

ST MICHAEL'S  
UNITING CHURCH



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“WHAT AM I CALLED TO?”

4 SEPTEMBER 2022



MINISTER: REV DAVID DAWES

MUSIC: HOANG PHAM (PIANO)  
& DANIEL ASKEW (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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Chair: Lyndell O'Brien

Deputy Chair: Joy Arnot

**Programs**

Chair: Neil Blood

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Rhys Boak

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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 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.***

*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.*

## WELCOME & GATHERING

In this time of gathering,  
bring all of yourself, doubts and certainties,  
strength and vulnerability.

Come as you are,

free to be who you are.

Let us celebrate life in the power of love.

## HYMN

## IMMORTAL INVISIBLE

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessèd, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
belovèd, enfolding, your great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, but ruling in might;  
your justice like mountains high soaring above,  
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

You give life to all life, to both great and small;  
in all life now living, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree,  
and wither and perish: but unchanged you will be.

Creator of glory, creator of light,  
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;  
of all your rich graces this grace, God, impart -  
take the veil from our faces, the veil from our heart.

All praise we would render: reveal to our sight,  
what hides you is only the splendour of light;  
and so let your glory, O Lover, impart  
through Christ in the story, your Christ to the heart.

*Words: Walter C. Smith (alt)*

*Tune: St Denio*

*Welsh melody*

## PRAYER OF AWARENESS

## JESUS' PRAYER

*Eternal Spirit,  
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed  
by the peoples of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.*

## SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May the peace of Divine Presence be with you.

***And also with you.***

## EARLY CHURCH PHILEMON 1:1-21

MAREE MCDONALD

For the early church writers,

***We give thanks.***

## GOSPEL LUKE 14:25-33

For stories that confront us and call to us,

***We give thanks.***

## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

CONTEMPORARY READING

*"Opening,"* by Jeremy Palmer

For philosophers and poets,

***We give thanks.***

HYMN

CANTOR WILL SING REFRAIN AND 1ST VERSE

Take my gifts and let me love you,  
God who first of all loved me,  
gave me light and food and shelter,  
gave me life and set me free.

Now because your love has touched me,  
I have love to give away,  
now the bread of love is rising,  
loaves of love to multiply!

HYMN

TAKE MY GIFTS

Take my gifts and let me love you,  
God who first of all loved me,  
gave me light and food and shelter,  
gave me life and set me free.

Now because your love has touched me,  
I have love to give away,  
now the bread of love is rising,  
loaves of love to multiply!

Take the fruit that I have gathered  
from the tree your Spirit sowed,  
harvest of your own compassion,  
juice that makes the wine of God,  
spiced with humour, laced with laughter,  
flavour of the Jesus life,  
tang of risk and new adventure,  
taste and zest beyond belief.

Take whatever I can offer,  
gifts that I have yet to find,  
skills that I am slow to sharpen,  
talents of the hand and mind,  
things made beautiful for others  
in the place where I must be:  
take my gifts and let me love you,  
God who first of all loved me.

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

*Tune: Talavera Terrace*

*Colin Gibson (1933- )*

## REFLECTION

“What am I Called to?”

## MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

## PRAYERS FOR CHILD SAFE SUNDAY

God of righteous anger and tender compassion,  
We give you thanks for all who work to keep children safe in the  
Uniting Church:  
For champions of child safety,  
who ensure those who minister with children do so safely;  
For policy writers  
who guide us in safe behaviour and practices.  
For those who challenge unsafe practices  
Courageously making our communities safer  
And all who learn and reflect on safe practices  
that all might continue to grow and flourish in safety

God of righteous anger and tender compassion,  
when we are wearied by the work of safety  
grant us fresh energy for the task.  
when we are frustrated by the many things necessary to be a safe  
community  
help us rejoice in the privilege of welcoming others into our  
communities  
When we are tempted to take safety short cuts  
remind us of the importance of being a community that cares.

God of righteous anger and tender compassion,  
Bind up those damaged by abuse in the life of the church  
and call us afresh to repentance, restoration and prevention.

May all we do to create safe and welcoming communities  
so that your good news might be proclaimed with joy  
and children might find life and hope in the gospel.

***Amen.***

## OFFERING

We offer these gifts to you God acknowledging the gifts you have  
given us and continue to give us. Bless these gifts and continue to  
open our eyes and hearts to see where we can continue to offer our  
time, our talents, our gifts and where we receive the gifts of grace.

***Amen.***

## HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN:   GUIDE ME, O MY GREAT REDEEMER

Guide me, O my great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but you are mighty;  
hold me with your loving hand:  
*bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.*



Open now the crystal fountain,  
where the living waters flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through:  
*strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
ever be my strength and shield,  
ever be my strength and shield.*

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side:  
*Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever sing to you,  
I will ever sing to you.*

*Words: William Williams 1717-91  
Tune: Cwm Rhondda  
John Hughes (1873-1932)*

## WELCOME TO THE TABLE

St Michael's Uniting Church is an open community,  
and all are invited to the table.  
Whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe,  
you are welcome to participate in the communion.  
This sacred meal is for all people.

## CALL TO THE TABLE

God calls us to the table to find a new way:  
a new grace, a new hope, a new faith, a new life

***God calls; we come.***

Come to the table and let go of the worn out:  
worn out habits, worn out pains, worn out angers, worn out burdens.

***God calls; we come.***

Come to the table and receive  
blessing, freedom, mercy, love.

***God calls; we praise.***

## COMMUNION LITURGY

***Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free,  
and fill each one of us with your love from on high.  
Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast at your  
table with all your saints.***

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.

***Blessed be God forever.***

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:  
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

***Blessed be God forever.***

## SHARING COMMUNION

The bread of life.

***Amen.***

The cup of blessing.

***Amen.***

## THANKSGIVING PRAYER

God of hope, in bread and wine, you have restored us to relationship  
with you. Show us how to be a people that live your reconciling love  
in the world, so that we may recognise your presence in those we  
meet, and our hearts like those first disciples may burn within us  
upon the road.

***Lord Jesus Christ,  
You are the Word for us to speak;  
You are the Truth for us to tell;  
You are the Light for us to light in the darkness.  
You are the Bread of Life for us to share.  
Now all of us must go out into the world  
and live God's love there.***

Look for Jesus in the oppressed and burdened.  
Look for Jesus in those who have lost hope.  
Look for him among the poor in heart.

***Among the merciful. Among the peacemakers.  
Among the persecuted for the sake of right.  
Look for Jesus on the edge.  
Amen***

NOTICES

MAREE MCDONALD

HYMN

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies.  
*Holy One, our song we raise,  
this our testament of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light,  
*Holy One, our song we raise,  
this our testament of praise.*

For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight.  
*Holy One, our song we raise,  
this our testament of praise.*

For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild,  
*Holy One, our song we raise,  
this our testament of praise.*

For each perfect gift of thine  
to our world so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,  
Holy One, our song we raise,  
this our testament of praise.

*Words: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917) alt.  
Tune: Lucerna Laudoniae  
David Evans (1874-1948)*

## BLESSING AND SUNG AMEN

Go simply, lightly, gently.  
Go with obedience. Go with love.  
Go with enthusiasm to who you are called to be.  
And the blessing of God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you  
now and forever.

## POSTLUDE

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art: Photography by David Dawes.

*“Opening”*, by Jeremy Palmer.

Prayer for UCA Child Safe Sunday was written by Rev Sharon Hollis, UCA President, for UCA Child Safe Sunday 2022

“A Version of the Lord's Prayer” by Jim Cotter, in *Uniting in Worship 2*.

Communion prayer (Source: *Liturgy on the Edge: Pastoral and Attractional Worship*, by Samuel Wells).

“Immortal invisible” Words: Walter C. Smith (alt).  
Tune: St Denio. Welsh melody.

“Take my gifts” Words: Shirley Erena Murray.  
Tune: Talavera Terrace. Colin Gibson.

“Guide Me, O my great redeemer” Words: William Williams.  
Tune: Cwm Rhondda John Hughes.

“For the beauty of the earth” Words: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint alt.  
Tune: Lucerna Laudoniae. David Evans.

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## CONTEMPORARY READING

“Opening,” by Jeremy Palmer  
If I think back to the most beautiful  
Moments of my life  
(as I will at its end),  
they all had to do  
with a closed heart opening  
or an open heart opening again.

I love to watch a person opening,  
or to be that person opening.

Rusted petals creaking,  
water seeping, softening  
the dry and cracked earth.

And the world becomes a garden  
once again.

## MUSIC ONLINE

### MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Movement 2 from the second violin concerto – Henryk Wieniawski  
(1835-1880)

Polish Violin virtuoso and composer Henryk Wieniawski was considered a violinist of genius and wrote some of the most important works in the violin repertoire. He pioneered a special technique of bowing for the violin which is often referred to as ‘The Russian bow grip’, as Wieniawski was resident in St. Petersburg during the 1860s

Thibaud Pavlovic-Hobba (Violin) & David Paterson (Piano)

## POSTLUDE

'Ah se in ciel' (Ah if in heaven with the benign stars) -  
W.A. Mozart (1756-1791) (arr. Rhys Boak)

The renowned Swiss theologian Karl Barth wrote "Mozart's music always sounds unburdened, effortless, and light. This is why it unburdens, releases, and liberates us. This aria, 'Ah if in heaven, benign stars' is a very good example of what Karl Barth refers to.

Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

## MUSICIANS ONLINE

### **Thibaud Pavlovic-Hobba**

Thibaud, an Australian-French violinist, was born in Tasmania. He began playing the violin after receiving it as his fifth birthday present. He studied in Tasmania under Peter Tanfield and he also attended the Australian National Academy of Music where he studied with Paul Wright and Bill Hennessy.

He has performed with the Tasmanian and Sydney Symphony Orchestras, Melbourne Chamber Orchestra and the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. In 2012 he was an Emerging Artist with the Australian Chamber Orchestra under Zoë Black and Helena Rathbone's mentorship. He continued to tour with the ACO and ACO2 for the next few years and joined the Orchestra as a part-time musician in 2016. Thibaud is a very keen chamber musician, having played with many different groups throughout the years. More recently Thibaud won the audience choice prize at the ANAM Chamber Music Competition with his piano trio, as well as being a finalist in the Great Romantics competition. He plays regularly with an ACO quartet, teaching and playing around the country for schools and workshops. He has played with members of the Brodsky Quartet, Nicolas Altstaedt, Alban Gerhardt and Anthony Marwood. He has also performed at many festivals around Australia as well as touring nationally with the Sydney Dance Company.

## **David Paterson**

Born in Sydney, David began playing the violin at the age of 4, the piano at 7 and within five years had completed the initial eight grades of the A.M.E.B. piano scheme. At 12, David entered Newington College as a music scholar and in addition to his piano studies, studied composition and musicology with Richard Gill for a period of eight years before moving to London to complete his B.Mus (Hons) at the Royal College of Music where he studied with noted pianist and professor, Julian Jacobson.

Whilst living in London, David worked extensively as a session pianist in addition to giving numerous recitals and concerts with a number of esteemed soloists and chamber groups. Upon returning to Australia, he moved to Melbourne as a pianist at the Australian National Academy of Music where he has been based since 2009. David has been featured on ABC Classic FM, Radio National, 2mbsFM and 3mbsFM in addition to having performed in many of the major concert halls and venues in Australia, Romania and the United Kingdom. David continues to work as a pianist specializing in chamber music in addition to his commitments as an avid educator.

## **Georgia Wilkinson**

With over 14 years of experience performing, Georgia Wilkinson is making a name for herself as one of Australia's most versatile young sopranos. Since beginning her classical voice training at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School, Georgia has progressively built her repertoire of operatic and musical theatre credits. Companies she has worked with include Victorian Opera, Left Bauer Productions, Gippsland Opera, Weimar Lyric Opera Studio (Germany) and Gertrude Opera. Georgia has had the pleasure of performing alongside some of Australia's most celebrated and illustrious artists, including Yvonne Kenny, Marina Prior, David Hobson, Sylvie Paladino, Roy Best, Kamahl, and James Morrison. She also works regularly with Teddy Tahu Rhodes. In addition to opera, Georgia has also taken on many musical theatre roles. These include the roles of Christine in Phantom of the Opera, Belle in Beauty and the Beast, and Maria in West Side Story. For her impressive musical theatre performances, Georgia has been recognised with a Guild Award and four Lyrebird Awards.



Georgia graduated from the University of Melbourne's Conservatorium of Music with a Bachelor of Music and has studied opera abroad in Italy, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States. Georgia's studies in London and New York, where she had the opportunity to learn from some of the world's most renowned vocal coaches, were supported by grants from the Ian Potter Foundation and the Australia Council for the Arts.

Through her operatic career, Georgia has received various awards, including 'Opera Scholar of the Year' through the illustrious Opera Scholars Australia program and first place in the Ringwood Aria Competition. In 2019 Georgia won Australia's prestigious *Herald Sun* Aria competition.

## MUSIC IN CHURCH

### MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Allemande from Partita in D Major, BWV828 – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The great Johann Sebastian Bach's music spans many genres.

Alongside Bach's enormous output of sacred music and music for the organ stand many works for the solo harpsichord of which this is one. Today we hear this music performed however on a modern grand piano.

Hoang Pham (Piano)

Andante Cantabile from Sonata in B Flat, K333

– W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

Just like the earlier composer, J.S. Bach, Mozart's music ranges from the sacred, to symphonies, operas and more. Mozart too wrote a great deal of keyboard music, this time for the early piano rather than the harpsichord.

Hoang Pham (Piano)

## POSTLUDE

Waltz in A Flat, Op 69 No 1 Frédéric François Chopin (1810-1849)

During Chopin's tragically short life, he wrote a great deal of timeless music. Some of his best known of his works for piano his many waltzes. Chopin wrote all of his music at a young age, before tragically passing away in 1849 at the age of just 39.

Hoang Pham (Piano)

## MUSICIANS IN CHURCH

### **Hoang Pham**

Hoang Pham was born in Vietnam and moved to Australia with his parents at an early age. He has been playing the piano for over thirty years and has performed around the world. Hoang enjoys performing music of Chopin, Beethoven and Mozart and has sometimes performed with our major symphony orchestras. He studied overseas for many years at Manhattan School of Music and Royal College of Music in London. These days, Hoang teaches piano at Haileybury College and presents his own concerts at the Melbourne Recital Centre.

### **Daniel Askew**

Daniel Askew our fill in organist this morning is Daniel Askew. Daniel studied organ at the Australian Catholic University with John Mallinson and Christopher Cook. Daniel is a music teacher at the Catholic Regional College in Melton and has held many organists positions in places such as St. Andrew's Brighton, the Armadale Uniting Church and St. Andrew's Presbyterian church in Williamstown.