

ST MICHAEL'S
UNITING CHURCH



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
28 July 2024

“Abundance in shared sustenance”



Minister: Rev Dr Margaret Mayman

Reflection: Chris Phillips

Music: Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano)
& Rhys Boak (Organ)

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 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

Treasurer: Ian Cox

Secretary: Brian Smith

Property

Chair: Peter Anderson

Deputy: Brian Smith

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Chair: Lorraine Woolley

Deputy: Val Gill

Anthony Bendall

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Culture of Safety Contact

(Keeping Children Safe)

Val Gill

Contact & Care

Chair: Lyndell O'Brien

Deputy: Catherine Jones

Mission Coordinating

Chair: Ann Kinnear

Jess Hand

Chris Phillips

Organist & Manager of Music

Rhys Boak

Church Office

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

Processional

Acknowledgement of Country

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

***We acknowledge Wurundjeri elders, past and present,
and Wurundjeri young people who hold the hope 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

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
Ghettoes 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)

Prayer of Awareness

Jesus' Prayer

*Gracious Spirit,
who loves us unconditionally,
whose realm is even now emerging among us and within us.*

*We pray that your compassion guide us in every action.
May we receive what we need for each day,
and help us to be satisfied with the miracle of that alone.*

*Forgiver, whose embrace brings us to wholeness
may we reconcile ourselves to one another with grace.*

***And may we cancel the crushing debts
that imprison our neighbours
so that communities of justice and joy may flourish.***

***May we neither profit from nor ignore evil
but ever work to thwart it with non-violence
as we co-create the realm of peace in this world.
Now and each day.
Amen.***

Sharing a Sign of Peace

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

Hebrew Bible: Psalm 145: 10-18

Lorraine Woolley

For the insights of our ancestors in faith,
We give thanks.

Music for contemplation

Laudate Dominum K. 339 – W.A. Mozart arr. Rhys Boak
Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

Gospel: John 6: 1-21

For the stories of Jesus and the beloved community,
We give thanks.

Contemporary Reading

“Abundance” by Amy Schmidt

For Wisdom that was in the beginning,
for Wisdom that invites and inspires,
For Wisdom embodied among us,
We give thanks.

Hymn

Touch the earth lightly



Touch the earth lightly,
use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder,
ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

We who endanger,
who create hunger,
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster
clouds of disaster,
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

Let there be greening,
birth from the burning,
water that blesses and air that is sweet,
health in God's garden,
hope in God's children,
regeneration that peace will complete.

God of all living,
God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
teach us, deflect us,
Christ reconnect us,
using us gently and making us one.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)
Tune: Tenderness. Colin Gibson (1933-2022)
Words and Music © Hope Publishing Company

Reflection

Chris Phillips (they/them)

“Abundance in shared sustenance”

Hymn

In a byre near Bethlehem



In a byre near Bethlehem,
passed by many a wand'ring stranger,
the most cherished Word of Life
was heard breathing in a manger,
for the good of us all.

*And Christ's here now to call us,
to life, faith and justice,
Emmanuel – God with us
in the cradle and cross.*

By the Galilean lake,
where the people flocked for teaching,
the most vital Word of Life,
came in parable and preaching,
for the faith of us all.

Refrain.

Quiet was Gethsemane,
camouflaging priest and soldier;
the most secret Word of Life
took the world's weight on his shoulder,
for the love of us all.

Refrain.

On the hill of Calvary,
place to end all hope of living,
now the cross-bound Word of Life
breathed his last and died forgiving,
for the pain of us all.

Refrain.

In a garden, at the dawn,
near the grave of human violence,
the eternal Word of Life
spoke once more and broke the silence,
for the hope of us all.

Refrain.

Words: John L. Bell

Tune: Wild Mountain Thyme. Irish Traditional

Prayers of the people

In thanksgiving and solidarity

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

Open our eyes, our ears and our hearts, O Holy One.

***That we may embrace the hope to which we are called.
Amen.***

Invitation to Offering

Music for contemplation

'Alleluia!' from Exsultate Jubilate KV 165 – W.A. Mozart arr. Rhys Boak
Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

Offering Prayer

*Spirit of Truth,
you remind us that in togetherness our needs are met.
Where your kin-dom ethic of solidarity has been confused
with the ways of hierarchy, forgive us.
We dedicate this offering to the work of your kin-dom
already here and yet-to-come.
Amen.*

Notices

Lorraine Woolley

Hymn

For everyone born, a place at the table



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.

Refrain.

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,

Refrain.

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.

Refrain.

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.

Refrain.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)
© 2004 Hope Publishing Company
Tune: For Everyone Born. Brian Mann (2006)

Blessing and Sung Amen

Go forth into the world
in the knowledge that we are God's body,
that hope for a new world is in the blood of our veins,
that the struggle for justice is the beat to which our hearts respond,
and that God's promise is the very stuff of which our bones are made.

And may the love of God give you grace;
God in Christa/Community hold you in compassion;
and the Spirit lift up your hearts.

Postlude

Toccata from the 5th organ symphony – C.M. Widor
Rhys Boak (Organ)

Acknowledgements

Art: Red Flowers by Deb via Unsplash

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Via *rattle.com*

Jesus’ Prayer. Bret Hesla, in *Worship in the spirit of Jesus*.
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Some elements of the liturgy are from enfleshed.com, adapted by
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“Praise with joy the world’s creator” Words: John L. Bell and Graham
Maule. Tune: Praise, my soul. John Goss.

“Touch the earth lightly” Words: Shirley Erena Murray. Tune:
Tenderness. Colin Gibson. © Hope Publishing Company

“In a byre near Bethlehem” Words: John L. Bell.
Tune: Wild Mountain Thyme. Irish Traditional

“For everyone born, a place at the table” Words: Shirley Erena Murray.
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Music Notes

Laudate Dominum K. 339

– W.A. Mozart (1756-1791) arr. Rhys Boak

This work was composed in 1779 at the request of Archbishop Colleredo of Salzburg for use during Sunday services. The work is one of Mozart's finest, and this sublime movement, Laudate Dominum, has become very famous and much loved.

Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

‘Alleluia!’ from Exsultate Jubilate KV 165

– W.A. Mozart (1756-1791) arr. Rhys Boak

Mozart’s astounding motet Exsultate Jubilate is a proclamation of supreme joy. The Motet is in three movements, and we will hear the final movement, ‘Alleluia’ during today’s service. The original orchestral accompaniment has been transcribed for organ.

Georgia Wilkinson (Soprano) & Rhys Boak (Organ)

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. stmichaels.org.au/musicians-bios

Giving

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

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stmichaels.org.au/giving