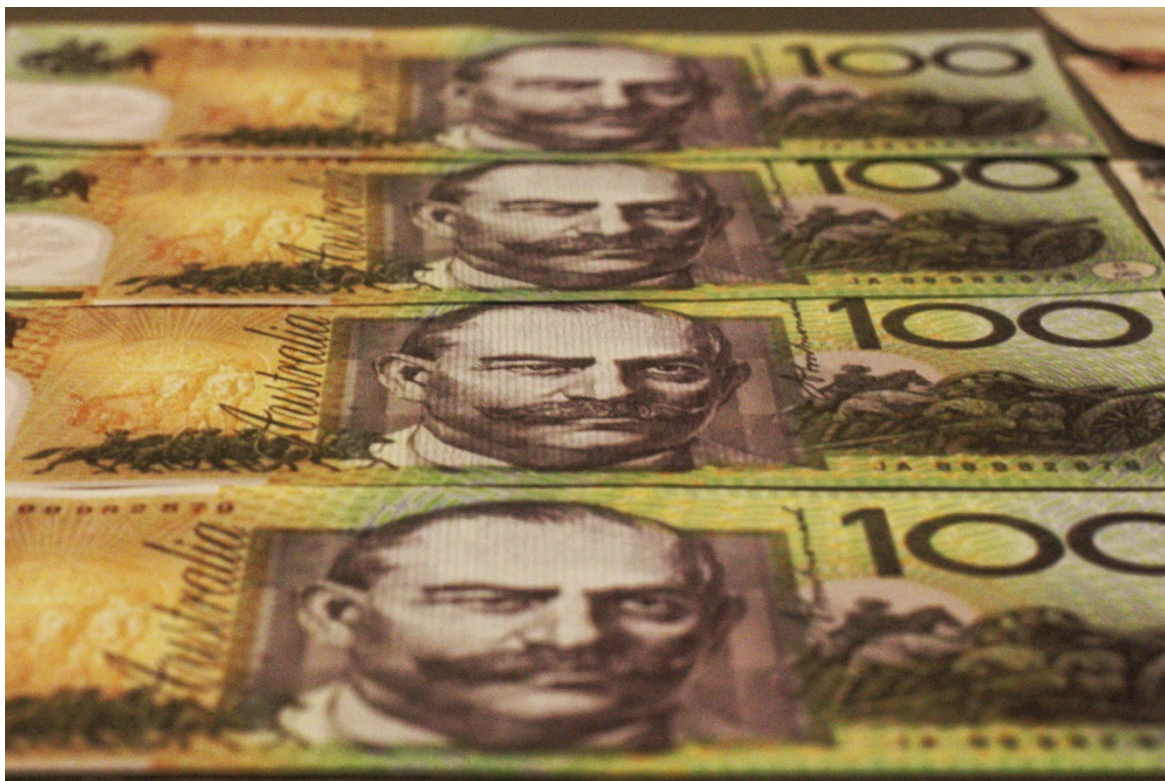


ST MICHAEL'S
UNITING CHURCH



25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
“AN UNSETTLING STORY ABOUT MONEY”

19 NOVEMBER 2023



MINISTER: REV PETER BURNHAM

MUSIC: JESIKA CLARK (SOPRANO)
& RHYS BOAK (ORGAN & PIANO)

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.

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

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

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

The land on which we meet is the sovereign and unceded country of the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin nation.

We pay our respects to their elders, past and present; those who have cared for the lands and waters of this country since its creation.

We have heard the call of the Statement from the Heart for Voice, Treaty and Truth.

We will respond to its invitation by working for a society in which there is justice for all Indigenous people.

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

IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, 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

***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

We are alive. We are loved.
We are freed to share life and love in the world
May the peace of Divine Presence be with you!
And also with you.

EPISTLE: THESSALONIANS 5: 1-11

IAN COX

For stories of faith, ancient and new,
We give thanks.

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:14-30

For the life and teaching of Jesus,
We give thanks.

CONTEMPORARY READING

“Money, The Root Of All Evil,” by Bee Rye.
For Wisdom that was in the beginning,
for Wisdom that invites and inspires,
for Wisdom within and among us,
We give thanks.

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)*

REFLECTION

REV PETER BURNHAM

“An unsettling story about money”

HYMN

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT!

Cantor: *Christ, be our light!*
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Cantor: Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Congregation: *Christ, be our light!*
Shine in our hearts,
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Cantor: Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Congregation: *Refrain.*

Cantor: Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

Congregation: *Refrain.*

Cantor: Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
Walls made of living stone.

Congregation: *Refrain.*

Cantor: Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

Congregation: *Refrain.*

Words and tune: Bernadette Farrell (1957-)
Tune: Antiphon, Christ be our light

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,

***empower us to be a community of justice and joy,
enable us to bring hope and life to the places we live.
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 love of family and friends.
We bring these our gifts
and we offer ourselves and our lives
to live in harmony with your Spirit.
Amen.***

NOTICES

IAN COX

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 the Holy One,
Lover, Beloved and Spirit of Love,
be with us and with all creation,
this day and forever more.

POSTLUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Art: Photo by Joshua Hoehne.

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.

Contemporary reading: "Money, The Root Of All Evil" by Bee Rye.

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NOTICES


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

Subscribe to the eNews on the home page of the website www.stmichaels.org.au or email office@stmichaels.org.au

eNews online <https://stmichaels.org.au/news-and-events/>

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

A Blackbird singing – Michael Head (1900-1976)

Celebrating nature and the environment this song speaks of the joy of the natural world, and that comfort of hearing birds sing.

Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

POSTLUDE

Toccata from the 5th organ symphony – C.M. Widor (1844-1937)

This timeless toccata for organ was penned by the great French organist and composer, Charles-Marie Widor in 1879. It is the final movement of Widor's 5th organ symphony (a symphony written for the organ alone). It is a much-loved favourite of many.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

MUSIC IN CHURCH

MUSIC FOR CONTEMPLATION

Berceuse de Jocelyn – Benjamin Goddard (1849-1895)

Despite writing a large number of works including several symphonies and 8 operas, the French born composer is little known today. This sublime Berceuse comes from Goddard's 1888 opera Jocelyn.

Jesika Clark (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

Le Colibri – Ernest Chausson (1855-1899)

Le Colibri, or, The hummingbird is from the pen of the French composer, Ernest Chausson. It is one of a set of 7 melodies published in 1882. Although originally studying law, Chausson lost interest and pursued a career in music. Showing great potential, his life was cut short aged 44 after a tragic bicycle accident.

Jesika Clark (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Piano)

POSTLUDE

Toccata from the 5th organ symphony – C.M. Widor (1844-1937)

This timeless toccata for organ was penned by the great French organist and composer, Charles-Marie Widor in 1879. It is the final movement of Widor's 5th organ symphony (a symphony written for the organ alone). It is a much-loved favourite of many.

Rhys Boak (Organ)

MUSICIANS

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