

ST MICHAEL'S  
UNITING CHURCH



THIRD SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF CREATION

“STORMING THE WEB OF CREATION”

18 SEPTEMBER 2022



MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

MUSIC: DR. JOEL BRENNAN (TRUMPET)  
& RHYS BOAK (ORGAN)

CANTOR: JESIKA CLARK

# 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

**Chairperson:** Laura Beckett

**Treasurer:** Ian Cox

**Secretary:** Maree McDonald

### **Property**

Chair: Peter Anderson

### **Church Services**

Chair: Lorraine Woolley

### **Culture of Safety Contact**

(Keeping Children Safe)

Val Gill

### **Contact and Care**

Chair: Lyndell O'Brien

Deputy Chair: Joy Arnot

& Catherine Jones

### **Programs**

Chair: Neil Blood

### **Organist & Manager of Music**

Rhys Boak

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## ST MICHAEL'S UNITING CHURCH OFFICE

120 Collins Street Melbourne

Phone: 03 9654 5120

Email: [office@stmichaels.org.au](mailto:office@stmichaels.org.au)

Minister: [minister@stmichaels.org.au](mailto:minister@stmichaels.org.au)

Web: [www.stmichaels.org.au](http://www.stmichaels.org.au)

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Weekly eNews: [media@stmichaels.org.au](mailto:media@stmichaels.org.au)

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



♥ OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN HANDS! ♥  
SUNDAY GATHERINGS ARE OFFERED ONLINE AND IN-CHURCH.  
<http://www.stmichaels.org.au/>

*Music notes, musicians' bios, and the text of the contemporary reading  
can be found at the end of the order of service.*

## PROCESSIONAL

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

As we gather, we acknowledge that we meet on the unceded land of the traditional owners, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation.

***We acknowledge Wurundjeri people,  
and pay our respects to their elders, past and present.***

We honour their custodianship and care for the lands and waters since time immemorial.

***Walking together toward a just and peaceful future,  
we accept the invitation of the Uluru Statement from the Heart.***

### WELCOME & GATHERING

*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.*

Fountain of life...

Pulse of life...

Breath of life...

Earth is filled with the presence of the Holy.

Together this day, let us sense  
the Spirit in all creation.

## HYMN

## O GOD OF EARTH AND SPACE

O God of earth and space,  
Of sea and fire and air,  
Your providence surrounds us here,  
And everywhere.  
In fruit and grain and tree,  
In shelter from the cold,  
In cooling breezes, flowing wells,  
Now as of old.

Where faithfulness is shown,  
Where love and truth abound,  
Where beauty graces human life,  
There You are found.  
Inspirer of all thought!  
Creative force of art!  
The melody on every tongue,  
In every heart!

Wherever freedom reigns,  
Where sin is overthrown,  
Where justice fused with mercy rules,  
There You are known.  
Give us the courage clear,  
To make the earth a home  
For all to live in harmony  
In Christ's shalom.

Your word commands response  
And summons us to life.  
We follow, strengthened by Your grace,  
In calm or strife.  
Our ever present help,  
Our challenge and our prod,  
We praise You now and to life's end,  
Eternal God.

*Words: Jane Parker Huber*

*Tune: Leoni*

*Hebrew Melody, arr. Meyer Lyon (1751-1797)*

## 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 IN CREATION

We are this flame, ancient as the stars,  
new as the vulnerable spark.

***We are not alone.***

We are the light soaring, the shadow deepening,  
the dance between them.

***We are not alone.***

We are the heirs of the tribes and their fires,  
the healers and their circles.

***We are not alone.***

We are here for ourselves.  
We are here for each other, and

***We are not alone.***

May the peace of earth and sky and sea be with you!

***And also with you!***

HEBREW BIBLE: JOB 28: 20-27

LORRAINE WOOLLEY

For wisdom seeking the Sacred in the beauty of the earth,

***We give thanks.***

## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

GOSPEL: LUKE 8:22-25

For the call to faith and action,

***We give thanks.***

## CONTEMPORARY READING

“In the storm,” by Mary Oliver

## REFLECTION

Storming the web of life

## CANTOR ONLY VERSES 1 AND 2

HYMN

TOUCH THE EARTH LIGHTLY

Touch the earth lightly,  
use the earth gently,  
nourish the life of the world in our care:  
gift of great wonder,  
ours to surrender,  
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

We who endanger,  
who create hunger,  
agents of death for all creatures that live,  
we who would foster  
clouds of disaster,  
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

HYMN

TOUCH THE EARTH LIGHTLY

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use the earth gently,  
nourish the life of the world in our care:  
gift of great wonder,  
ours to surrender,  
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

We who endanger,  
who create hunger,  
agents of death for all creatures that live,  
we who would foster  
clouds of disaster,  
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

Let there be greening,  
birth from the burning,  
water that blesses and air that is sweet,  
health in God's garden,  
hope in God's children,  
regeneration that peace will complete.

God of all living,  
God of all loving,  
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,  
teach us, deflect us,  
Christ reconnect us,  
using us gently and making us one.

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)*  
*Tune: Tenderness. Colin Gibson (1933- )*  
*Words and Music © Hope Publishing Company*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*In thanksgiving and solidarity*

***Empower us to be an Earth community  
where all creatures find hope and life.  
Amen.***

## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

## OFFERING

## NOTICES

LORRAINE WOOLLEY

HYMN

WHEN THE STORM HAS LOST ITS THUNDER

When the storm has lost its thunder,  
when the wind has ceased to blow,  
we see skies in cloudless wonder  
touching earth with golden glow.  
To this place of inner stillness,  
we are called by sacredness.

When our minds have ceased their chatter,  
when we lose our grasp of time,  
we recall the things that matter,  
open to a sense sublime.  
In this gift of inner stillness,  
sacredness has come to bless.

When the silence comes unbidden,  
we touch love and joy profound;  
faith is like a treasure hidden,  
deep within life's holy ground.  
In the light of inner stillness,  
sacred love our lives will bless.

When we dwell with inner stillness,  
life is touched by love and grace;  
when our lives know shadowed sadness,  
we find healing in this space.  
In the glow of inner stillness,  
warmth and love our lives will bless.

*Words: Helen Wiltshire.  
© Pilgrim Publishing 2011  
Tune: Mannheim  
Friedrich Filitz (1804-76)  
arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)*

## BLESSING AND SUNG AMEN

May the sun warm your soul  
and the moon be gentle above you.  
May the Creator encourage you  
and the Christ accompany you.  
May the Spirit dance in your playing  
and grace be found in your way.

And the blessing of God,  
Lover, Beloved and Spirit of Love  
be with you all and with all creation  
this day and forever more.  
Amen.

## POSTLUDE

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art: "Storm at Longreach" by Dallas Nock.

<https://www.dallasnock.com.au>. Downloaded September 2019.

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.

"In the storm" by Mary Oliver in *Thirst*. (Beacon Press) 2006.

"O God of earth and space." Words: Jane Parker Huber.

Tune: Leoni. Hebrew Melody, arr. Meyer Lyon.

"Touch the earth lightly." Words: Shirley Erena Murray.

Tune: Tenderness. Colin Gibson.

Words and Music © Hope Publishing Company

"When the storm has lost its thunder." Words: Helen Wiltshire.

© Pilgrim Publishing 2011. Tune: Mannheim.

Friedrich Filitz arr. Lowell Mason.

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## NOTICES

St Michael's Notices are included in the weekly eNews.

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## ST MICHAEL'S SOCIAL MEDIA

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

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

## CONTEMPORARY READING

"In the storm" by Mary Oliver

Some black ducks  
were shrugged up  
on the shore.  
It was snowing  
hard, from the east,  
and the sea  
was in disorder.  
Then some sanderlings,  
five inches long  
with beaks like wire,  
flew in,  
snowflakes on their backs,  
and settled  
in a row  
behind the ducks—  
whose backs were also  
covered with snow—  
so close  
they were all but touching,  
they were all but under  
the roof of the ducks' tails,  
so the wind, pretty much,  
blew over them.  
They stayed that way,  
motionless,  
for maybe an hour,  
then the sanderlings,

each a handful of feathers,  
shifted, and were blown away  
out over the water,  
which was still raging.  
But, somehow,  
they came back  
and again the ducks,  
like a feathered hedge,  
let them  
stoop there, and live.  
If someone you didn't know  
told you this,  
as I am telling you this,  
would you believe it?  
Belief isn't always easy.  
But this much I have learned,  
if not enough else—  
to live with my eyes open.  
I know what everyone wants  
is a miracle.  
This wasn't a miracle.  
Unless, of course, kindness—  
as now and again  
some rare person has  
suggested—  
is a miracle.  
As surely it is

# MUSIC ONLINE

## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

'On the edge of the world' – Martin Rojas (1943-)

The Cuban born Rojas was blinded as a child from an explosion created by a stockpile of clandestine ammunition but, despite the difficulties this posed, he is still active as a musician now in his late 70s.

The Susie Ng Trio

## POSTLUDE

Toccatà in 7 – John Rutter (b. 1945)

This jubilant toccata written in the unusual meter of 7/8 time dates from 1974. The work helped launch the then young Rutter's prolific career as a composer of church and choral music.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

## MUSICIANS ONLINE

### **The Susie Ng Trio**

The Susie Ng Trio comprises Susie Ng (Violin), Mark Fitzgibbon (Piano) and Ben Hanlon (Bass). The trio have been performing together for many years. During the 2020 lockdown, this group recorded a great deal of music for use in the St. Michael's online services.

# MUSIC IN CHURCH

## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Meditation - Cécile Chaminade (1857–1944)

Cécile Chaminade (1857–1944) was a prolific composer who published more than four hundred pieces over her eighty-six years. Her compositions cover a wide range of forms, from quasi-concertos with soloist and orchestra such as the Concertino or her Concertstück, Op. 40, to character pieces for solo piano and this work we hear today.

Dr. Joel Brennan (Trumpet) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

No. 2 from 'Hymns without words'

– Adolphus Hailstork (b.1941)

This is one of a set of 4 'Hymn without words' by the contemporary African American composer Adolphus Hailstork. The imagined 'hymn' is march like and jubilant in this case.

Dr. Joel Brennan (Trumpet) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

## POSTLUDE

Adagio and Allegro from 'The Occasional Oratorio'

– G.F. Handel (1685-1759) transcribed for organ by W.T. Best

This jubilant overture by Handel is a fitting piece to celebrate Pentecost and the birth of the church. Originally composed for orchestra, the work was transcribed for the organ by the 19th century English organ virtuoso, William Thomas Best.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

## MUSICIAN IN CHURCH

### **Dr Joel Brennan**

Joel Brennan enjoys a diverse career as a performer and teacher. He has performed with orchestras around the globe, including the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (Australia), Seoul Philharmonic Orchestra (Korea), Rotterdam Philharmonic (Netherlands), Winnipeg Symphony (Canada), Malaysian Philharmonic, and Bilkent Symphony Orchestra (Turkey), and has served as principal trumpet of the Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra (Japan) and Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra (Netherlands).

A proponent of contemporary music and chamber music, Joel has given solo and collaborative recitals in the United States, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Australia and Japan. He is a member of Ensemble Three, a unique trio of trumpet, trombone, and guitar which has been praised as “an inspiring example of forward-thinking classical music culture” and won the 2017 Melbourne Recital Centre Contemporary Masters Award.

Joel received his bachelor's degree from Oberlin Conservatory of Music before pursuing graduate studies at the Yale School of Music from which he is a recipient of the Doctor of Musical Arts degree. Awarded a Fulbright Grant 2007, Joel spent a year performing, teaching, and studying in the Netherlands.

Deeply devoted to education, Joel is Associate Professor of Music Performance at Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (University of Melbourne, Australia). He has also served on the faculty of Brandon University (Canada) and the Juilliard School's campus in Tianjin (China) where he worked with students in the pre-college program and graduate school in addition to performing with the Tianjin Juilliard Ensemble. He has been a guest teaching artist at the Australasian Trumpet Academy, Danish/German Brass Academy, and Oberlin Trumpet Workshop. He is the creator of Poper's Game a unique practice app for trumpet players.

Joel is a Yamaha Performing Artist.

