

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist  
Sunday 24B | September 15, 2024

*Who do  
people say  
that I am?*

Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!  
Today's service is being live-streamed for the participation of those who  
can't join us physically today.

## A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

**Prelude** WA Mozart, *Fantasia K.608*

### *The Gathering of the People of God*

**Sung Processional** (TIS 134 v.1)

*If you are able, please stand when the cantor sings the first line, and sing as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space:*

***Praise my soul the king of heaven;  
to his feet your tribute bring;  
ransomed, healed, restored forgiven,  
who like me his praise should sing?  
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah,  
praise the everlasting king!***

**Call to Worship**

The Lord be with you!

***And also with you!***

Come, join your voices to God's creation:

The heavens declare the glory of God,

***showing forth his handiwork.***

Their sound goes out into all lands,

***and their message to the ends of the world.*** (Psalm 19.1,4)

Let us join our voices with all creation

***Let us worship the Lord.***

**Prayer of invocation**

**Hymn 786** (tune 437)

1. Word of God, come down on earth,  
living rain from heav'n descending;  
touch our hearts and bring to birth  
faith and hope and love unending.  
Word almighty, we revere you;  
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

2. Word eternal, throned on high,  
Word that brought to life creation.  
Word that came from heav'n to die,  
crucified for our salvation.  
Saving Word, the world restoring,  
speak to us, your love outpouring.
3. Word that caused blind eyes to see,  
speak and heal our mortal blindness.  
Deaf we are, our healer be,  
loose our tongues to tell your kindness.  
Be our Word in pity spoken;  
heal the world, by our sin broken.
4. Word that speaks God's tender love,  
one with God beyond all telling.  
Word that sends us from above  
God the Spirit, with us dwelling.  
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;  
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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## With the Children

### *The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching*

#### The Testimony of Scripture

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet  
**and a light to our path.**

Isaiah 50:4-9a *The one who vindicates me is near*

Psalms 116 *I called on the name of the Lord*

The REFRAIN is sung before and after the whole psalm. The psalm text will then be sung responsorially to the TONE below: the first line is sung by the 'half' of the congregation closest to entry doors, the second bold-italic line by the other side

#### REFRAIN

Hal H. Hopson



God is our ref - uge; God is our strength.

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#### TONE



- <sup>1</sup> I love the Lord, because | he has heard  
***my voice and my sup- | -plications.***
- <sup>2</sup> Because he inclined his | ear to me,  
***therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.***
- <sup>3</sup> The snares of death en- | -compassed me;  
***the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;***  
***I suffered dis- | -tress and anguish.***
- <sup>4</sup> Then I called on the name | of the Lord:  
***'O Lord, I pray, | save my life!'***
- <sup>5</sup> Gracious is the | Lord, and righteous;  
***our | God is merciful.***
- <sup>6</sup> The Lord | protects the simple;  
***when I was brought | low, he saved me.***
- <sup>7</sup> Return, O my soul, | to your rest,  
***for the Lord has dealt bountiful- | -ly with you.***
- <sup>8</sup> For you have delivered my | soul from death,  
***my eyes from tears,***  
***my | feet from stumbling.***
- <sup>9</sup> I walk be- | -fore the Lord  
***in the land | of the living.***

#### REFRAIN

Mark 8:27-38 *Those who want to save their life will lose it*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

***Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.***

### The Preaching of the Word

*A 'sermon of stillness' – a moment for quiet reflection – usually follows the preaching*

### Prayer of Confession

*(Each line is sung first by the minister/cantor and then repeated by the congregation)*

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. —  
Chri - ste, Chri - ste, Chri - ste e - le - i - son.  
Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

### Declaration of Forgiveness

*(Please stand if you are able)*

...hear, then, Christ's word of grace to us:  
Your sins are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

### Doxology

*(Hymn 768[[ii]], through once only)*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
praise God, all creatures here below,  
praise God above, you heavenly host,  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

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### The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***And also with you.***

### The Nicene Creed *(Said/sung: words at the end of the hymn book)*

***We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.***

***We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.***

***For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.***

***For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.***

***On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.***

***He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.***

***We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.***

***We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.***

***We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.***

***We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.***

## Prayers of the People

### *The Visible Word: Eucharist*

#### Hymn 537 Let us talents and tongues employ

*(If you are able, please remain standing until after the Lord's Prayer)*

#### The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*(The prayer continues...)*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts.  
Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na  
in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the high-est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san-na in the high-est. Ho - san-na in the high-est.

*(The prayer continues...)*

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*(The people sit)*

## The Breaking of the Bread

Lamb\_ of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have\_  
mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb\_ of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have\_  
mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb\_ of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, grant\_  
us peace, grant us peace.

...Let us receive what we are,  
let us become what we receive

***The body of Christ***

## The Communion

*The Uniting Church recognises this Table as the Lord's and, so, open to all who would normally commune in their home congregations.*

**GATHERING:** *We'll gather in a circle around the table for the distribution of the elements; please wait until all have received and the prayer is said before returning to your seats.*

*If you can't stand or walk to the front but would like to receive communion, please raise your hand if the celebrant has not already noticed you.*

## Offering

*(We remain seated as the offering is brought forward)*

*Many members now make their offering by electronic transfer; the plate will be passed for those who prefer to make cash/envelope offerings. The prayer dedicating the offerings 'captures' the full range of gifts.*

## Notices

### *The Sending Forth of the People of God*

**Hymn** 572 (i) O thou who camest from above

## Word of Mission and Blessing

**Postlude** D Buxtehude, *Ciacona BuxWV 160*

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We'd love to hear your feedback on the service.

Our email address is:

[enquiries@marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au](mailto:enquiries@marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au)

Our website is:

<http://marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au/>

## The Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

[www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle](http://www.oikoumene.org/resources/prayer-cycle)

### Argentina

Historically Argentina is a Catholic country. Small Protestant churches developed in the 19th century because of German and Scandinavian immigration and mission work from North America. Migrants from Eastern Europe and the Middle East brought Orthodoxy to Argentina. In the 20th century Pentecostalism began to flourish, and a Charismatic movement emerged in the Catholic Church. Evangelicals, Pentecostals and Charismatics numbered 7.4 percent of the Christian population in 2000. The churches work together in several national bodies: the Federation of Evangelical Churches, the Argentine Alliance of Evangelical Churches which is affiliated with the WEA, the Evangelical Pentecostal Federation and the Ecumenical Commission of Christian Churches (which includes the Catholics and Orthodox).

### Uruguay

The indigenous people who lived in the plains of Uruguay were decimated in the three hundred years following the colonization in the 16th century. The last mass killing took place in 1831, after the country's independence in 1825. In the 19th century many Europeans migrated to Uruguay. It was a politically stable and prosperous country with an advanced welfare system. In the 1960s an economic crisis occurred and a left-wing guerilla emerged, the Tupamaros. The movement was repressed by the army, which seized power in 1973. Under the military dictatorship, which lasted until 1984, huge human rights violations took place. Since then, Uruguay is again a functioning democracy. The economy is essentially agricultural, with some manufacturing industry. Export consists of meat, dairy and leather products, wool, etc. Uruguay is the smallest country in Latin America, and also the most secularized. The Catholic Church, which dates back to the beginning of colonization, is the largest church. The Methodists are the oldest Protestant church. There is a large Waldensian community, which is part of the Waldensian Church in Italy, and therefore also of the WCC. Pentecostals represent about 30 percent of the Protestant and Independent churches. The Federation of Evangelical Churches is the oldest ecumenical body. In 1998, a Council of Christian Churches was set up, with the participation of the Catholic and Anglican churches. There is also a Christian Association of Evangelical Churches, affiliated with the WEA. The Orthodox churches are the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Moscow Patriarchate, and Armenian Apostolic Church.

## NOTICES

### PRAYER SERVICE, SEPTEMBER 17, 10:30AM

On Tuesday September 17 MtE will be conducting a prayer service in conjunction with the CTM, with a focus on peace in Israel/Palestine, as part of the World Council of Churches' World Week of Peace in Palestine and Israel, 10:30am, for 20-25 mins. Parking will likely not be available at the CTM on this day.

### THE WESLEY CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY, ETHICS AND PUBLIC POLICY

*MtE provides significant financial support for the Centre*



Hello Wesley Centre Community! The Centre will be hosting an event on Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> of October from 3:30pm - 5:30pm called '*Reconciliation, Where are we now? Marking a year since the referendum,*' for which we are seeking a few volunteers to help us for on the day. **Tasks Include:** Assisting with Pack Up/Pack Down,

Assisting people getting in and out of the building, Setting up catering, Spot cleaning surfaces and rubbish throughout the event. **Perks Include:** Snack and drinks, Listening and being involved in what is looking to be a moving, informative and insightful panel discussion. We will be needing assistance from the hours of **2:45pm - 6pm located at Wesley Place**. We would be incredibly appreciative of any time you may be able to donate towards this event and If you're interested and would like further details, **please email our Centre Coordinator Alice via [coordinator@thewesleycentre.org](mailto:coordinator@thewesleycentre.org)**

Rob Gallacher would like to express his thanks to his MtE friends for their expressions of support and prayers over the time of his recent surgery and (now) recuperation!

### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Online discussion groups	Conclude next week
MtE/CTM Prayers Service for Israel/Palestine	Sept 17, 10:30am CTM Chapel
Hymn-learning session after worship	Sept 22
Church Council	Oct 1 (online)
WESLEY CENTRE: <i>Reconciliation – Where are We Now?</i>	Oct 13, details TBA
Quarterly Essay Conversation	Oct 18, 11:30am
Combined worship at Church of All Nations	Oct 20, 10:00am
MtE Luncheon after worship	Nov 24

### People to commemorate this week

Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179), person of prayer

### Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay

### Lectionary Readings | 22 September 2024

Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

A Parish Mission of the UCA, MtE is responsible for Hotham Mission

**Contact:** Rev Dr Craig Thompson, 0408 389 751

[minister@marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au](mailto:minister@marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au)

[www.hothammission.org.au](http://www.hothammission.org.au)

[www.marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au)