

ST MICHAEL'S
UNITING CHURCH



3RD SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF CREATION

THE WISDOM OF
ST HILDEGARD OF BINGEN (1098-1179)

17 SEPTEMBER 2023



MINISTER: REV DR MARGARET MAYMAN

MUSIC: JUDITH DODSWORTH (SOPRANO)
& RHYS BOAK (ORGAN)

CANTOR: CAILIN HOWARTH

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

Deputy Chair: Brian Smith

Church Services

Chair: Lorraine Woolley

Deputy Chair: Val Gill

Culture of Safety Contact

(Keeping Children Safe)

Val Gill

Contact and Care

Chair: Lyndell O'Brien

Deputy Chair: Catherine Jones

Mission Coordinating

Chair: Ann Kinnear

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.
<https://www.stmichaels.org.au/>

Music notes can be found at the end of the order of service.

PROCESSIONAL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We meet on the land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation;
on land that was taken from them without consent, treaty, or
compensation.

***We acknowledge, with respect,
Wurundjeri elders – past and present,
the ones who carry the traditions and the dreaming.***

With the First Peoples we yearn for justice –

***for constitutional recognition
and for a Voice to shape our destiny together.***

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

PRAISE WITH JOY THE WORLD'S CREATOR

Praise with joy the world's Creator,
God of justice, love and peace,
Source and end of human knowledge,
Force of greatness without cease.
Celebrate the Maker's glory -
Power to rescue and release.

Praise the Son who feeds the hungry,
Frees the captive, finds the lost,
Heals the sick, upsets religion,
Fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence -
Friend and Stranger, Guest and Host.

Praise the Spirit sent among us,
Liberating truth from pride,
Forging bonds where race or gender,
Age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure,
Foolishness none dare deride.

Praise the Maker, son and Spirit,
One God in community,
Calling us to leave behind faith's
Ghettos and obscurity.
Thus the world shall yet believe
When shown Christ's vibrant unity.

*Words: John L. Bell (1949-)
and Graham Maule (1958-2020)
Tune: Praise, my soul. John Goss (1800-1880)*

LAMENT

From the meditations of Hildegard of Bingen.

JESUS' PRAYER

***Eternal Spirit,
Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker,
Source of all that is and 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 that we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, 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 sun and moon,
of earth and sea and sky, be with you.
And also with you.

HEBREW BIBLE: SIRACH 43:1-12

ANN KINNEAR

For the voice of wisdom in the tradition of faith,
We give thanks.

PSALM 105:25-35

For the holy made known in creation,
We give thanks.

HYMN

MAY THE SAP FLOW IN OUR HEARTS

May the sap flow in our hearts
like the greening of the earth:
May our liveliness unfold
like the joyful spring time's birth,
*For these powers lie in our hearts
And wait to be released.*

May the waters of our love
nurture joy in arid lives;
May the fire within consume
all injustice, hate and lies,
Refrain.

May life's unity in Christ
be the rhythm of our days:
May our dancing spirits song
be God's universe of praise,
Refrain.

May these dreams be born in us,
taking flesh in all our ways
and the rainbow love of God
fill our hearts with constant praise,
Refrain.

*Words: William L (Bill) Wallace (1933-)
Tune: Lucerna Laudoniae.
David Evans ('E. Arthur') (1874-1948)*

READING – TRADITION OF THE CHURCH

Based on the meditations of Hildegard of Bingen.

For the divine made known in the glory of creation,
We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

REFLECTION

“The wisdom of Hildegard of Bingen”

HYMN

FOR THE MUSIC OF CREATION,

For the music of creation,
for the song your Spirit sings,
for your sound's divine expression,
burst of joy in living things:

God, our God, the world's composer,
hear us, echoes of your voice,
music is your art, your glory,
let the human heart rejoice!

Psalms and symphonies exalt you,
drum and trumpet, string and reed,
simple melodies acclaim you,
tunes that rise from deepest need,
hymns of longing and belonging,
carols from a cheerful throat,
lilt of lullaby and love song
catching heaven in a note.

All the voices of the ages
in transcendent chorus meet,
worship lifting up the senses,
hands that praise, and dancing feet;
over discord and division
music speaks your joy and peace,
harmony of earth and heaven,
song of God that cannot cease.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

Words © 1992 Hope Publishing Company

Tune: Rustington

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*In a time of silence, we pray for the needs of the world:
people we know, people we don't, planet earth,
for ourselves as we seek fullness of life.*

Holy Spirit, in us and with us,
enable us to be people of creative love.

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

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

OFFERING

***Spirit of life,
as we offer these gifts and ourselves
make us to be one
with all who cry out for justice
for human and planetary life;
that we may share
in the renewal of creation. Amen.***

NOTICES

ANN KINNEAR

ST MICHAEL'S DAY NOTICES

MARGARET

HYMN

JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE YOU

Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, God of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of loss and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!

All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
Stars and angels sing around you,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
call to praise you joyfully.

You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blessed,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
God our Mother, Christ our brother,
all are yours who live in love;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to your joy above.

Words: Henry Van Dyke, alt.

Tune: Hymn to Joy

Adapted from Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

BLESSING AND SUNG AMEN

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art: "Wheel of Life" by Hildegard von Bingen, from Codex Latinus 1942: 'Book of Divine Works', approx. 1163-1173.

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

Prayer of Awareness, from Gabriele Uhlein, *Meditations with Hildegard of Bingen*.

Reading from the Tradition of the Church. Meditations 90 & 107 from Gabriele Uhlein, *Meditations with Hildegard of Bingen*.

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NOTICES

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ST MICHAEL'S SOCIAL MEDIA

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

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

GIVING

Offerings and donations enable us to continue the mission and ministry of St Michael's. Your generosity is appreciated.

Information about ways to give is available on our website.

<https://stmichaels.org.au/giving/>

MUSIC ONLINE

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

O rubor sanguinis – Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

Katherine Norman (Soprano)

POSTLUDE

Pavane – Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Fittingly, this haunting Pavane was filmed in Mingary, which, as a unique space in all of Melbourne, is also the final resting place of many from the St. Michael's community.

The Nuovo Quartet led by Susannah Ng

MUSIC IN CHURCH

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

O Virtus sapientiae – Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

Judith Dodsworth (Soprano)

O viridissima virga – Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

Judith Dodsworth (Soprano)

POSTLUDE

O rubor sanguinis – Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

Judith Dodsworth (Soprano)

MUSICIANS

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