

Sunday at St Michael's

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

30 JANUARY 2022

“BY LOVE WE ARE KNOWN”

MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

MUSIC: JAMES EMERSON (BARITONE)
RHYS BOAK (PIANO & 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.

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

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Organist & Manager of Music

Rhys Boak

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

ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH OFFICE

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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! ❤️

Sunday Gatherings are offered Online and In-Church.

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

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

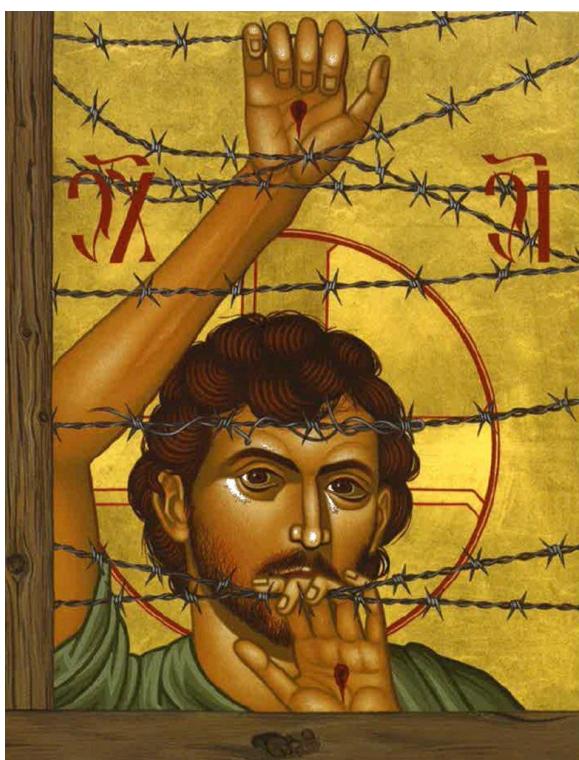
MEDITATIONS

Parker Palmer, 20th century

“[T]he mission of the church is not to enlarge its membership, not to bring outsiders to accept its terms, but simply to love the world in every possible way – to love the world as God did and does....If we are able to love the world, that will be the best demonstration of the truth which the church has been given.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson, 19th century

“Whatever you do, you need courage. Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising that tempt you to believe your critics are right. To map out a course of action and follow it to an end requires some of the same courage that a soldier needs. Peace has its victories, but it takes brave men and women to win them.”



Julie Polter, 20th century

“This is the big lie the world tells us: that the universe is connected by trade agreements, electronic banking, computer networks, shipping lanes, and the seeking of profit — nothing else. Whereas this is the truth of God: all creation is one holy web of relationships, and gifts meant for all; that creation vibrates with the pain of all its parts, because its true destiny is joy.”

*Christ of the Maryknolls
Brother Robert Lenz.*

ONLINE GATHERING NOTES

CANTORS

Jesika Clark, James Emerson & Georgia Wilkinson

MUSICIANS

Francesca Hiew (Violin), David Paterson (Piano)
& Rhys Boak (Organ)

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Tempo di minuetto from the Violin sonata in E minor
– W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

The sublime and transcendent music of Mozart needs little introduction or explanation. This piece is the middle movement of a violin sonata in E minor.

Francesca Hiew (Violin) & David Paterson (Piano)

POSTLUDE

Nimrod from The Enigma Variations
– Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Elgar's Enigma variations are amongst his earliest orchestral works. Nimrod is number 9 of the 14 variations. Elgar dedicated the piece to "my friends pictured within" and in the score each variation is prefaced with either a nickname or initials, a clue to the identity of the friend depicted. Nimrod is dedicated to Augustus J. Jaeger, Elgar's best friend. The name of the variation cleverly refers to Nimrod, the Old Testament patriarch who was described as a mighty hunter. The name Jaeger being the German word for hunter. This individual variation has become famous in its own right, and has become a firm part of the organist's repertoire even though it was originally written for orchestra.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

PROCESSIONAL

The people stand, as they are able, for the processional.

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

In the Spirit of the Divine, who shares divinity with us,
In the Spirit of the Christ, who shares humanity with us,
In the Spirit of the Holy, who unsettles and inspires us...
Let us celebrate life, in all its diversity and beauty.

HYMN

DEEP IN THE SHADOWS OF THE PAST
CANTOR: JAMES EMERSON



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)

PRAYER OF AWARENESS

The ancient ones saw it this way:
in the beginning the Holy One allowed the light,
“Let there be light,” and from Spirit’s being,
a radiance emerged that lit creation’s path toward its sacred future.

The scientists see it this way:
in the beginning, from the darkness and emptiness of nothingness,
an unaccountable explosion of radiation
expanded outward in all directions,
which now our instruments can measure.

The first disciples saw it this way:
Jesus, too, allowed the light to brighten dark death’s reign,
announcing a new creation, brightened by justice for all.

The magi, lovers of the starry skies, saw it this way:
the heavens all pointed to an uncreated light,
now formed in a baby’s eye, Earth’s native Star,
worthy of wonder and a gift-laden visit.

We might look at it this way:
that same light that shone in Jesus shines now through us,
and this festival of epiphany is real – or not –
depending on whether we allow an eternal shining
to light our path into a future that await our distinctive stamp.

Let there be light.

JESUS' PRAYER

*Abba God in heaven, glory to you!
Your rule of love renews the earth.
In your name, we take part in that renewal
helping, and not harming,
caring, and not coercing.
We pray that we might receive with thanks
the bread we need,
the money we need,
the warmth we need.
We pray that forgiveness and freedom
flow through our lives.
Teach us that in sharing life we live life to the full.
Remind us that evil is real.
Still, we are not afraid of it,
but confident
that love is stronger than hate,
justice other than revenge,
true peace the work of your Spirit.
Amen.*

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May the peace of Divine Presence be with you.
And also with you.

*People are invited to offer greetings
and gestures of peace.*

HEBREW BIBLE: JEREMIAH 1:4-10

MAREE MCDONALD

For the prophetic vision of our ancestors in faith.

We give thanks.

HYMN

LOVING SPIRIT



Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be,
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

Like a mother, you enfold me,
hold my life within your own
feed me with your very body,
form me of your flesh and bone.

Like a father, you protect me,
teach me the discerning eye,
hoist me up upon your shoulder,
let me see the world from high.

Friend and lover, in your closeness
I am known and held and blessed:
In your promise is my comfort,
in your presence I may rest.

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be -
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

Words: Colin Gibson (1933-)

Tune: Omni Die

*Melody from David Gregor Corner's 'Gesangbuch'
Nuremberg, 1631 arr. W. S. Rockstro (1823-1895)*

GOSPEL: LUKE 4:21-30

For the life and teaching of Jesus,
We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

"It is enough" from 'Elijah'

- Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1846)

Mendelssohn's oratorio 'Elijah' is based on events from the life of the prophet Elijah from the Old Testament. Although primarily remembered today as a composer, Mendelssohn despite his Jewish ancestry was a devout Christian, and wrote much church music. This oratorio received its premiere in the Birmingham Music Festival in the UK.

James Emerson (Baritone) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

CONTEMPORARY READING

"Reassurance" by Alice Walker

I must love the questions
themselves
as Rilke said
like locked rooms
full of treasure
to which my blind
and groping key
does not yet fit.
and await the answers
as unsealed
letters
mailed with dubious intent
and written in a very foreign tongue.
and in the hourly making
of myself
no thought of Time
to force, to squeeze
the space
I grow into.

For Wisdom found in scripture and poetry
For Wisdom made known in Jesus,
For Wisdom shaping us,

We give thanks.

REFLECTION

BY LOVE WE ARE KNOWN

HYMN

OH WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



Oh where are you going,
and can I come with you,
and what is your method
for keeping alive:
no pack or possessions,
no clothing or shelter,
no food to sustain you -
how can you survive?

Oh where are you going,
and can I come with you,
and why is your company
never the same?
You sit among beggars,
you argue with bankers,
debate with the lawyers
and walk with the lame.

Oh where are you going,
and can I come with you,
and what can you show
for your talents and time -
no profit from trading,
no thing of your making
no mark or memento,
no picture or rhyme?

Oh where are you going,
and can I come with you,
and what is the secret,
towards which you strive?
What hidden inspirer,
what unseen admirer,
what dream is the substance
upon which you thrive?

I'm going on a journey
and welcome companions,
but don't ask me
how we'll survive, where we'll go,
or who will come with us,
or what we'll be doing.
Just join me in travelling
and learn all I know.

Words: John Bell (1949 -) & Graham Maule (1958-2019)
Tune: Laredo, American traditional melody

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In thanksgiving and solidarity...

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

“Fear no more the heat of the sun”
– Gerald Finzi (1901-1956)

This song is one of 6 in a cycle set to the words of William Shakespeare known as ‘Let us garlands bring’ (op. 18). The English born Finzi wrote these songs between 1929 and 1942, the cycle was first performed on the 70th birthday of the dedicatee of the work, Ralph Vaughan Williams on the 12th of October 1942.

James Emerson (Baritone) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

OFFERING PRAYER

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

*Spirit of life and love,
we bring our offerings.
Guide those who use them
that they may help to bring fullness of life,
inclusive community,
support for people who are struggling,
and relief to people who live in need
and long for justice and compassion.
Amen.*

NOTICES & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MUSICIANS

HYMN

SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS

The musical score for the hymn "Spirit of gentleness" is presented in five staves of music. The key signature is two sharps, and the time signature is 3/4. The music is written in treble clef. The first staff begins with a dotted half note. The second staff starts with a dotted half note. The third staff begins with a quarter note followed by a dotted half note. The fourth staff starts with a quarter note followed by a dotted half note. The fifth staff begins with a quarter note followed by a dotted half note.

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness,
blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing;
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings.

Refrain

You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

Refrain

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

Refrain

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes.
From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams;
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise.

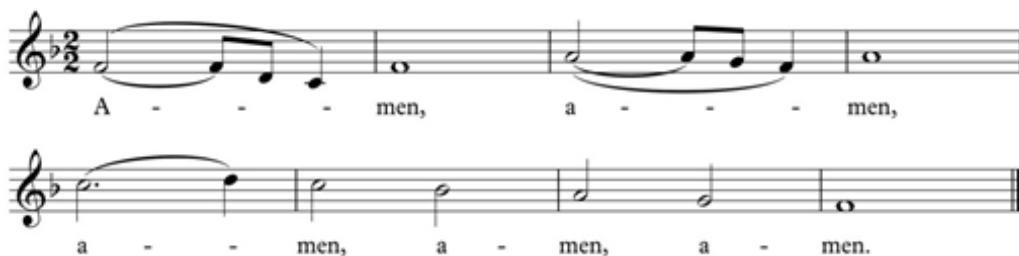
Refrain

*Words and tune: Jim Manley
Tune: Holy Spirit*

BLESSING

May God the star-maker cradle and encircle you.
May God the story-teller beckon and encourage you.
May God the life-changer challenge you and cherish you.
May we walk in the light of love all our days.

SUNG AMEN



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

POSTLUDE

Nimrod from The Enigma Variations

– Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Elgar's Enigma variations are amongst his earliest orchestral works. Nimrod is number 9 of the 14 variations. Elgar dedicated the piece to "my friends pictured within" and in the score each variation is prefaced with either a nickname or initials, a clue to the identity of the friend depicted. Nimrod is dedicated to Augustus J. Jaeger, Elgar's best friend. The name of the variation cleverly refers to Nimrod, the Old Testament patriarch who was described as a mighty hunter. The name Jaeger being the German word for hunter. This individual variation has become famous in its own right and has become a firm part of the organist's repertoire even though it was originally written for orchestra.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

"Reassurance" by Alice Walker. *In Search of our Mother's Gardens: Womanist Prose*. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1983.

Prayer of Awareness by Bruce Sanguin, in *If Darwin Prayed*.

Jesus Prayer translation by Rev Andrew Collis,
Minister of South Sydney Uniting Church.

"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.

"Loving Spirit". Words: Colin Gibson. Tune: Omni Die.
Melody from David Gregor Corner's 'Gesangbuch'. Nuremburg, 1631
arr. W. S. Rockstro.

“Oh where are you going”. Words: John Bell. & Graham Maule.
Tune: Laredo. American traditional melody

“Spirit of gentleness”. Words and tune: Jim Manley. Tune: Holy Spirit
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MUSICIAN IN CHURCH

James Emerson is a Baritone, who has performed in professional productions with Victorian Opera and Opera Australia. At only twenty-two years, James has won awards from many Eisteddfods and competitions, and recently was a finalist in the National Liederfest competition where he was awarded the Brian Hansford award and the Ian Field Memorial Award for the best diction and understanding of the German language. More recently, James was runner up in the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic's Aria Competition. As well as this, James is a chorister, cantor and guest artist with various choirs throughout Melbourne, such as the Victoria Chorale, Box Hill Chorale, The Melbourne Singers, Maroondah Singers and the Melbourne Bach Choir.

In 2017, James was involved in Victorian Opera's Youth production of Copland's The Second Hurricane and played the role of Gyp. More recently, James was involved in the Melbourne International Festival of Lieder and Art Song and was awarded the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music Scholarship. James also was a chorus member in Victorian Opera's production of Wagner's Parsifal.

In 2019, James made his debut as a soloist in the Melbourne Recital Centre with the Melbourne Bach Choir's performance of Bach's St Matthew Passion where he performed the roles of Peter, The High Priest and the 1st Priest. The Age stated that “bass-baritone James Emerson enjoyed a laudable debut in handling the second bass's responsibilities”.

James has recently completed his Honours year of a Bachelor of Music, specialising in Classical Voice and Performance at The University of Melbourne and has commenced the Masters of Music – Opera Performance program.

MUSICIANS ONLINE

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 AT CHURCH

“Telling our own sacred stories”

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

10 am, 6 February 2022

Minister: Rev Dr Margaret Mayman

Music in Church: Ceridwen McCooey, Joseph Kelly & Vincent Wang
(Cellos), Rose Riebl (Piano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

Music Online: Katherine Norman (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

SUNDAY SERVICES AT CHURCH – COVID-19

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.

In light of omicron's infectiousness and the high case numbers, after service morning tea in the hall is on hold until this outbreak subsides.

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

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 with 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 ON HOLD

The Thursday Twilight Organ recitals are temporarily on hold due to the widespread omicron outbreak. We will notify our community via the Order of service and eNews when they resume.

Visit 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

UNITINGWORLD: TONGA TSUNAMI APPEAL

UnitingWorld has launched an appeal to support our neighbours hit by the devastating tsunami in Tonga. Funds raised will help UCA partner church, the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, deliver emergency assistance and supplies to affected communities. Please give if you can and share in your networks to help spread the word. Donate and share here: <https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/tonga>