

ST MICHAEL'S
UNITING CHURCH



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
“SUSTAINING EACH OTHER IN TOUGH TIMES”

2 OCTOBER 2022



MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

ORGANIST: RHYS BOAK
CANTOR: KATE MACFARLANE

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

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

Programs

Chair: Neil Blood

Organist & Manager of Music

Rhys Boak

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Weekly eNews: media@stmichaels.org.au

Please send notices to 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 for the online and in church services 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.*

HYMN

Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away.
See, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,

GATHER US IN

we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old, who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt of the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining;
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in, and hold us forever,
gather us in, and make us your own.
Gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

*Words and Tune: Marty Haugen (1950-)
Tune: Gather us in*

PRAYER OF AWARENESS

JESUS' PRAYER

***Most compassionate Life-giver,
may we honour and praise you:
may we work with you
to establish your new order of
justice, peace and love.***

***Give us what we need for growth,
and help us, through forgiving others,
to accept forgiveness.***

***Strengthen us in the time of testing,
that we may resist all evil.***

***For all the tenderness,
strength and love are yours,
now and forever.***

Amen.

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

HEBREW BIBLE: HABAKKUK 1:1-4; 2:1-4

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

GOSPEL: LUKE 17:5-10

HYMN

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be -
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

Like a mother, you enfold me,
hold my life within your own
feed me with your very body,
form me of your flesh and bone.

Like a father, you protect me,
teach me the discerning eye,
hoist me up upon your shoulder,
let me see the world from high.

LOVING SPIRIT

Friend and lover, in your closeness
I am known and held and blessed:
In your promise is my comfort,
in your presence I may rest.

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,
you have chosen me to be -
you have drawn me to your wonder,
you have set your sign on me.

Words: Colin Gibson (1933-)

Tune: Omni Die

*Melody from David Gregor Corner's 'Gesangbuch'
Nuremburg, 1631 arr. W. S. Rockstro (1823-1895)*

CONTEMPORARY READING

“Faith in the Spring,” by Marjorie Pizer

REFLECTION

“Sustaining each other in tough times”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In thanksgiving and solidarity

OFFERING

***Source of life, whose heart abounds with gifts,
we bring our offering as a sign of our intention
to live surrounded by compassion,
inspired by the Spirit,
open to the joy of Divine Presence,
hospitable toward one another,
and generous toward the world.
Amen.***

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN

EVERY DAY

Every day I will offer you,
loving God, my heart and mind,
every way I discover you
in the work your hand has signed;
help me see I'm your image, and
you have dreamed what I might be,
every day in your Spirit
I'll find the love and energy!

Every day I will look to Christ,
and give thanks for wine and bread
through the pain and the emptiness
where your world cries to be fed;
help me see I can work for change,
and wherever I might be,
every day in your Spirit,
I'll find the love and energy!

Every day I will take your word,
answer your compassion's claim,
celebrate every sign of hope,
every deed done in your name;
help me see you are always there,
and your light can shine through me,
every day in your Spirit,
I'll find the love and energy!

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

Tune: Lynnefrith

Colin Gibson (1933-)

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Divine Presence is here.

We lift our hearts in joy.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you love the world.
You look upon creation and name it good.

***You conceive in us new possibilities,
and carry us on into the timeless struggle
of bringing to birth your reign of love.***

We praise you, God of the loving heart,
for creating all things seen and unseen,
for making us in your image,
and for seeking us when we turn away.

We thank you for being known to us in Jesus the Human One,
who was faithful even to death on a cross,
who lives among us still as Christa/Community.

Through the power of your Spirit,
open our eyes to the Risen One present among us
in the breaking of the bread,
Draw us into communion with you and one another
that we may be signs of your love in this broken world,
as we anticipate the coming of your reign of justice and peace.

***To you, Eternal Source,
with Embodied Wisdom
and the Spirit of Love
be glory and honour now and forever.
Amen.***

THE STORY

SHARING COMMUNION

The bread of life.

The cup of blessing.

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 friend and stranger
that we may live out your radical hospitality.
Amen.***

HYMN

BE THOU MY VISION

Be thou my vision, the joy of my heart;
nought be all else to me save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, the lamp to my feet;
thy word, like honey, to my lips is sweet;
thou my delight, my joy, thy command;
my dwelling ever, be the palm of thy hand.

Riches I heed not, nor seek human praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
high God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

*Gaelic 8th Century Adapted
Tune: Slane
Irish Traditional Melody
harm. David Evans (1874-1948)*

BLESSING AND SUNG AMEN

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

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art: "Mulberry Tree," Vincent van Gogh.

Jesus' Prayer by Rev William Wallace. Retired Methodist minister.
New Zealand. Unpublished.

Marjorie Pizer, "Faith in the Spring." From *Winds of Change* by
Marjorie Pizer. Pinchgut Press, Sydney. 1995

"Gather us in." Words and Tune Marty Haugen. Tune: Gather us in

"Loving Spirit." Words: Colin Gibson. Tune: Omni Die.
Melody from David Gregor Corner's 'Gesangbuch' Nuremburg, 1631
arr. W. S. Rockstro

"Every day." Words: Shirley Erena Murray.
Tune: Lynnefrith. Colin Gibson

"Be thou my vision". Gaelic 8th Century Adapted.
Tune: Slane. Irish Traditional Melody. harm. David Evans.

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NOTICES

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

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

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MUSIC ONLINE

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Beati Quorum Via – Charles Villiers. Stanford (1852-1924)

First published in 1905, the three motets of which Beati Quorum Via is part are thought to have been written in the year 1892. This motet is rightly regarded as amongst the most exquisite in the entire English choral repertoire. The text is from Psalm 119, verse 1: *Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the way of the Lord.*

The St Michael's Singers, conducted by Rhys Boak.

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)

MUSIC IN CHURCH

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

“We contain multitudes” – Olafur Arnalds (b. 1986)

Olafur Arnalds is a contemporary Icelandic composer, performer and music producer. Arnalds began his musical career as a drummer for many successful metal bands before moving into the world of composition. His music covers many genres, and sometimes employs a variety of novel and experimental techniques.

Ceridwen McCooley (Cello) & Rose Riebl (Piano)

Spiegel im Spiegel – Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

This work was composed by Pärt in 1978 shortly before he left his native Estonia. The title of the work translates as ‘infinite reflections’ and is written in Pärt’s then newly adapted minimalist style.

Ceridwen McCooley (Cello) & Rose Riebl (Piano)

POSTLUDE

“Go back to the beginning” – Rose Riebl (b. 1989)

A new work by the Melbourne based, neoclassical composer, Rose Riebl with the composer herself at the piano.

Ceridwen McCooley (Cello) & Rose Riebl (Piano)