

*Sunday at  
St Michael's*

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

2 JANUARY 2021

“NEW YEAR ~~RESOLUTIONS~~ WISDOM”

MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

MUSIC: RHYS BOAK (ORGAN)

CANTOR: JAMES EMERSON

## 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.

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### OFFICE BEARERS

**Chairperson:** Laura Beckett

**Treasurer:** Ian Cox

**Secretary:** Maree McDonald

#### **Property**

Chair: Peter Anderson

Deputy Chair: Jack Morgan

#### **Church Services**

Acting Chair: Cheryl Power

Deputy Chair: Albert Phillips

#### **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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### ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH OFFICE

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Web: [www.stmichaels.org.au](http://www.stmichaels.org.au)

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

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

Weekly eNews: [media@stmichaels.org.au](mailto:media@stmichaels.org.au)

Please send notices to [office@stmichaels.org.au](mailto:office@stmichaels.org.au) by 11.30am Wednesday.



♥ OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS! ♥

Sunday Gatherings are offered Online and In-Church.

<http://www.stmichaels.org.au/>

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist/SundayatStMichaels>

## MEDITATIONS

*T.S. Eliot, 20th century*

“Where is the wisdom we have lost in knowledge? Where is the knowledge we have lost in information?”

*H.L. Mencken, 20th century*

“The older I grow, the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom.”

*Isaac Asimov, 20th century*

“The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom.”



*Maya Angelou, 20th century*

“The desire to reach for the stars is ambitious. The desire to reach hearts is wise.”

*Albert Einstein, 20th century*

“Any fool can know. The point is to understand.”

*Socrates, 5th century B.C.E.*

“Wonder is the beginning of wisdom.”

*Sophia Divine Wisdom-  
Mary Plaster*

# ONLINE GATHERING NOTES

## CANTORS

James Emerson, Christopher Watson & Georgia Wilkinson

## MUSICIANS

Francesca Hiew (Violin), David Paterson (Piano), The Academy of St. Michael & Rhys Boak (Organ)

## MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Salut d'Amour Op. 12 – Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

This well-known tune by the great Edward Elgar has remained popular since the time it was penned. Elgar famously said “My idea is that there is music in the air, music all around us, the world is full of it and you simply take as much as you require.”

Francesca Hiew (Violin) & David Paterson (Piano)

## POSTLUDE

The Carol of the Drum – Katherine Davis (1892-1980)

arr. Joe Chindamo

The Carol of the Drum, also known as The Little Drummer Boy, is a popular Christmas song written by the American classical composer and teacher Katherine Kennicott Davis in 1941. The song was first recorded in 1951 by the Trapp Family singers. It is heard here in a stunning new re-imagining by Melbourne based composer and pianist, Joe Chindamo. This arrangement was written specially for St Michael's and was premiered at St Michael's on Christmas day 2018.

The Academy of St. Michael and Joe Chindamo (Piano)

## 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 land on which St Michael's stands is the sovereign and unceded country of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation.

***We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present,  
who have cared for this country since its creation.  
We commit ourselves to working for a more just sharing  
of resources and power between the First and Second  
peoples of Australia.***

*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.*

## GATHERING WORDS

There is a greater hope than we have ever seen.  
It lies in vulnerability among the people  
and waits to be recognized.  
It sings quietly in brave human hearts  
as they see the truth around them  
and believe that change is possible.  
Then it springs forth in grace upon grace  
and gathers the longing ones  
into arms of compassion.  
May we live this new year as bringers of justice and joy.

CAROL

GOD'S SURPRISE  
CANTOR: JAMES EMERSON



Who would think that what was needed  
to transform and save the earth  
might not be a plan or army,  
proud in purpose, proved in worth?  
Who would think, despite derision,  
that a child should lead the way?  
God surprises earth with heaven,  
coming here on Christmas Day.

Shepherds watch and wise men wonder,  
monarchs scorn and angels sing;  
such a place as none would reckon  
hosts a holy helpless thing;  
stable beasts and by-passed strangers  
watch a baby laid in hay:  
God surprises earth with heaven,  
coming here on Christmas Day.

Centuries of skill and science  
span the past from which we move,  
yet experience questions whether,  
with such progress, we improve.  
While the human lot we ponder,  
lest our hopes and humour fray,  
God surprises earth with heaven,  
coming here on Christmas Day.

*Words: John L. Bell (1949 -)*  
*Tune: Scarlet Ribbons*  
*English trad. Arr. John Bell*

## PRAYER OF AWARENESS

Loving Spirit,  
who creates the yearning  
that brings wise ones from the East,  
who kindles the hope  
that brings captives home from exile,  
and who inspires the love  
that brings strangers together,  
let the light that shone in the darkness  
shine upon us.

Let it shine within us,  
that it might show us clearly  
who and what we are.

Let it shine around us,  
that it might show the way  
that leads to our neighbours.

Let it shine beyond us  
that peace may come  
for all the earth.

And let it shine above us,  
that it may reveal the Divine anew.

## JESUS' PRAYER

*God, you are life for us,  
Holy be your name.  
Your new day come,  
Your will be done  
On earth as in your vision.  
Give us this day our bread for the morrow;  
And forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Strengthen us in the time of test,  
And deliver us from evil.  
For the power and the splendour  
and the fulfillment are yours,  
Now and forever. Amen.*

## SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May the peace and joy of Christmas be with you.

*And also with you.*

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

## HEBREW BIBLE: SIRACH 24:1-12

NEIL BLOOD

For Wisdom that was in the beginning,  
for Wisdom that invites and inspires  
for Wisdom made known among us.

*We give thanks.*



## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Humoresque per l'organo primitivo  
– Pietro Allessandro Yon (1886-1943)

Before he emigrated to the United States, the Italian born Yon held the position of organist at the Vatican. He eventually settled in New York where he became the organist of St Patrick's Cathedral in NYC. In New York he became a famous teacher and recitalist touring the United States several times and teaching many famous pupils, one of whom, perhaps surprisingly, was a young Cole Porter.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

## CONTEMPORARY READING

“For those who have far to travel: a blessing” by Jan Richardson

If you could see  
the journey whole,  
you might never  
undertake it,  
might never dare  
the first step  
that propels you  
from the place  
you have known  
toward the place  
you know not.

Call it  
one of the mercies  
of the road:  
that we see it  
only by stages  
as it opens  
before us,  
as it comes into  
our keeping,  
step by  
single step.

There is nothing  
for it  
but to go,  
and by our going  
take the vows  
the pilgrim takes:

to be faithful to  
the next step;  
to rely on more  
than the map;  
to heed the signposts  
of intuition and dream;  
to follow the star  
that only you  
will recognize;

to keep an open eye  
for the wonders that  
attend the path;  
to press on  
beyond distractions,  
beyond fatigue,  
beyond what would  
tempt you  
from the way.

There are vows  
that only you  
will know:  
the secret promises  
for your particular path  
and the new ones  
you will need to make  
when the road  
is revealed  
by turns  
you could not  
have foreseen.

Keep them, break them,  
make them again;  
each promise becomes  
part of the path,  
each choice creates  
the road  
that will take you  
to the place  
where at last  
you will kneel

to offer the gift  
most needed—  
the gift that only you  
can give—  
before turning to go  
home by  
another way.

For knowing our lives as sacred journey,  
***We give thanks.***

REFLECTION

NEW YEAR ~~RESOLUTIONS~~ WISDOM

CAROL

WHEN HEAVEN'S BRIGHT WITH MYSTERY



When heaven's bright with mystery  
and science searches nature's art,  
when all creation yearns for peace  
and hope sinks deep in human hearts,  
appear to us, O Holy Light;  
lift from our eyes the shades of night.

When Herod barter power and lives  
and Rachel's weeping fills the night,  
when suffering's mask marks every face,  
and Love's a refugee in flight,  
reveal to us your word of grace,  
and make us witness to your peace.

When fragile faith, like desert wind,  
blows dry and empty, hope erased,  
when withered grass and fading flower  
proclaim again our day's brief space,  
breathe on the clay of our despair  
and work a new creation there.

When heaven's bright with mystery  
and stars still lead an unknown way,  
when love still lights a gentle path  
where courts of power can hold no sway,  
there with the Magi, let us kneel,  
our gifts to share, God's world to heal.

*Words: Rob Johns (1941-1987)*

*Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1871-1958)*

*Tune: Sussex Carol*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*In thanksgiving and solidarity...*

## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

### 'In thee is joy' BWV 615 – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

J.S. Bach wrote hundreds of small works known as choral preludes for the organ that were designed to introduce hymn tunes to congregations, of which this is one. This lively example is a setting of the German choral, 'In dir ist Freude' which is traditionally sung at the start of a new year.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

## OFFERING PRAYER

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

***We bring our gifts and we bring our lives,  
blessing upon blessing,  
that the earth and its peoples  
may be healed and transformed.  
Amen.***

## NOTICES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MUSICIAN

### HYMN PAST AND PRESENT, WITH OUR DREAMING



Past and present, with our dreaming,  
join to make us what we are;  
ancient wisdom, ancient follies  
shape the way we love and care:  
Give us reverence,  
Give us wisdom,  
From the past for life today.  
From the past for life today.

Make us mindful of each moment,  
ev'ry force, each strength, each flaw;  
free us from those empty longings  
which consume us more and more:  
Give us vision,  
Give us courage,  
For this present age of change.  
For this present age of change.

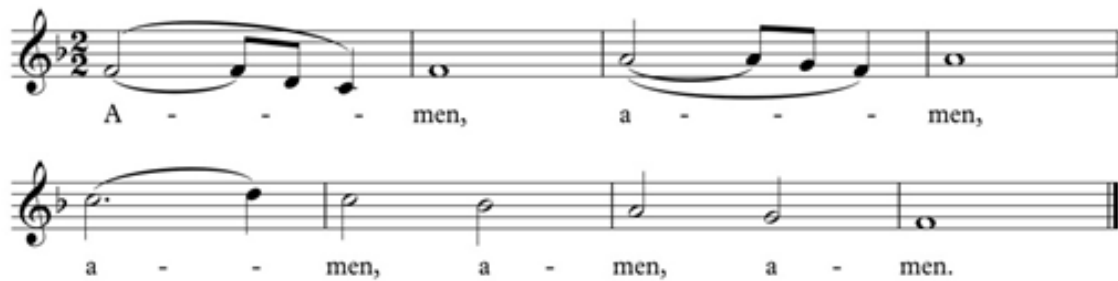
We must face the future's challenge  
to create a better earth  
hand in hand with all who labour  
dream and suffer for its birth,  
For through sharing  
And through caring  
We shall build community.  
We shall build community.

*Words: William L. (Bill) Wallace (1933-)  
Tune: Cwm Rhondda  
John Hughes (1873–1932)*

## BLESSING

May the star of hope shine above us  
and the voices of peace be raised in joy.  
May the Child of God's love be found among us  
and a new day be born  
as we go to live out the Good News that is for all the earth.

## SUNG AMEN



*African-American spiritual*  
*Arr. N. T. Johnson*

## POSTLUDE

Prelude on 'Londonderry Air' -Noel Rawsthorne (b.1929-2019)

The theme of this charming prelude needs no introduction. This setting was composed by the English organist, Noel Rawsthorne.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“For those who have far to travel: a blessing” by Jan Richardson.

Jesus’ Prayer by David B. Royer and Jonathan C. Nelson  
in Ruth C. Duck, ed. *Flames of the Spirit*.

“God’s surprise.” Words: John L. Bell. Tune: Scarlet Ribbons.  
English trad. Arr. John Bell

“When heaven’s bright with mystery.” Words: Rob Johns.  
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams. Tune: Sussex Carol.

“Past and Present, with our dreaming”.  
Words: William L. (Bill) Wallace. Tune: Cwm Rhondda. John Hughes.

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## MUSICIANS ONLINE

### **The Academy of St. Michael**

Founded in 2007, The Academy of St. Michael is a string ensemble that performs semi-regularly at St. Michael's services such as Easter and Christmas. The Academy is led by Violinist Zoe Black.

**Francesca Hiew** was a member of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra before joining the Australian String Quartet in 2016. She was also a founding member of the Auric Quartet and performed as a soloist with the Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and Orchestra Victoria. Francesca is a graduate of the Queensland Conservatorium and the Australian National Academy of Music. During her studies she completed a Fellowship, and won the chamber music competitions of both institutions, twice. Francesca began learning the violin aged four at the Stoliarsky School of Music in Brisbane. At the age of nine, she travelled as a soloist with the school to the USA, performing for Paul Kantor, Kurt Sassmanshaus and the late Dorothy DeLay of the Juilliard School in New York. She is playing a violin by Guadagnini from the 1740s, loaned to her on permanent loan to the Australian String Quartet from the Ukaria Foundation.

### **David Paterson**

Born in Sydney, David Paterson began playing the violin at the age of 4, the piano at 7 and within five years had completed the initial eight grades of the A.M.E.B. piano scheme. At 12, David entered Newington College as a music scholar and in addition to his piano studies, studied composition and musicology with Richard Gill for a period of eight years before moving to London to complete his B.Mus (Hons) at the Royal College of Music where he studied with noted pianist and professor, Julian Jacobson. David has also received tuition from Boris Berman, Olli Mustonen, Paavali Jumppanen and Geoffrey Lancaster.

Whilst living in London, David worked extensively as a session pianist in addition to giving numerous recitals and concerts with a number of esteemed soloists and chamber groups. David has featured on a number of occasions on ABC Classic FM, Radio National, 2mbsFM and 3mbsFM in addition to having performed in many of the major concert halls and venues in Australia, Romania and the United Kingdom. David continues to work as a pianist specializing in chamber music in addition to his commitments as an avid educator.

## NOTICES

### NEXT SUNDAY @ ST MICHAEL'S

“Deeper into life”

First Sunday after Epiphany – 9 January 2022, 10am

Minister: Rev Dr Margaret Mayman

Music in Church: Rhys Boak (Organ)

Music Online: Joe Chindamo (Piano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

### SUNDAY SERVICES AT CHURCH – COVID-19 VACCINATION

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

St Michael's is responsible for ensuring everyone scans the QR code or registers name and contact number with the Welcomers.

Evidence of vaccination or proof of exemption from an authorised medical provider is required to attend morning tea in the hall.

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

### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Church Office will be closed on Friday 24 December and re-open on Tuesday 4 January.

Margaret is will still be available for any urgent pastoral matters during this time.



## HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING:

### CHURCH OF ALL NATIONS (CAN) COMMUNITY SUPPORT

St Michael's will be collecting holiday gifts at the church. These will be donated to our Uniting Church neighbours in Carlton - Church of All Nations (CAN) Community Support.

New and unused gifts are gratefully received, especially books for children aged 5-12, stationery items (coloured pens and pencils) and craft supplies. Water bottles, keep cups and reusable face masks are great adult gifts ideas. Hand cream and body lotion are always appreciated. If necessary, we plan to organise a second delivery after New Year.

If you are not able to bring a gift, you might consider a donation that will help people at CAN purchase gifts for their people they serve.

<https://cancommunitysupport.org.au/donation/>

## 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.

## ST MICHAEL'S SOCIAL MEDIA

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

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

## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

### THURSDAY TWILIGHT ORGAN RECITALS RETURN

Thursday Twilight Organ Recitals will resume on Thursday 6 January 2022.

**When:** Thursdays | 6:15pm – 6:45pm | Free Entry

Visit [www.stmichaels.org.au/music](http://www.stmichaels.org.au/music) for more details.

### 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](mailto:clinic@cairnmillar.org.au)