

*Sunday at  
St Michael's*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
8 MAY 2022

AND STILL WE RISE

MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

MUSIC: ALEX OWENS (BARITONE),  
DR. ELYANE LAUSSADE (PIANO)  
& RHYS BOAK (ORGAN)

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.

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### OFFICE BEARERS

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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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### ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH OFFICE

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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>

## ONLINE GATHERING NOTES

### MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Golden Dreams - Javad Maroufi (1912-1993)

Javad Maroufi was born in Tehran (Iran) and studied western classical music alongside Persian classical music. He became one of the first composers to write for the piano in the traditional Persian style.

Amir Farid (Piano)

Moment Musicaux No. 3 – Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

The figure of Franz Schubert looms large in classical music, a musical equivalent of literary figures such as Shakespeare, Goethe and Rilke. Despite his short life of just 31 years – his music lives on with enduring popularity to this day. The six Musical Moments (Moment Musicaux) were published in the year of Schubert's death, 1828.

Amir Farid (Piano)

### POSTLUDE

Toccata in G major – Th. Dubois (1837-1924)

This joyous toccata was written by the French organist and composer Théodore Dubois. Dubois was a noted composer, conductor, organist, pianist and music educator. He served as organist at Paris' Église de Madeleine for many years as well as directing the celebrated Paris Conservatoire.

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

*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

Let there be joy in our coming together this morning.  
Let there be truth heard in the words we speak  
and the songs we sing.  
Let there be help and healing for our disharmony and despair.  
Let there be silence for the voice within us and beyond us.  
Let us give thanks for this day.

## HYMN

## THE LOVE OF GOD COMES CLOSE



The love of God comes close  
where stands an open door  
to let the stranger in,  
to mingle rich and poor:  
The love of God is here to stay  
embracing those who walk God's way.

The peace of God comes close  
to those caught in the storm,  
forgoing lives of ease  
to ease the lives forlorn:  
The peace of God is here to stay  
embracing those who walk this way.

The joy of God comes close  
where faith encounters fears,  
where heights and depths of life  
are found through smiles and tears:  
The joy of God is here to stay  
embracing those who walk this way.

The grace of God comes close  
to those whose grace is spent,  
when hearts are tired or sore  
and hope is bruised or bent:  
The grace of God is here to stay  
embracing those who walk this way.

*Words: John Bell and Graham Maule  
Tune: Love Unknown  
John Ireland( 1879-1962)*

## 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.*

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

MAX SON-LUMAGBAS,

ROMAN MATTEO LUXA

& REGGIE CLIFFORD D'AGOSTINO ZAF

## LIGHTING THE BAPTISM CANDLES

*children invited to the front*

## WELCOME & THANKSGIVING

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

***We trust in God, the Creator Spirit  
who moved upon the face of the deep  
at the beginning of creation,  
who created all that is,  
and who spoke through the prophets of old.  
We trust in Jesus Christ  
into whom God's spirit was poured  
in fullness and in power,  
that the whole creation might be restored and unified;  
and who promised that the Spirit would come  
and fill the faithful with power to witness  
to the passionate love of God.***

***We await on that Spirit today with longing hearts,  
seeking to be empowered to share God's love,  
with fresh words and courageous actions  
of love and hope and justice.  
So may it be.***

THE BLESSING OF WATER

THE BAPTISM OF MAX SON-LUMAGBAS

SUNG BLESSING

May God bless you and keep you;  
May God make her face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you;  
May God lift up his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace.

FAMILY PROMISES & PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

THE BAPTISM OF ROMAN MATTEO LUXA

SUNG BLESSING

FAMILY PROMISES & PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

THE BAPTISM OF REGGIE CLIFFORD D'AGOSTINO ZAF

SUNG BLESSING

FAMILY PROMISES & PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

BAPTISM PRAYER



## HYMN

## CELEBRATE EACH GENERATION



Celebrate each generation,  
 celebrate around the earth  
 In this Church make dedication  
 of the miracle of birth.  
 Every new-born son and daughter  
 is the Church's loving claim,  
 marked by touch of living water  
 now to take the Christian name.

Be the Christ in those we christen:  
 body, spirit, both must thrive,  
 be the Christ in us who promise  
 new-born faith to keep alive.  
 So another generation  
 may discover truth and good,  
 flower within the certain future,  
 bud of hope within the wood.

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)*

*Tune: Hymn to Joy*

*Adapted from Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)*

EARLY CHURCH: ACTS 9:36-43

SALLY CLARKE

For the Jesus' friends bringing love to life again,  
***We give thanks.***

## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

'English May' - John Ireland (1879-1962)

The English composer, John Ireland wrote a set of songs called 'Songs of a wayfarer' in 1912. This song, 'English May' is the third in the set. The text was composed by Dante Gabriel Rossetti.

Alex Owens (Baritone) & Dr. Elyane Laussade (Piano)

## CONTEMPORARY READING

"Evidence" by Mary Oliver.

Where do I live? If I had no address, as many people do not, I could nevertheless say that I lived in the same town as the lilies of the field, and the still waters.

Spring, and all through the neighbourhood now there are strong men tending flowers.

Beauty without purpose is beauty without virtue. But all beautiful things, inherently, have this function – to excite the viewers toward sublime thought. Glory to the world, that good teacher.

Among the swans there is none called the least, or the greatest.

I believe in kindness. Also in mischief. Also in singing, especially when singing is not necessarily prescribed.

As for the body, it is solid and strong and curious and full of detail; it wants to polish itself; it wants to love another body; it is the only vessel in the world that can hold, in a mix of power and sweetness: words, song, gesture, passion, ideas, ingenuity, devotion, merriment, vanity, and virtue.

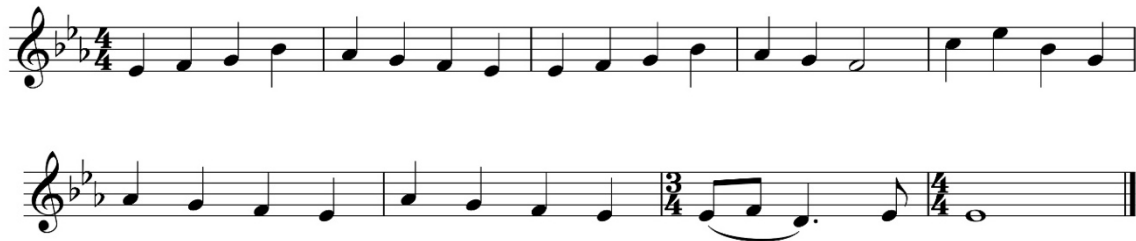
Keep some room in your heart for the unimaginable.

For the Spirit speaking still in poetry, music and art,

***Thanks be to God.***

## HYMN

## BROTHER, SISTER, LET ME SERVE YOU



Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
 let me be as Christ to you;  
 pray that I may have the grace to  
 let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,  
 and companions on the road;  
 We are here to help each other  
 walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you  
 In the night-time of your fear;  
 I will hold my hand out to you,  
 speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping;  
 when you laugh, I'll laugh with you;  
 I will share your joy and sorrow  
 till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,  
 we shall find such harmony;  
 born of all we've known together  
 of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I might have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

*Words: Richard Gillard (1953- )  
Tune: Servant Song  
Richard Gillard, arr. Betty Pulkingham*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

'Come Sleep' - Peggy Glanville Hicks (1912-1990)

This song, 'Come Sleep' is perhaps the best known work of the great Australian composer, Peggy Glanville-Hicks. Born in Melbourne, Glanville-Hicks went on to study with Nadia Boulanger in Paris and with Ralph Vaughan Williams in the UK.

Alex Owens (Baritone) & 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.*

***In our offerings of time, money and energy,  
we express our affirmation of this congregation  
and our hope that this congregation  
will be a continuing and valuable part of our lives  
and the life of our city.  
Amen.***

## NOTICES & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MUSICIANS

HYMN      THIS IS MY SONG, O GOD OF ALL THE NATIONS



This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
But other hearts in other lands are beating  
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;  
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:  
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

May truth and freedom come to every nation;  
may peace abound where strife has raged so long;  
that each may seek to love and build together,  
a world united, righting every wrong;  
a world united in its love for freedom,  
proclaiming peace together in one song.

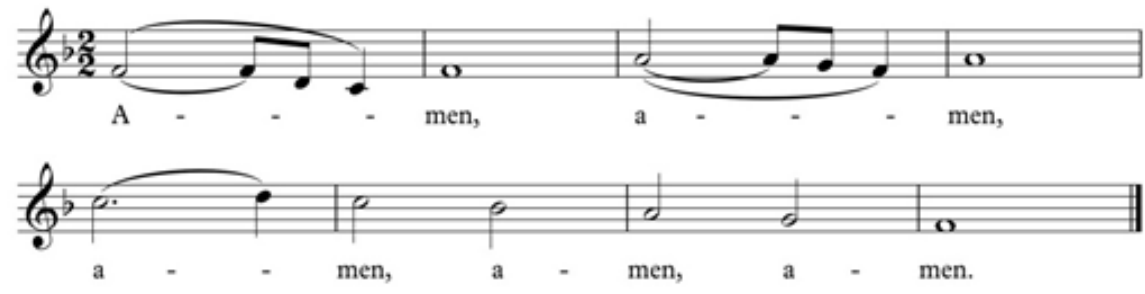
*Words: Lloyd Stone (v1-2) and Georgia Harkness (v3)*

*Tune: Finlandia*

*Jean Sebelius (1865-1957)*

BLESSING AND SUNG AMEN

May the blessing of God,  
Creator, Liberator and Life-giver be with you  
as you go to share love and life in the world.



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

## POSTLUDE

Ich bin der welt abhanden gekommen (tr. I have become lost to the world)  
– Gustav Mahler (1860-1911)

This song comes from Mahler's Rückert Lieder. It speaks initially of sadness and desolation but ultimately about finding one's inner peace and drawing consolation from love and from music. These lieder were first sung in Vienna on the 29th of January 1905. The text is by Frederick Rückert (1788-1866) who was a noted German poet.

Alex Owens (Baritone) & Dr. Elyane Laussade (Piano)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mary Oliver, "Evidence (1)" in *Evidence: Poems by Mary Oliver*.  
Beacon Press. 2010.

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.

"The love of God comes close." Words: John Bell and Graham Maule.  
Tune: Love Unknown. John Ireland.

"Celebrate each generation." Words: Shirley Erena Murray.  
Tune: Hymn to Joy. Adapted from Ludwig van Beethoven.

"Brother, sister, let me serve you." Words: Richard Gillard.  
Tune: Servant Song. Richard Gillard, arr. Betty Pulkingham

"This is my song, O God of all the Nations." Words: Lloyd Stone and Georgia Harkness. Tune: Finlandia. Jean Sebelius.

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## MUSICIANS IN CHURCH

### **Dr. 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."

### **Alex Owens**

Through his performance, his writing, and his work in arts management, Alexander Owens strives to create emotional, impactful experiences. Following his passion for music through recital performance, choral singing, composing and beyond, he found his drive in the ways music so deeply connects with people, provokes thought, and creates change. 2019 saw Owens premiere new choral works and Lied, along with an exciting commission with the Arts Centre Melbourne for the 5x5x5 project. With the Austral Salon he performed a new recital program, "The Artist's Cry", focusing on life, love and loss through the music of Schubert, Ibert and Rachmaninov.

Through the University of Melbourne's IgniteLAB professional incubator, Owens created the inaugural Staff Choir, which saw over 60 staff members from across the University come together in song across May and June. He continues to regularly perform with the Australian Chamber Choir, Polyphonic Voices and Melbourne Symphony Orchestra Chorus. Owens is currently undertaking his undergraduate studies with Mr. Stephen Grant at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (University of Melbourne), where he briefly studied mathematics before dedicating himself to music. He is a proud alumni of the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, where he studied voice with Mr. Timothy Reynolds and composition with Dr. Anthony Lyons. He continues to be involved with the rich artistic community that the school creates. Recent awards and prizes include the 2017 VCAA Margaret Schofield Memorial Scholarship and 2017 MSV David Henkels Award for composition, and the VCASS/Austral Salon Outstanding Soloist Award. Owens is generously supported by the Rae Banger Music Bursary and CG McWilliam Bequest.



## NOTICES

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