

Sunday at St Michael's

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
1 MAY 2022

“SOUL FORCE: MEETING HATE WITH LOVE”
MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

MUSIC: PETER SHERIDAN (FLUTE)
& RHYS BOAK (ORGAN & PIANO)

CANTOR: GEORGIA WILKINSON

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

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Chair: Peter Anderson

Church Services

Chair: Lorraine Woolley

Culture of Safety Contact

(Keeping Children Safe)

Val Gill

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Chair: Lyndell O'Brien

Deputy Chair: Joy Arnot

Programs

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! ♥

Sunday Gatherings are offered Online and In-Church.

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

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

ONLINE GATHERING NOTES

CANTOR

Georgia Wilkinson

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Siciliano from the flute sonata in E flat major BWV 1031

– J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The amazingly prolific and inventive J.S. Bach is of course one of the most important figures in all of Western music. Bach's enormous output of sacred music is testament to his devout Lutheran faith, which was a source of great strength and inspiration to him, during what can only be described as a life full of great difficulty. This piece is one of the most cherished movements from the many sonatas for flute he wrote.

Peter Sheridan (Flute) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

POSTLUDE

Festival Postlude – Flor Peeters (1903–1986) Flor Peeters was a celebrated Belgian organist, composer and teacher. He had a long career as a concert organist but wrote works in many genres.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

PROCESSIONAL

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Spirit of God has long dwelled
with the First Peoples of this ancient land.
We acknowledge the traditional owners of this place;
recognising that land was taken from them
without consent, treaty or compensation.

***We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation,
and pay respect to their elders.***

***We stand with them in their quest for justice
for the people and the land.***

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

We gather as a community of hope
believing in the dawning of light in the dark places.
Remembering the voices of prophets and visionaries
who told of new possibilities.
We gather as a community of hope
knowing for ourselves the birth of life in barren places,
seeking to be the embodiment of hope for others.
In this Easter season, we gather as a community of compassion
bearing witness to uncontainable love.

HYMN

NOW THE GREEN BLADE RISES CANTOR: GEORGIA WILKINSON



Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth, many days has lain;
Love lives again; that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

In the grave they laid him, Love whom Power had slain,
Thinking that never, he would wake again,
Laid in the earth, like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Forth Life came at Easter, like the risen grain,
Christ who for three days, in the grave had lain;
Now from the dead, the Risen One is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

When our hearts are saddened, grieving or in pain,
By your touch you call us, back to life again;
Fields of our hearts, that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum (1872-1958 alt).

Tune: Noël Nouvelet

*French traditional carol melody
harm. the Iona Community*

PRAYER OF AWARENESS

JESUS' PRAYER

*Ground of all being,
Mother of Life, Father of the universe,
Your name is sacred, beyond speaking.
May we know your presence,
may your longings be our longings
in heart and in action.
May there be food
for the human family today
and for the whole earth community.
Forgive us the falseness
of what we have done
as we forgive those who are untrue to us.
Do not forsake us
in our time of conflict
but lead us into new beginnings.
For the light of life,
the vitality of life,
and the glory of life
are yours now and for ever. 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.*

EARLY CHURCH: ACTS 9:1-20

CATHERINE JONES

For the courage to change,
We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

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– J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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Peter Sheridan (Flute) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

CONTEMPORARY READING

“Easter Exultet” by James Broughton

Shake out your qualms.

Shake up your dreams.

Deepen your roots.

Extend your branches.

Trust deep water
and head for the open,

even if your vision
shipwrecks you.

Quit your addiction
to sneer and complain.

Open a lookout.

Dance on a brink.

Run with your wildfire.

You are closer to glory
leaping an abyss

than upholstering a rut.

Not dawdling.

Not doubting.

Intrepid all the way

Walk toward clarity.

At every crossroad

Be prepared

to bump into wonder.

Only love prevails.

En route to disaster

insist on canticles.

Lift your ineffable

out of the mundane.

Nothing perishes;

nothing survives;

everything transforms!

Honeymoon with Big Joy!

For the spirit speaking still in art and poetry,

We give thanks.

HYMN

SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS



*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*

REFLECTION SOUL FORCE: MEETING HATE WITH LOVE

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Morceau de Concours – Gabriel Urbain Fauré (1845-1924)

This work picks up on many themes of stillness and spiritual replenishment. Dating from the early 20th century, this work comes from the pen of the celebrated Parisienne composer, Gabriel Fauré who is best known for his celebrated setting of the Requiem.

Peter Sheridan (Flute) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In thanksgiving and solidarity...

OFFERING PRAYER

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

***We give thanks for our life
and the courage we are given to live it.
Let our gratitude for life
be expressed in our generosity.
Let our faith be expressed in just living.
Let our hope for the future find full expression
in our daily attitude of mind.
Amen.***

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE



We are an Easter people,
ours is an Easter faith,
the yeast is rising in our hearts,
our wine has vintage taste.
*Christ is risen, Christ is risen,
risen in our lives.*

We are an Easter people,
ours is an Easter faith,
our tears are freed to flow and heal
our shattered hopes and hearts.
Refrain.

We are an Easter people,
ours is an Easter faith,
our fears have died, we rise to dream,
to love, to dance, to live.

Refrain.

Words: Bill (W L) Wallace

Tune: Alive, Alison Carey

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

Gather around this resurrection table
where all are welcome, and the good earth is affirmed.
From earth's generosity, we bring these gifts of bread and wine.

***Witnesses to hope,
we participate
in Christ's liberation.***

COMMUNION PRAYER

Be still
and know that I am God.

***In the presence of the Divine,
we are still.***

In Christ
we are accompanied by the Sacred,
embodied among us,
sharing our birthing
our living, our dying

***Sharing our dreams
of hope and liberation,
Offering us new life
and the shattering
of the tomb.***

In Christ
the Holy One appears as the host
at the ebbing and the flowing of our lives

***Beckoning us
to share holy hospitality,
and the challenge of love.***

In Christ
the Holy One sits as the guest
at the table of the stranger

***Blessing us with Divine presence,
in the reawakening of love.***

In Christ
God is present among us
as host and guest at the heart of this community

***Sharing vulnerability with us,
revealing love.***

In this action of justice-making,
we recall
broken minds and bodies
blood shed through lust for power
and nature damaged by human hand.

***Restore and heal
all that is wounded.
Be present
in the stillness
of the waiting.
Roll back the stone
of prejudice and fear.
Release the signs
of new life.
Amen.***

BREAKING BREAD

We gently break this bread
of fragile life

***Our breaking down
becomes our breaking through.***

As we eat this living bread
and drink the new wine of resurrection,
let us celebrate the cosmic Christ,
Christa/community present among us now
liberating and sustaining

***With divine tenderness
you remake us.***

***By transforming pain
you heal us.***

***Your passionate energy
empowers us.***

SHARING COMMUNION

The bread of life. ***Amen.***

The cup of blessing. ***Amen.***

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of heaven and earth,
you make us one in Christ.

***Inspire us with new vision
and the wisdom of ancient dreams.***

***Give us eyes to see you in the stranger
that we may live out your radical hospitality.***

Amen.

NOTICES & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MUSICIANS

HYMN

WORD OF GOD IN HUMAN LANGUAGE



Word of God in human language
For this time and in our tongue,
Tell anew the ageless story
Ever ancient, every young.
May our heart receive the message
of God's faithful, loving care.
May our lives respond in action,
living deed and living prayer.

All around the world is hungry
for the liberating Word,
food for spirit as for body,
to be tasted, felt and heard.
It is thus the Word encounters
at God's own appointed hour,
bringing knowledge and perception
of true justice, peace, and power.

So God's voice continues speaking
in the words we can't deny,
sounding out across the ages!
Will we answer or defy?
As the call becomes still clearer,
witness that the Word shall last.
May we follow with commitment
in the present as the past.

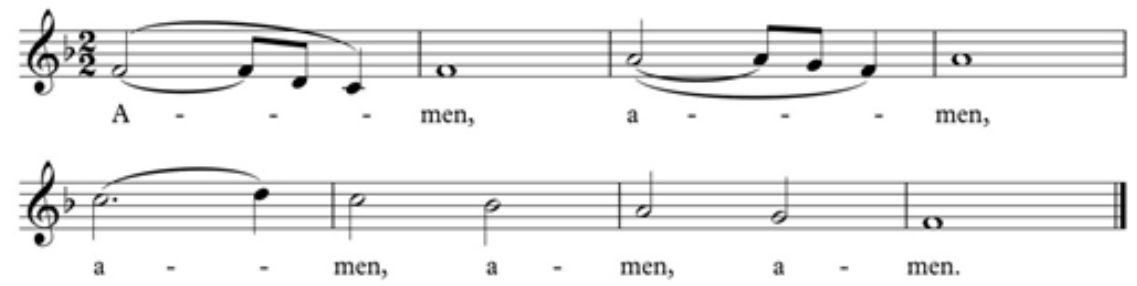
Words: Jane Parker Huber

Tune: Austria

Adapted from Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

BLESSING AND SUNG AMEN

The blessing of God – sacred presence
The spirit of Jesus – unsettling teacher
The breath of life – awakening every being
Be with us all.



African-American spiritual

Arr. N. T. Johnson

POSTLUDE

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Rhys Boak (Organ)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“Easter Exultet” by James Broughton, from *Little Sermons of the Big Joy*. Insight to Riot Press, 1994.

Jesus’ Prayer by J Philip Newell, in *Ground of All Being: The Prayer of Jesus in Color*, published by New Beginnings, an imprint of Material Media, 2008.

“Now the green blade rises.” Words: John Macleod Campbell Crum.
Tune: Noël Nouvelet. French traditional carol melody harm.

The Iona Community.

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

“We are an Easter people.” Words: Bill (W L) Wallace.

Tune: Alive, Alison Carey.

“Word of God in human language.” Words: Jane Parker Huber. Tune: Austria. Adapted from Franz Joseph Haydn.

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MUSICIAN ONLINE AND IN CHURCH

Peter Sheridan

Innovative and creative flutist, performer and teacher, Peter Sheridan has collaborated with some of the world’s leading composers, commissioning more than sixty works for the modern flutes. A passionate specialist on the low flutes, he has promoted these instruments in concert and master classes, appearing at the National Flute Association and British Flute Society conventions, as well as festivals in Japan, Holland, Canada and Australia. Mr. Sheridan has performed with the Los Angeles Flute Quartet, Hollywood Studio Symphony, Australian National Academy of Music Orchestra, Mannes Camerata, Aspen Festival Orchestra, Australian Pops Orchestra and for the Grand Canyon Chamber Music Festival. He recently had a hyper-bass flute created that spans 32 feet and plays down to C0, which is featured on the new recording, “Monologues and Dialogues” (Move Records). Peter has presented interactive workshops, master classes and seminars for composers which explore the unique sounds, sights and possibilities of the modern-day low flutes.

These educational tours have brought him around Australia and throughout areas of the United States, both performing and teaching to students and colleagues of all age groups. Mr. Sheridan is lecturer of flute for the Monash University School of Music and director of the University Flute Ensemble. As a Woodwinds Instructor at Donvale Christian College, he directs the flute ensembles and the Senior Concert Band. He holds degrees and certifications from Mannes College, University of Arizona, Goldsmith's College (London), and completed graduate work at UCLA. Peter has served on the music faculties of La Sierra University, Santa Monica College, and El Camino Colleges in California (USA).

Flute studies have been with Sheridan Stokes, Jean Louis Kashy, Judith Mendenhall, Thomas Nyfenger, Bonnie Lichter, and Clare Hoffmann. His various flutes can be heard on Move, Sarabande, Warner Bros. Latina, Albany, and Innova record labels.

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>