

ST MICHAEL'S
UNITING CHURCH



Third Sunday of Easter
14 April 2024

“When promised peace eludes us”



Minister: Rev David Dawes

Music: Zoe Black (Violin)
Joe Chindamo (Piano)
& Shauna Beesley (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.

As a congregation of the Uniting Church in Australia, we are committed we are committed to the Covenant with First Peoples and to social and ecological justice. We hold foundational Christian values of the worth of every human being, the need for integrity in public life, and concern for the welfare of the planet and its peoples, irrespective of race, creed, gender, sexuality, status, or age.

Minister

Rev Dr Margaret Mayman

Church Council

Chairperson: Laura Beckett

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(Keeping Children Safe)

Val Gill

Contact & Care

Chair: Lyndell O'Brien

Deputy: Catherine Jones

Mission Coordinating

Chair: Ann Kinnear

Jess Hand

Chris Phillips

Organist and Manager of Music

Rhys Boak

Church Office

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Please send eNews notices to the office by 5 PM Wednesday

♥ Open hearts. Open minds. Open Hands! ♥
Sunday Gatherings are offered Online and In-Church
stmichaels.org.au

Processional

Acknowledgement of Country

The Spirit of God has long dwelled with the First Peoples of this ancient land. We gather today on the unceded land of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation.

**We pay our respects to Wurundjeri elders
past and present, who have cared for country and carried the
traditions from generation to generation.
We stand in solidarity with them in their struggle for justice for
the people and for the land.**

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

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding,
see, a spreading tree grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
'Christ is risen! Get you gone!'
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!

Words: Brian Wren (1936-)
Tune: Hyfrydol
Roland Huw Pritchard (1811-1887)

Prayer of Awareness

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 and Wisdom of Divine Presence be with you!
And also with you.

Hebrew Bible: Psalm 4

Chris Phillips

For our ancestors in faith,
We give thanks.

Gospel: Luke 24:36-48.

For the stories of Jesus blessing his friends with peace,
We give thanks.

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)

Contemporary Reading

“A Mirror, But Kinder’ for Samantha” by Jeremy Palmer

For Wisdom that was in the beginning,
for Wisdom that invites and inspires,
For Wisdom embodied among us,

We give thanks.

Music for contemplation

Nocturne – Lili Boulanger
Joe Chindamo (Piano) & Zoë Black (Violin)

Reflection

Rev David Dawes

“When promised peace eludes us”

Hymn

Make me a channel of your peace

Make me a channel of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, may healing flow;
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

*Divine One, grant that I may never seek –
so much to be consoled, as to console,
to be understood, as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

Make me a channel of your peace;
where there's despair in life, let me bring hope,
where there is darkness - only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

Refrain.

Make me a channel of your peace,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Words: Based on a prayer attributed to St Francis
Tune: Channel of Peace
Johann Sebastian von Tempelhoff (1928–1997)

Prayers of the people

*In silence we pray for the needs of the world,
for those we know and love,
and for ourselves.*

**May our prayers stay with us in the season of resurrection
and stir us to make real the Sacred dream of a world reborn.
Amen.**

Invitation to Offering

Music for contemplation

Nocturne – Earle Hagen
Joe Chindamo (Piano) & Zoë Black (Violin)

Offering Prayer

**Compassionate One, with these offerings we also bring our
anxieties and uncertainties and cynicism born of pain.
Meet us in our vulnerability.**

Ground our faith in authentic connection and solidarity.
That we may rise as a community to the calling of these days.
Amen.

Notices

Hymn

Now thank we all our God

Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
God, keep us in your grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God
Creator now be given,
the Christ and Spirit blessed,
whose reign is still our vision:
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore;
who ever was, is now,
and shall be ever more.

Words: Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)
Tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878) alt.
Tune: Nun Danket Alle Gott
Johann Crüger (1598-1662)

Blessing and Sung Amen

Go now
with the love of God enfolding you,
the peace of the Risen One within you,
and the breath of the Holy Spirit inspiring your life.

Postlude

Litanies – Jehan Alain
Shauna Beesley (Organ)

Acknowledgements

Art: Painting by Unknown Young Gazan Artist, c. 2016.

Contemporary Reading: “A Mirror, But Kinder’ for Samantha” by Jeremy Palmer. Used with permission.

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

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Information about ways to give is available on our website.

stmichaels.org.au/giving

Music Notes

Nocturne

– 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.

Joe Chindamo (Piano) & Zoë Black (Violin)

Nocturne

– Earle Hagen (1919-2008) arr Joe Chindamo

Originally a Jazz standard known as ‘Harlem Nocturne’ written in 1939, this work has been reimagined by the Melbourne based composer and pianist, Joe Chindamo.

Joe Chindamo (Piano) & Zoë Black (Violin)

Litanies

– Jehan Alain (1911-1930)

Jehan Alain, one of three siblings who all become important figures in 20th century music, was sadly killed in the second world war at age 29. Whilst his music can accurately be described as both Modernist and Modal, it is also intensely spiritual, the majority of his output being liturgical and organ music. His musical voice is one of great originality and innovation.

Shauna Beesley (Organ)

Musicians

You can find biographical profiles of St Michael’s Guest Musicians on our website. stmichaels.org.au/musicians-bios