

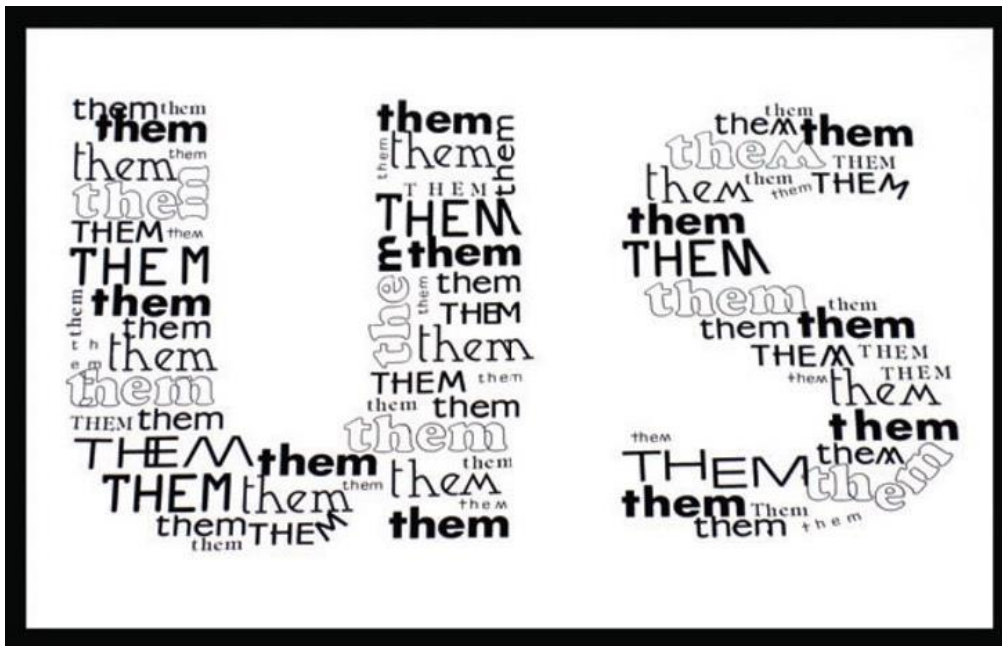
ST MICHAEL'S
UNITING CHURCH



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“NO MORE ‘US’ AND ‘THEM’”

20 NOVEMBER 2022



MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

MUSIC: KATE MACFARLANE (SOPRANO)
& RHYS BOAK (ORGAN)

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 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

*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

May the God of all creation -
Be with each one of us,
as growth, creativity and healing,
as light and wisdom.

May the Spirit of the living God -
live within our community,
giving courage to dispel fear and resolve conflict,
giving fire to inflame with love.

May the Spirit of Peace -
Dwell with us so that we may
know Sacred presence in silences and stillness,
know Sacred vision for the earth and its people.

HYMN

O GOD OF VISION

O God of vision, far greater than all human scheming,
gather us now in your presence, refreshing, redeeming.
Show us a new Life, in your breath-taking view,
lovely beyond all our dreaming.

Pour out your Spirit on all now assembled before you.
May our diversity here be a means to adore you.
Women and men, young, old, and youthful again,
make us as one, we implore you.

Grant to us insight, O God, for this time of decision.
May we dream challenging dreams of both depth and precision.
Speak through the dark. Dispel by lightning's bright spark,
whatever clouds dim our vision.

Break the sun's rays into colour, a rainbow around us.
Storm clouds, though real and near, are not enough to confound us.
Arched in the sky, beauty and promise are high,
giving us hope to astound us.

Grateful, we come now by Christ's invitation clear spoken.
We seek the nourishment found in fruit crushed and bread broken.
Christ for us all! Come, let us answer the call,
offering our lives as the token.

Words: Jane Parker Huber (1926-2008)

Tune: Lobe den Herren

*Later form of a chorale melody in
the 'Stralsund Gesangbuch', 1665*

PRAYER OF AWARENESS

JESUS' PRAYER

*God, lover of us all, most holy one,
help us to respond to you
to create what you desire here on earth.
Give us today enough for our needs;
forgive our weak and deliberate offences,
just as we must forgive others
when they hurt us.
Help us to resist evil
and to do what is good;
for we are yours,
endowed with your power
to make our world whole.
Amen.*

SHARING A SIGN OF PEACE

May the peace of Divine Presence be with you.
And also with you.

HEBREW BIBLE: PSALM 98

ANN KINNEAR

For ancient songs of praise,
We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

GOSPEL: LUKE 21:5-19

For the challenging words of Jesus,
We give thanks.

HYMN

O DAY OF GOD, DRAW NEAR

O day of God, draw near
in beauty and in power,
come with your timeless judgment now
to match our present hour.

Bring to our troubled minds,
uncertain and afraid,
the quiet of a steadfast faith,
calm of call obeyed.

Bring justice to our land
that all may dwell secure,
and firmly build for days to come
foundations that endure.

Bring to our world of strife
your sovereign word of peace,
that war may haunt the earth no more
and desolation cease.

O day of God, draw near
as at creation's birth;
let there be light again, and set
your justice in the earth.

*Words: Robert Balgarnie Young Scott (1899-1987) alt.
Tune: Franconia. Melody by William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)
from a chorale by Johann Balthasar Konig (1691-1758)*

CONTEMPORARY READING

“A Blessing called Sanctuary” by Jan Richardson.

For Wisdom that was in the beginning,
For Wisdom that invites and inspires,
For Wisdom in the world today,

We give thanks.

REFLECTION

No more ‘Us’ and ‘Them’

For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star over head.

*And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace;
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice, and joy.*

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old, the right to belong.

*And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace;
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice, and joy.*

For gay and for straight, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and colour,
for gay and for straight, the chalice of grace,

*And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace;
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice, and joy.*

For just and unjust, a place at the table;
God gathering in, abundance to give,
injustice and hurt, make way now for mercy,
for just and unjust, a new way to live.

*And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace;
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice, and joy.*

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free.

*And God will delight when we are creators
of justice and joy, compassion and peace;
yes, God will delight when we are creators
of justice, justice, and joy.*

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

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Tune: For Everyone Born. Brian Mann

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In thanksgiving and solidarity

Holy Spirit, in us and with us,
enable us to be creators of justice and joy.

***Empower us to be a community
that brings hope and life to the city.***

Amen.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

OFFERING

***Gracious God, you have given us the gift of your Spirit,
shared down through the ages with your people.***

***You come to us still in the splendour of creation,
in struggles for peace and justice,
and in the intimate love of family and friends.***

***And so we bring these our gifts
and we offer ourselves and our lives
to live in harmony with your Spirit.***

Amen.

NOTICES

ANN KINNEAR

HYMN

WALLS MARK OUR BOUNDARIES

Walls mark our bound'ries and keep us apart;
walls keep the world from our eyes and our heart.

Tables are round, making room for one more,
welcoming friends we had not known before.

So build us a table and tear down the wall!

Christ is our host. There is room for us all!

Walls make us sure who is in and who's out;
walls keep us safe from all question and doubt,
but at a table in open exchange

new ties are formed as our lives rearrange.

So build us a table and tear down the wall!

Christ is our host. There is room for us all!

Once we were strangers, divided, alone.
Hate and distrust built a wall stone by stone.
Now at a table the bread that we share
joins us to Christ in a circle of care.

So build us a table and tear down the wall!

Christ is our host. There is room for us all!

Words: Ruth Duck. (1947-)

Music: Penrose, Jim Strathdee (1941-)

BLESSING AND SUNG AMEN

Stay in love with living
wrestling with the chaos
and the pain within yourself and within the world.
Join the celebration of life.
And may the God of peace and joy,
who is continually making all things new,
bless you and embrace you as a co-creator of justice and joy.

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art: *Us Them* by David Heyward

Prayer of Awareness. "Holy One, Holy Oneness" by Bruce Sanguin.
Based on Revelation 21: 1-8

Jesus' Prayer by Lala Winkley, in *Celebrating women*. Hannah Ward, Jennifer Wild, and Janet Morley (eds). GtB: London. SPCK. 1995.

Jan Richardson, "A Blessing called Sanctuary" in *Circles of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*.

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NOTICES

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

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

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

MUSICIANS

You can find biographical profiles of St Michael's Guest Musicians on our website. <https://tinyurl.com/St-Mic-Musician-Biographies>

MUSIC ONLINE

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Cantabile - Niccolo Pagannini (1782-1840)

Niccolo Pagannini was known as the greatest violin virtuoso of his time. His playing was legendary. The word Cantabile literally means 'in a singing style' and this short work is ideal for a time of reflection.

Francesca Hiew (Violin) & David Paterson (Piano)

POSTLUDE

Liebeslied – Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)

As with Niccolo Pagannini, Fritz Kreisler was arguably the most celebrated violinist of his era. Kreisler also had a great gift for melody and an uncanny gift for imitating the styles of other composers. This Liebeslied is a celebration of life and love.

Francesca Hiew (Violin) & David Paterson (Piano)

MUSIC IN CHURCH

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Höchster, mache deine Güte from *Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen*

– J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Dating from around 1730, J.S. Bach's cantata, *Jauchzet Gott in allen Landen* is one of his most celebrated works. The full cantata is highly virtuosic for all concerned, it is one of the most glorious works written for the soprano voice. We hear the second movement 'Almighty God, perform your kindness' Apart from the music's complexity, difficulty, beauty, joy and vitality, perhaps the most impressive thing is the creative imagination that gave birth to it.

Kate Macfarlane (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

Pie Jesu

– Lili Boulanger (1893-1918)

Lili Boulanger, sister of noted composer and composition teacher Nadia Boulanger, was the first woman composer to win the Grand Prix de Rome. Her work was praised for its colourful harmony and instrumentation and her teachers included Gabriel Fauré, who was greatly impressed by her skills.

Kate Macfarlane (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

POSTLUDE

Finlandia Op. 26

– J. Sibelius (1865-1957)

Jean Sibelius' tone poem *Finlandia* is one of the most moving and stirring pieces in all music. The work was transcribed for the organ with Sibelius' blessing, by his friend Herbert Fricker. The chorale that appears in the middle is not only the Finnish national anthem, but it has also been adapted to become a very well-known hymn tune.

Rhys Boak (Organ)