

# Holy Week at St Michael's

MAUNDY THURSDAY

14 APRIL 2022

“SUCH LOVE”

MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

READER: PAMELA BLOOD

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

## WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S

St Michael's is a vibrant, progressive, inclusive congregation of the Uniting Church in Australia 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.

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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### MINISTER

Rev Dr Margaret Mayman

### OFFICE BEARERS

Chairperson: Laura Beckett

Treasurer: Ian Cox

Secretary: Maree McDonald

Property Committee

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Church Services Committee

Chair: Lorraine Woolley

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(Keeping Children Safe)

Val Gill

Contact and Care Committee

Chair: Lyndell O'Brien

Programs Committee

Chair: Neil Blood

### ORGANIST & MANAGER OF MUSIC

Rhys Boak

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



## ♥ OPEN DOORS! ♥

Sunday Gatherings are offered Online and In-Church.

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

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

### GREETING

*Wherever you are as you participate in this Gathering,  
wherever you have come from, wherever you are going to;  
whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe;  
you are welcome here.*

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Spirit of God has long dwelled with the First Peoples of this ancient land: land that was taken from them without their consent, treaty or compensation.

***We join the Good Spirit, yearning for justice for the people and the land.***

Though we are not gathering in person, everyone is held in the Circle of Community and in the Love of the Sacred.

***On this Holy Thursday we honour the faithful, dangerous memory of Jesus.***

### GATHERING WORDS

Let us enter this moment in spirit and in truth.

Let us bring all we are, the honest reality of our humanness.

Here we remember Jesus,

who takes his last steps towards the cross,

yet holds in his hands the bread and wine of life.

***Sacred mystery and mercy,***

***Be with us as we draw near in remembrance.***

## REMEMBERING

We tell a story of events that happened a long time ago, when Jesus walked on this earth.

He practiced a ministry of radical inclusivity, drawing to himself despised and rejected outsiders of society.

He lived as he taught: a life of justice and love, of profound compassion for people.

He lived a life according to the intent of the Divine Presence that is the source of all life.

His death disturbs us, because it reveals how committed the world is to its own way, and the price the world exacts from those whose commitment is to Love and Peace, Justice and Forgiveness.

## LITANY FOR MAUNDY THURSDAY

We remember Jesus who said, "This is my body given for you."

We remember Jesus who said, "This is the new covenant in my life-blood."

We remember Jesus who said, "If I, your Rabbi, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet."

We remember Jesus who said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."

Holy God, when fear and differences threaten to keep us apart,

***help us not to forget.***

When violence strikes without mercy.

***help us not to forget.***

When families huddle in hunger against the night,

***help us not to forget.***

When women, men and children are abused,

***help us not to forget.***

When enemies hurl slurs of hatred,

***help us not to forget.***

When heavy pain is hard to bear,

***help us not to forget.***

When hearts seem shattered beyond repair,

***Help us not to forget.***

We remember Jesus who said,

“I do not call you servants, but I have called you friends.

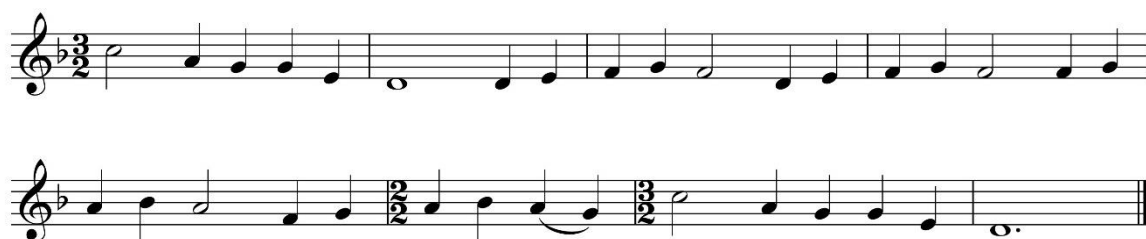
I’m giving you these commands. so that you may love one another.”

***We remember.***

***Remind us again, O God, that we may not forget.***

HYMN

CHRIST LET US COME WITH YOU  
CANTOR: JESIKA CLARK



Christ, let us come with you  
to the upper room  
where the feast is laid,  
to the bread and wine  
where our peace is made --  
Christ, let us come with you!

Teach us your serving love:  
to become as friends,  
to become as one  
that the world believe  
what your life has done --  
teach us your serving love.

Jesus, forgive us all  
that we use your name  
though we stand apart,  
we refuse your prayer  
to be one at heart --  
Jesus, forgive us all.

Christ of the open hands,  
you have brought us close  
to be loved and fed,  
you have touched our life,  
now you walk ahead --  
Christ, let us come with you!

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray*  
© 1992 Hope Publishing Company  
*Tune: Wroslyn Road*  
*Colin Gibson (1933- )*

#### GOSPEL: JOHN 13:1-17

It was before the Feast of Passover,  
and Jesus realized that the hour had come  
for him to pass from this world to Abba God.  
He had always loved his own in this world,  
but now he showed how perfect this love was.  
The Devil had already convinced Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray Jesus.  
So during supper, Jesus – knowing that God had put all things into his own  
hands, and that he had come from God  
and was returning to God –  
rose from the table, took off his clothes  
and wrapped a towel around his waist.

He then poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and  
dry them with the towel  
that was around his waist.

When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter said, "Rabbi, you're not going to wash  
my feet, are you?"  
Jesus answered,  
"You don't realize what I am doing right now, but later you'll understand."  
Peter replied, "You'll never wash my feet!"  
Jesus answered, "If I don't wash you, you have no part with me."

Simon Peter said to Jesus,  
“Then, Rabbi, not only my feet,  
but my hands and my head as well!”  
Jesus said, “Any who have taken a bath  
are clean all over and only need to wash their feet - and you’re clean, though  
not every one of you.” For Jesus knew who was to betray him.  
That is why he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

After washing their feet,  
Jesus put his clothes back on and returned to the table.  
He said to them,  
“Do you understand what I have done for you? You call me “Teacher,” and  
“Sovereign” - and rightly, for so I am.  
If I, then - your Teacher and Sovereign - have washed your feet,  
you should wash each other’s feet.  
I have given you an example,  
that you should do as I have done to you.  
“The truth of the matter is,  
no subordinate is greater than the superior;  
no messenger outranks the sender.  
Once you know all these things, you’ll be blessed  
if you put them into practice.

HYMN

WHEN MARY BATHED OUR SAVIOUR’S FEET  
CANTOR: GEORGIA WILKINSON



When Mary bathed our Saviour’s feet,  
she cared for him in grief,  
but Judas grumbled at the waste  
because he was a thief.

Since Jesus knew his time had come,  
he called his friends to meet,  
and, pouring water in a bowl,  
began to wash their feet.

But Peter said when Jesus knelt,  
“No! this shall never be.”  
Christ said, “Unless I wash your feet,  
you have no part in me.”

And we—have we no sign to show  
concern for those who grieve?  
When love is offered, are we slow  
to open and receive?

As Christ has loved us, let us love  
in touch, in act, in sign.  
In giving and receiving care  
we share in life divine.

*Words: Ruth Duck*

*Tune: Salzburg*

*Melody adapted from Johann Michael Haydn (1737-1806)*

## GOSPEL: JOHN 13:31B-35

Once Judas left, Jesus said, “Now is the Chosen One glorified and God is glorified as well.

If God has been glorified,

God will in turn glorify the Chosen One and will do so very soon.

My little children,

I won't be with you much longer.

You'll look for me,

but what I said to the Temple authorities, I say to you:

where I am going, you cannot come.

I give you a new commandment: Love one another.

And you're to love one another the way I have loved you.

This is how all will know that you're my disciples: that you truly love one another.”

For the sacred stories of Jesus and the beloved community,

***We give thanks.***



## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Even as the light fades – Rose Riebl (b. 1989)

This new work by Melbourne based pianist and composer, Rose Riebl, is especially suited to this evening's service.

Ceridwen McCooey (Cello) & Rose Riebl (Piano)

## PRAYER - BASED ON PSALM 116 BY REV DAVID GRANT

O Holy One,

if we were there when they met in the upper room,  
would we sit beside Jesus,

and would we be in the seat of the one who betrayed him,  
or in the seat of the one who loved him?

If we were there with him in prayer,  
would we call on the name of the Rabbi,  
or would it be our own name we would fervently repeat?

If we were there with him in sacrament,  
would we recognise the cup of salvation,  
or would our eyes and appetite  
be for our own satisfaction?

If we were there to hear covenant renewed,  
would we make our vow with him,  
or would it be a mindless mumbling of the required liturgy?

If we were there and listened to predictions of death,  
would we be overcome

by the preciousness of the one soon lost,  
or would State indifference and blind religious piety  
companion our betrayal of the Christ?

If we were there and watched him serving on his knees,  
would we too take up the towel,  
or would pride demand we maintain our station?

If we were there ...

But we are here.

Time, and geography, and birth  
put us far away from the questions,  
and separate us from the answers.

Except the 'there' becomes 'here' through the story,  
brought by the witnesses,  
and spoken in our midst.

Holy One,  
help us face the questions here,  
as if we were there,  
so that our here,  
may be different because of what happened there;  
In Jesus name, we pray.

***Amen.***

## WATCHING AND WAITING

As we extinguish this light, we acknowledge the suffering  
experienced by human rights defenders and political prisoners  
who have dared to speak truth to power.

*The candle is extinguished*

As we pause, in preparation for Good Friday,  
what we contemplate is beyond words, beyond understanding.  
We dwell in the reality that cannot be fully expressed, trusting that  
the Spirit of God goes with us voicing that which we cannot speak.

## BLESSING

Go in peace to live in love.  
Remember the words, the face, the touch of Jesus  
who called us to be friends to each other and to the world.

May the hand of the Holy One  
be stretched out to meet you,  
the courage of Christ  
carry you beyond the known way,  
and the Spirit gather you up  
in the solidarity of love. Amen.

## POSTLUDE

Adagio from the Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C BWV 564  
– J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

This sublime central movement from Bach's larger Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C is one of Bach's most haunting and pensive melodies. While both being sombre and in a minor key, it is ideal for reflection.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

"Meditation based on Psalm 116" by David Grant, in *Grant us your peace: prayers from the lectionary psalms*. Chalice Press, 1998.

"When Mary bathed our Saviour's feet," © Ruth C Duck. Published in *Circles of Care: hymns and songs*. The Pilgrim Press, 2009.

Tune: Salzburg. Melody adapted from Johann Michael Haydn.

"Christ, let us come with you," Words: Shirley Erena Murray © 1992 Hope Publishing Company. Tune: Wroslyn Road. Colin Gibson.

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## GUEST MUSICIANS

**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 lie 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 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.

## 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](http://www.stmichaels.org.au) or email [office@stmichaels.org.au](mailto: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>