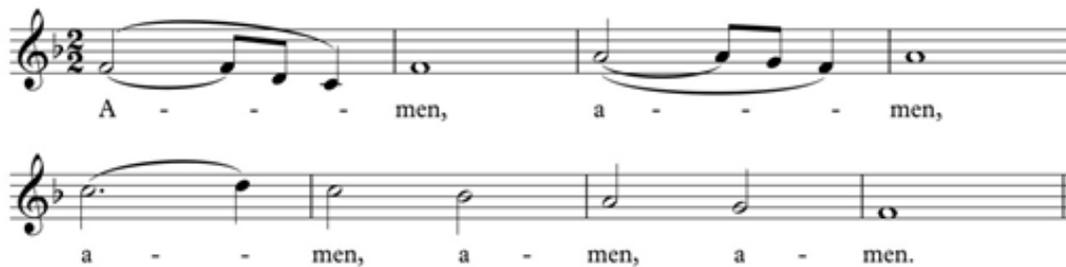
Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining;
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in, and hold us forever,
gather us in, and make us your own.
Gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*Words and Tune Marty Haugen (1950-)
Tune: Gather us in*

BLESSING

May the Divine Presence bless us with strength to seek justice.
May the Divine Presence bless us with wisdom to care for the earth.
May the Divine Presence bless us with love to bring forth new life.
Go in peace and be witnesses to hope. Amen.

SUNG AMEN



The musical notation is written in 2/2 time on a single treble clef staff. The melody begins with a half note 'A' (A2), followed by a quarter note 'a' (A3), a quarter note 'a' (A3), and a quarter note 'men' (E4). This is followed by a half note 'a' (A2), a quarter note 'a' (A3), a quarter note 'a' (A3), and a quarter note 'men' (E4). The second line of music continues with a half note 'a' (A2), a quarter note 'a' (A3), a quarter note 'men' (E4), a half note 'a' (A2), a quarter note 'a' (A3), a quarter note 'men' (E4), a half note 'a' (A2), a quarter note 'a' (A3), and a quarter note 'men' (E4). The piece concludes with a double bar line.

African-American spiritual

POSTLUDE

Romance – Frederick Delius (1862-1934)

The great English composer, Frederick Delius, is famous for his beautiful and imaginative use of harmony, as well as his ability to great sumptuous sound worlds. This Romance for violin and piano dates from Delius' younger years, being in his late 20s when the work was first published in 1889.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Prayer of Awareness adapted from a prayer by Rev Dr Alister W. Bull, Church of Scotland.

Jesus' Prayer by Jim Burklo.

Contemporary Reading. "I thank you God" E.E. Cummings. In *Xaipe*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1950)

Blessing adapted from *Building a New World, Share Lent Project*, 1991. Canadian Catholic Organisation for Development and Peace.

Prayers of the People. Rev Gord, in *Worship Offerings*.

"God of freedom, God of justice." Words: Shirley Erena Murray.
Tune: Picardy. French traditional carol melody from '*Chansons Populaires des Provinces de France*' 1860 as in the 'English Hymnal' 1906.

"Here in this place (Gather us in)."
Words and Tune Marty Haugen. Tune: Gather us in

"God the All-Holy."
Words: Brian Wren. Tune: Bunessan. Gaelic melody.

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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 -

Zoë Black has won numerous awards including the National Youth Concerto Competition in 1989 and the String section of the ABC Young Performers Award in 1991.

Graduating from the Victorian College of the Arts in 1992, Zoë was awarded grants from the Australia Council and the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Trust and the major performance award of the Australian Musical Foundation in London where she studied at the Guildhall School of Music under David Takeno and subsequently at the Vienna Hochschule with Michael Schnitzler.

During her time in Europe she studied chamber music with the Takacs Quartet, played with the London Symphony Orchestra and in Vienna with the Wiener Kammerorchester. She returned to Australia in 1996 to become Assistant Leader of the Australian Chamber Orchestra with whom she toured extensively both within Australia and overseas.

Touring regularly throughout Australia, Zoë has been a featured soloist and performed in chamber settings at the annual Huntington Festival in Mudgee, NSW, has performed in the MSO Chamber Music series, appeared as soloist with the Tasmanian and Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and is a regular performer for the ABC Sunday Live series.

In 2006, Zoë was a founding member of the Freshwater Trio, which has quickly become one of Melbourne's leading chamber ensembles, with sell-out performances at numerous festivals, including Port Fairy and Castlemaine, and with its own innovative subscription series at Melba Hall. Future engagements include taking part in Musica Viva's Coffee Concert series and regional touring as well as a tour to St. Petersburg.

In 2007, Zoë recorded the Roger Smalley Violin Concerto with the Victorian College of the Arts Orchestra for the ABC. In addition to her performing career, Zoë is a valued member of staff at Melbourne University and the Victorian College of the Arts.

Joe Chindamo ranks amongst the world's best jazz pianists and composers. His equal gifts as composer, arranger and improviser enable him to skate between musical genres with deftness and integrity, creating a unique music which eschews boundaries. A man with an international reputation, Joe has performed concerts all over the world, of particular note at the Umbria Jazz Festival, The Tokyo Dome and The Lincoln Centre in New York. He also toured with famed US drummer, Billy Cobham, for over ten years. Numerous of his recordings reached number 1 on the modern jazz charts in Japan. His formidable pianism has earned him admiration from amongst the classical elite.

In 2008, Joe was invited to perform three concerts in Italy by the celebrated classical pianist Michele Campanella, who was curator of a respected piano festival. In the same year, as a result of an enthusiastic recommendation by the formidable Nickolai Demidenko, piano maker Paolo Fazioli invited Joe to perform at his auditorium in Venice, a venue normally reserved for the likes of Angela Hewitt, Nickolai Demidenko and Aldo Ciccolini.

Joe is an artist who has done it all. He has performed and recorded with the best such as Shirley Bassey, Anne Sophie von Otter, Ricky Lee Jones, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Yvonne Kenny and Olivia Newton John, and worked on over 60 film soundtracks, providing the piano work for iconic Australian movies such as *Phar Lap*, *The Man from Snowy River II*, *Babe* and *The Sound of One Hand Clapping*.

GUEST MUSICIAN

Amir Farid

Winner of the 2006 Australian National Piano Award, US born Iranian-Australian pianist, Amir Farid, has been described as “a highly creative musician – a pianist of great intelligence and integrity. He brings strong musical substance to all that he does, imbuing it with his own particular experience and understanding”, and who “in a well-populated field...distinguishes himself for all the right reasons”.

As one of the most versatile and loved musicians in Australia, the currently New York-based pianist has performed concerti with major orchestras, collaborating with conductors such as Christopher Hogwood, Oleg Caetani, Johannes Fritzsich, Alexander Briger, Marko Letonja and Benjamin Northey. Highlights include Rachmaninoff's

2nd piano concerto with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in front of a 13,000-strong crowd at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, Mozart's concerto No.14 with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and "The Mozart Dances" with the Mark Morris Dance Group and West Australian Symphony Orchestra as part of the 2015 Perth Festival. Since graduating with distinction from the Royal College of Music London in 2009 with Andrew Ball, he has performed as a solo recitalist and collaborative artist in concert halls and festivals internationally, including Carnegie Hall New York, St. Martin in the Fields London, Mostly Mozart festival at Lincoln Center New York, Al-Hashemi-II Kuwait, MONA FOMA Festival Hobart, Coriole Festival SA, Huntington Festival NSW, as well as other venues in USA, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, New Zealand and China.

NOTICES

NEXT SUNDAY @ ST MICHAEL'S

"Love changes everything"

First Sunday of Advent – 28 November 2021

Minister: Rev Dr Margaret Mayman

Music in Church: Dr. Kim Tan (Flute) & Rhys Boak (Organ & Piano)

Music Online: Dr. Elyane Laussade (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.

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 via Zoom.

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 1 December, 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

