

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist  
Reign of Christ B - November 24, 2024

“My kingdom is not  
of this world”:  
Jesus, the kingdom  
and the F-word.

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** JS Bach, *Praeludium BWV 543*

### *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, seek the kingdom of God;  
***in God's reign  
we have all things.*** (Luke 12.31)

Hear the good news:  
in Christ the kingdom of God draws near;  
***Thanks be to God!***

**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.**

Revelation 1:4b-8 *I am the alpha and the omega*

John 18:33-19:5 *The king of the Jews*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

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

## The Preaching of the Word

*There is no written text available of  
today's sermon; the video/audio is  
available on YouTube*

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

## Prayer of Confession

LORD HAVE MERCY

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.  
Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.  
Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

## 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!**

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## Nicene Creed *(Sung):*

*| Cantor | People*

We be - lieve in one God, the Fa - ther, the Al - might - y, mak - er of  
heav - en and earth, of all that is, seen and un - seen. We be - lieve in  
one Lord, Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, e - ter - nal - ly be -  
got - ten of the Fa - ther, God from God, Light from light, true God from true  
God, be - got - ten not made, of one be - ing with the Fa - ther; through him  
all things were made. For us and for our sal - va - tion he came down from  
heaven, was in - car - nate by the Ho - ly Spi - rit of the Vir - gin Mar -  
y and be - came tru - ly hu - man. For our sake he was cru - ci - fied  
un - der Pon - tius Pi - late; he suf - fered death and was bur - ied. On the  
third day he rose a - gain in ac - cord - ance with the Scrip - tures; he as -  
cend - ed in - to heaven and is seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa -  
ther. He will come a - gain in glo - ry to judge the liv - ing and the  
dead, and his king - dom will have no end. We be - lieve in the Ho - y  
Spi - rit, the Lord, the giv - er of life, who pro - ceeds from the Fa - ther,

who with the Fa - ther and the Son is wor - shipped and glo - ri - fied. who  
has spo - ken through the pro - phets. We be - lieve in one ho - ly cath - ol -  
ic and ap - os - tol - ic Church. We ac - know - ledge one bap - tism for the  
for - give - ness of sins. We look for the re - sur - rec - tion of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. A - men.

## Prayers of the People

*(Names for inclusion in the prayers may be recorded in the book in the narthex)*

## *The Visible Word: Eucharist*

## Hymn 517 Hallelujah! Sing to Jesus

*(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...)*

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,  
 hea-ven and earth are full of your glor-y, ho - san - na in the high-est!

BENEDICTUS

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Ho -  
 san - na, ho - san - na, 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

The gifts of God for the people of God...

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.  
 Je - sus bear - er of our sin have mer - cy on us.  
 Je - sus, re - deem - er of the world, 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 216** (tune 371) Rejoice the Lord is King

### **Word of Mission and Blessing**

**Postlude** D Buxtehude, *Gelobet seist du*

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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)

#### **Malaysia**

Malay kingdoms existed in the peninsula already in the 10th century. Islam arrived in the 14th century. The area was colonized successively by the Portuguese, the Dutch, and the British. The struggle for independence began after the Japanese occupation of World War II. The Federation of Malaya was founded in 1957. It became the Federation of Malaysia in 1963, when Sabah and Sarawak in northern Borneo, and Singapore were added. Singapore left the Federation in 1965. The population is made up of Malay, Chinese, Indian, indigenous groups, and migrant workers from several parts of Asia. Islam (Sunni) is the official religion. Malaysia's policy is to maintain the ethnic and religious diversity in careful balance. The country has succeeded in building a modern economy based on production and processing of oil and petroleum, a high-tech manufacturing industry, and services. The Catholic Church is the oldest and largest Christian church. Protestant missions arrived in the 19th century. The Anglicans, which are part of the Province of South East Asia, are the largest protestant church, followed by the Methodist Church of Malaysia. There are several active Pentecostal and Evangelical churches. The Council of Churches is the ecumenical body. The National Evangelical Christian Fellowship, established in 1983, is affiliated with the WEA. These two bodies, and the Catholic Church, together form the broad-based Christian Federation of Malaysia. The Orthodox Syrian Church in Malaysia is part of the WCC through the Orthodox Syrian Church in India, to which it belongs.

#### **Singapore**

Singapore was under the Sultanate of Johore (Malaysia). It became a British colony in 1867. Occupied by Japan in World War II, it acquired the status of a self-governing colony in 1959, joined the Federation of Malaysia in 1963, and became independent in 1965. The island state developed rapidly from a situation of mass poverty and lack of resources into a highly successful free-market economy based on manufacturing, export, and finance. Singapore has a very diverse population and a centrally regulated society, in which the freedom of individuals and groups is conditioned by the objective of stability and harmonious relationships between the different ethnic and religious groups. In 1987, the Christian Conference of Asia's headquarters in Singapore were closed by the government and it was expelled, accused of supporting "subversive movements". In 1991 Singapore introduced the "Maintenance of Religious Harmony Act", to regulate religions and religious activities. The Catholic, Anglican, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches were established in Singapore during the colonial period. With the exception of the Catholics, they are together in the National Council of Churches. The Assemblies of God (Pentecostal) and other Charismatic and Evangelical churches came in the 20th century. The Mar Thoma and Orthodox Syrian churches are also present, among the Indian community. Singapore is a stronghold of the evangelical movement, also in the Protestant and Anglican churches. The Evangelical Fellowship of Singapore is affiliated with the WEA (which had its offices in Singapore at one time).

## NOTICES

### MARK THE WORD

Vicki and Rosemary are seeking contributions for the 2024 Summer/Christmas edition of Mark the Word. We are again not proposing a theme for this edition and are open to any topic.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could send these via email to us ([vicki.radcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:vicki.radcliffe@gmail.com) or [rosemarywearing@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarywearing@gmail.com)) no later than Sunday, 1st December 2024.

### 'PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE HOLY LAND: OUT OF THE DEPTHS, I CRIED TO YOU OH LORD'. ONLINE EVENT

**Thursday 28th November at 7:30pm Melbourne time.** 'Prayer Vigil for Peace in the Holy Land: Out of the depths, I cried to you oh Lord'. This **online** event is being organised through the Uniting Church Assembly's Working for Justice Circle. See the weekly MtE news on our web site for connection details

Heidelberg Choral Society and Orchestra presents

# Immortal Beethoven

Ludwig van Beethoven

Symphony 9,  
4th Movement "Ode to Joy"  
Christ on the Mount of Olives  
The Ruins of Athens (excerpts)

Conducted by Peter Bandy

Rebecca Rashleigh soprano     Robert Macfarlane tenor  
Shakira Dugan mezzo soprano     Jeremy Kleeman bass-baritone

Sunday 1 December 2024 | 2.30pm

Performing Arts Centre, Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School  
cnr Noel St and Upper Heidelberg Rd, Ivanhoe

Tickets  
\$60 / \$55 conc / \$35 student  
[www.trybooking.com/CVXHM](http://www.trybooking.com/CVXHM)

Heidelberg Choral Society  
is proudly supported by  
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[www.hcs.asn.au](http://www.hcs.asn.au)

### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Online discussion groups	Wed / Fri until end of Nov
MtE Luncheon after worship	Today!
Church Council	Dec 3 (online)
Congregational meeting after worship	Dec 15

### People to commemorate this week

John Knox, reformer of the Church

### Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore

### Lectionary Readings | 1 December 2024

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

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

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

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

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