

*Sunday at
St Michael's*

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
20 MARCH 2022

“WHO CAN I BLAME?”

LITURGIST AND REFLECTOR: DR LIZ BOASE

MUSIC: LUKE SEVERN (CELLO),
DR. ELYANE LAUSSADE (PIANO)
& RHYS BOAK (ORGAN)

CANTOR: CAILIN HOWARTH

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

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Chair: Neil Blood

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Rhys Boak

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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>

ONLINE GATHERING NOTES

CANTORS

Jesika Clark, James Emerson, Katherine Norman, & Georgia Wilkinson

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

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)

POSTLUDE

'In God do I place my trust' - Ottorino Respighi (1879-1936)

This Choral prelude was written in 1910 at the height of the Romantic era by the Italian master, Ottorino Respighi. In this work, Respighi takes his inspiration from the earlier J.S. Bach (1685-1750) basing the work on a choral or hymn, in this case, the choral is 'Ich hab mein sach Gott Heimgestellt' (In God do I place my trust).

Rhys Boak (Organ)

PROCESSIONAL

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We begin with an acknowledgement of country.

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.***

INCLUSIVE GREETING

*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 AND WELCOME

In the season of Lent,
we gather here to celebrate life's beauty
and find healing for its pain;
to honour our kinship with each other and with the earth;
and to create a more compassionate world,
beginning with ourselves.

HYMN

SING FOR GOD'S GLORY
CANTOR: CAILIN HOWARTH



Sing for God's glory
that colours the dawn of creation,
racing across the sky,
trailing bright clouds of elation;
sun of delight
succeeds the velvet of night,
warming the earth's exultation.

Sing for God's power
that shatters the chains that would hold us,
searing the bleakness of fear
and despair that would mould us,
touching our shame
with love that will not lay blame,
reaching out gently to find us.

Sing for God's justice
disturbing each easy illusion,
tearing down tyrants
and putting our pride to confusion;
lifeblood of right,
resisting evil and slight,
offering freedom's transfusion.

Sing for God's saints
who have travelled faith's journey before us,
who in our weariness
give us their hope to restore us;
in them we see
the new creation to be,
spirit of love made flesh for us.

*Kathy Galloway
Tune: Lobe den Herren
Later form of a chorale melody in
the 'Stralsund Gesangbuch', 1665*

PRAYER OF AWARENESS

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 of Divine Presence be with you.
And also with you.

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

HEBREW BIBLE: PSALM 63:1-8

MAREE MCDONALD

For the assurance of Divine Presence in wilderness times,
We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Allegro Moderato from the Sonata for Arpeggioni D821
– Franz Schubert

Schubert wrote this sonata for a six stringed instrument known as the ‘arpeggione’, which is now largely defunct. However, the sonata is most often today performed using the modern cello.

Luke Severn (Cello) & Dr. Elyane Laussade (Piano)

CONTEMPORARY READING

“Autumn” by Rainer Maria Rilke

For the Spirit speaking still,
We give thanks.

HYMN

BREATHE IN THE MORNING AIR



Breathe in the morning air; inhale its fragrancy.
be still and trust the sacredness that dwells within;
who's ever near; who knows our fears;
whose presence calms our restless souls

Rest in this sacred space; lie down in pastures green.
Be present to the myst'ry of this holy place.
Hear singing streams; feel earth's embrace;
see how our lives are touched by grace.

Walk in the way of love, of justice and of peace.
Bring loving to a world of pain and loneliness.
Reach out in love and gentleness
to heal the hurt of brokenness.

Here in this darkest vale, shadowed by grief and fear,
we sense a loving presence that our hearts sustain.
Our fears subside; our minds are calm;
our panic flees, and peace remains.

Trust in the love of God; believe that goodness lives,
that hope and joy and beauty will embrace our days.
Pursued by love and touched by grace,
our thankful hearts will offer praise.

Words: Helen Wiltshire, Pilgrim Publishing
Tune: Love Unknown
John Ireland (1879-1962)

GOSPEL: LUKE 13:1-9

For the stories of Jesus, shaping faith and life,
We give thanks.

REFLECTION

WHO CAN I BLAME?
DR LIZ BOASE

HYMN

GOD OF FREEDOM, GOD OF JUSTICE



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*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In thanksgiving and solidarity...

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Adagio from the Sonata for Arpeggioni D821 – Franz Schubert
Following on from the first music for contemplation, we hear the second movement of this Sonanata.

Luke Severn (Cello) & Dr. Elyane Laussade (Piano)

OFFERING PRAYER

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

***Compassionate God,
who calls all people to be one family,
may we share generously
the gifts we have been given.
May we be strengthened to make peace
by working together,
and challenged with a vision of the feast
where all are welcome.
Amen.***

NOTICES & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MUSICIANS

HYMN

COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Community of Christ'. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The first staff contains measures 1 through 6. The second staff, starting with a measure rest labeled '7', contains measures 7 through 11. The third staff, starting with a measure rest labeled '12', contains measures 12 through 16. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings such as accents and slurs.

Community of Christ,
who make the Cross your own,
live out your creed and risk your life
for God alone:
the God who wears your face,
to whom all worlds belong,
whose children are of every race
and every song.

Community of Christ,
look past the Church's door
and see the refugee, the hungry,
and the poor.
Take hands with the oppressed,
the jobless in your street,
take towel and water, that you wash
your neighbour's feet.

Community of Christ,
through whom the word must sound –
cry out for justice and for peace
the whole world round:
disarm the powers that war
and all that can destroy,
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish
into joy.

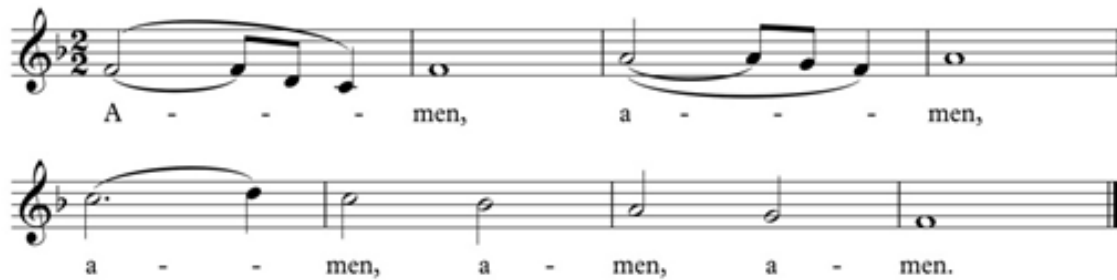
When menace melts away,
so shall God's will be done,
the climate of the world be peace
and Christ its Sun;
our currency be love
and kindness our law,
our food and faith be shared as one
for evermore.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)
Tune: Leoni
Hebrew Melody, arr. Meyer Lyon (1751-1797)

BLESSING

Travel gently on the journey.
Know that Holy One who holds all things will be there.
That Christ who calls us friend will walk beside us
And the Spirit who makes all things new
will lead us with light and hope.

SUNG AMEN



African-American spiritual
Arr. N. T. Johnson

POSTLUDE

'Orientale' - Cesar Cui (1835-1918)

Cesar Cui was a noted Russian composer and music critic. He was a member of The Five a group of composers dedicated to creating a specifically Russian type of music. Other members of The Five include Balakirev, Mussorgsky, Borodin and Rimsky-Korsakov.

Luke Severn (Cello) & Dr. Elyane Laussade (Piano)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Rainer Maria Rilke, "Autumn." From *Poems* (Tobias A. Wright, 1918), translated by Jessie Lamont.

Jesus Prayer. David B Royer and Jonathan C Nelson. *Flames of the Spirit: Resources for Worship*. Edited by Ruth C Duck.

Prayer of awareness based on writing by Jan Richardson in *Sacred Journeys: A Woman's Book of Daily Prayer*. Upper Room Books, 1995, pp.154-166.

First section of Prayers of the People from Sacredise:

<https://sacredise.com/committing-to-life-2-2>

"Sing for God's glory". Words: Kathy Galloway. Tune: Lobe den Herren. Later form of a chorale melody in the 'Stralsund Gesangbuch'.

"Breathe in the morning air." Words: Helen Wiltshire, Pilgrim Publishing. Tune: Love Unknown. John Ireland.

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

"Community of Christ". Words: Shirley Erena Murray. Tune: Leoni. Hebrew Melody, arr. Meyer Lyon.

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MUSICIANS IN CHURCH

Luke Severn A protégé of Russian cellist Karine Georgian, Luke Severn has been praised for his unique musicality and expressive interpretations. Born in the UK in 1993, he moved to Australia at a very young age. He began Cello at the age of 12 and quickly displayed a flare for it. In just 3 years he was awarded a place at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School. There he studied with sought after Melbourne Chamber musician Josephine Vains. With her guidance he was the recipient of many awards for excellence and he continues his studies with Josephine at the Sir Zelman Cowen School of Music, Monash University, where he will complete his Bachelor of Music Honours Degree in 2016. He was awarded his Licentiate Diploma with Distinction in 2014 and in 2013 was awarded the Peers Coetmore Memorial Scholarship for the most outstanding cello

applicant of the year. He has performed in masterclasses with many important teachers, including Lynn Harrell (USA), Maria Kliegel (Germany) and Australia's own Howard Penny. He looks forward to pursuing a career as a cellist both in Australia and overseas in the future.

Elyane Laussade

Here is what the New York Times has said about Elyane Laussade, "*a pianist with a polished technique. . . . dazzling power . . . and an impeccable sense of style.*"

A graduate of the Juilliard School in

New York City, pianist Elyane Laussade has delighted audiences on five continents for her imaginative and strongly individual playing. Since arriving in Australia, Elyane has established herself as one of Australia's finest pianists. She has appeared in the MSO's Metropolis Festival with Marcus Stenz and has been featured many times by ABC Classic FM and 3MBS in studio recordings and live broadcasts. She performed St. Saens' Carnival of the Animals with the MSO in Hamer Hall with pianist Benjamin Martin under the baton of Anthony Ingliss. Elyane performed De Falla's Nights in the Gardens of Spain with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in the Myer Bowl in a concert which was broadcast across Australia. As a soloist, Elyane performs in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, the USA and in Europe. She has toured Taiwan where she performed recitals in Taipei, Tainan, Chaiyi, and at the National Concert Hall in Taichung. Elyane was also invited to perform at the first recorded performance at the Elizabeth Murdoch Recital Hall in the new Melbourne Recital Centre which aired on the ABC television program "Catalyst."

MUSICIANS ONLINE:

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 is a pianist and post-classical composer. Her 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 Jiaying 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.

NOTICES

St Michael's Notices are shared via the weekly eNews.

Subscribe to the eNews on the home page of the website www.stmichaels.org.au or email office@stmichaels.org.au

To read the eNews online <https://stmichaels.org.au/news-and-events/>

SUNDAY @ ST MICHAEL'S – COVID-19

St Michael's Sunday services are offered online and in-person. Use of QR codes and proof of vaccination are not required for church services. Masks are worn whilst singing.

Proof of vaccination is required to join 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/>

ST MICHAEL'S SOCIAL MEDIA

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

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