

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist

Lent 3C | March 23 2025

# On Fear

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** JL Krebs, *Fantasia in F*

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

#### **Processional**

*If you are able, please stand as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space.*

#### **Call to Worship**

The Lord be with you!

***And also with you!***

Let us bless the Lord

***who satisfies heart and soul.***

Let us worship God

***whose steadfast love is better than life.***

*ex Psalm 63.3-5*

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father and of the Son

and of the Holy Spirit,

now and ever and unto ages of ages.

***Amen.***

#### **Prayer of invocation**

**Hymn** 432 Christ is made the sure foundation

#### **With the Children**

## *The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching*

### The Testimony of Scripture


The grass withers, the flower fades;  
**but the word of our God**  
**will stand forever.**

Isaiah 55:1-9 *God's ways, and ours*

Psalm 63 *My soul thirsts for you* PCS 54

*Organ and cantor, then all together:*

Richard T. Proulx



My soul is thirst-ing for you, O Lord my God.

Copyright 1981 Richard Proulx.

Luke 13:1-9 *Unless you repent...*

This is the gospel ▪ of the Lord  
**Praise to you, Lord ▪ Jesus Christ**

### The Preaching of the Word

*The sermon text will normally be available  
after worship and online*

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

### Prayer of Confession



Ky-ri-e, Ky-ri-e, Ky-ri-e, e - lei - son; Chri-ste, Chri-ste, Chri-ste, e - lei - son.

Ky-ri-e, Ky-ri-e, Ky-ri-e, e - lei - son, e - lei - son, e - lei - son.

### Declaration of Forgiveness

*(Please stand if you are able)*

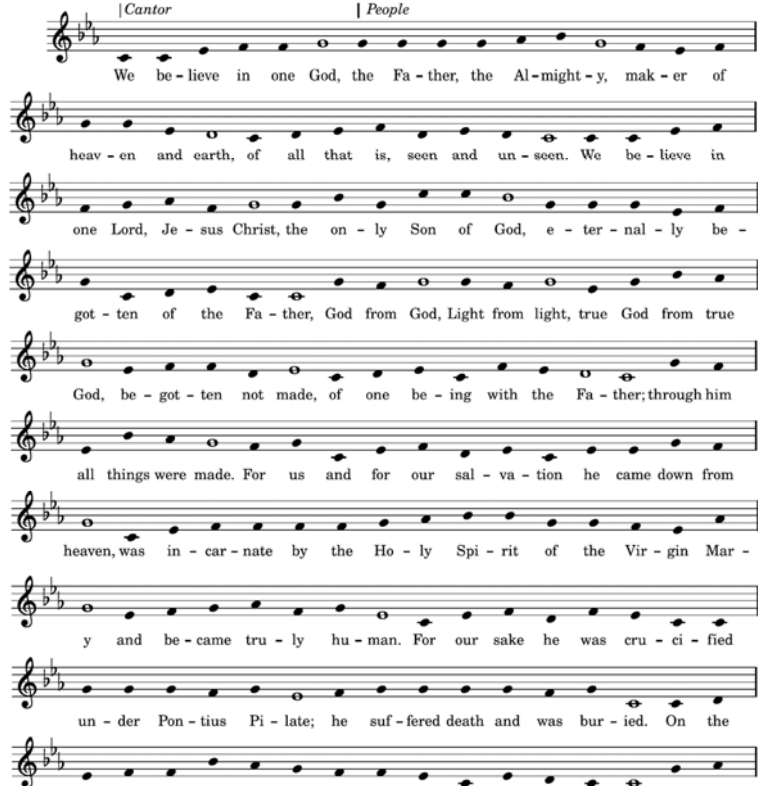
...hear, then, Christ's word of grace to us:  
Your sins are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

### The Peace

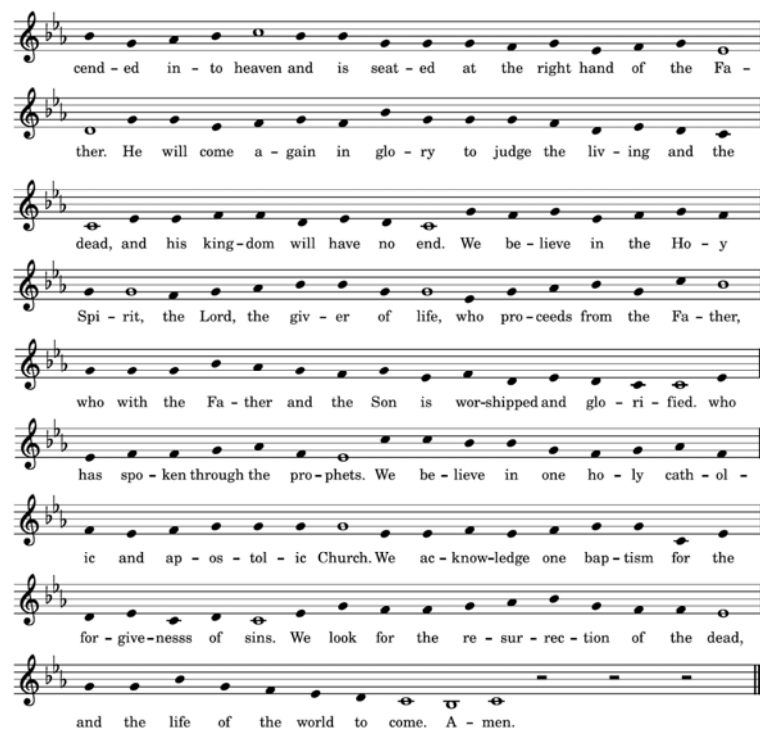
The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

### The 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 -



## Prayers of the People

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

## *The Visible Word: Eucharist*

## Hymn Eat this bread

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup,

Come To Me And Never Be Hungry.

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup,

Trust In Me And You Will Not Thirst.

*(Taize via OneLicense)*

*(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...)*



## 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.***

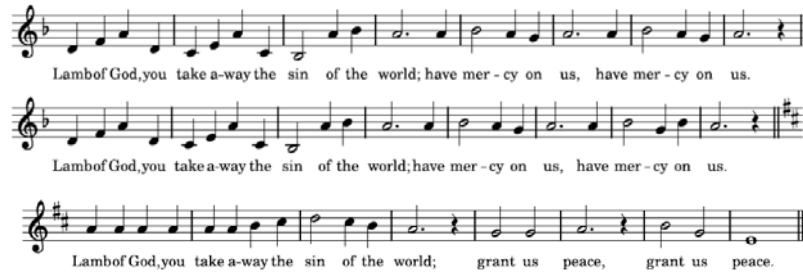
***For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours***

***now and for ever. Amen.***

*(The people sit)*

## The Breaking of the Bread

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



...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.*

*We set the offering at the foot of the cross, with the whole of ourselves.*

## Notices

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

**Hymn** 578 How firm a foundation

**Word of Mission and Blessing**

**Postlude** JG Walther, *Christus, der uns selig macht*

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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)

### Estonia

Christianity was first brought to Estonia from Denmark and Germany, in the 13th century. The country adopted the Lutheran Reformation. Orthodoxy came to Estonia from Russia. In the 1990s a conflict emerged in the Orthodox Church, which was eventually settled between the Moscow Patriarchate and the Ecumenical Patriarchate by the creation of two separate jurisdictions. Besides the Lutheran Church, the two Orthodox churches and a small Methodist Church are also part of the WCC, through the wider church structures to which they belong. There is a Baptist Union, and several Pentecostal and Evangelical groups are active in Estonia.

### Latvia

Latvia was Christianized in the 12th and 13th century, from the East (Orthodox) and the West (Catholic). Part of the Catholic Church adopted the Lutheran Reformation of the early 16th century. During the communist era, atheism was actively promoted. Since then, there has been a revival in the churches, and several new groups have entered the country. The Evangelical Lutheran Church is the largest Protestant church. Baptists and Pentecostals are also well represented. The Russian Orthodox Church in Latvia comes under the Moscow Patriarchate, and is therefore indirectly member of the WCC. There is an independent Old Believers church.

### Lithuania

The Roman Catholic Church has always been strong in Lithuania and continues to be the largest Christian presence in the country. Under Soviet influence the churches experienced severe repression, but the Roman Catholic Church was influential in the struggle for Lithuanian independence. There are no WCC member churches based in this country.

## NOTICES

### MARK THE WORD

Vicki and Rosemary are seeking contributions for the 2025 Autumn 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, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2025**. Thank you.

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

*MtE provides significant financial support for the Centre*



**Wesley Conversation #3 - Facing Death in a death-denying culture** with Dr Brian Macallan - theologian, philosopher, and author of "Forgiving God: Embracing a Risky Adventure with the Divine". These 'Conversations That Matter' are held in Wesley Church, 130 Lonsdale St, on the third Thursday of the month from 12.30 – 1.20pm. BYO lunch or coffee.

### QUARTERLY CONVERSATION - FRIDAY 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 11.00AM



in the library at the Center for Theology and Ministry. (Some parking *may* be available onsite, but plan to park in the surrounding streets, just in case...). **Catch a coffee at the CTM cafe before the meeting** (although coffee not allowed in the library), **and then stay for lunch afterwards!**

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

### DUELLING HARPSICORDS, 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 7.30PM HANSON DYER HALL, IAN POTTER SOUTHBANK

Join Donald and his harpsichord student in a fun-filled romp of music for two harpsichords, including Scarlatti, Bach and Armand-Louis Couperin. Entrance is free but be sure to book at <https://events.humanitix.com/hanson-dyer-hall-dueling-harpsichords/tickets>

We'd love you to join us for an all day

# Taizé retreat



at **Northcote Uniting Church**, with **Brother Merric**  
from the Taizé community in France on:

**Saturday, 5 April from 10am-8.30pm**

On the day:

- Learn about the Taizé community in France
- Hear from Brother Merric
- Meet for small group discussions
- Learn new song parts
- Taizé prayer.

Pizza and wine will be served after evening prayer. Please BYO lunch or buy on vibrant High Street!

**Can't make the full day? Join us for Taizé evening prayer at 7pm.**

Join the **Taizé in Melbourne, Australia** Facebook group or What's App channel for updates or email: [admin@nuc.org.au](mailto:admin@nuc.org.au)



**NORTHCOTE  
UNITING  
CHURCH**



Please register online for both the retreat and if you are staying for the meal after evening prayer, to help with catering.

Northcote  
Uniting Church  
251 High Street,  
Northcote  
[www.nuc.org.au](http://www.nuc.org.au)



## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Lenten Studies (see website for details)  
Church Council – Special Meeting  
Quarterly Conversation  
Hotham Mission Executive

Weekly from March Wed 5/Fri 7  
Mar 23, after morning tea  
Fri Apr 4, 11:00am  
Fri Apr 4, 3:00pm at the CTM

### People to commemorate this week

Fred McKay, faithful servant

### Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania

### Lectionary Readings | 30 March 2025

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

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)