

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist

Sunday 24C | 14 September 2025

love

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 D Buxtehude, *Praeludium*

The Gathering of the People of God

Sung Processional (TIS 127 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:

***Holy God, we praise your name,
Lord of all, we bow before you;
all on earth your power proclaim,
all in heaven above adore you;
boundless is your vast domain,
everlasting is your reign.***

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Shout with joy to the Lord, all lands,
lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.

Sing a new song to the LORD,
for God has done marvelous things.

Psalm 98.5, 1

Prayer of invocation

Hymn Creator of the stars of light

['Conditor']



Creator of the stars of night,
your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
we pray you hear us when we call.

In sorrow that the ancient curse
should doom to death a universe,
you came, O Saviour, to set free
your own in glorious liberty.

When this old world drew on toward night,
you came; but not in splendour bright,
not as a monarch, but the child
of Mary, blameless mother mild.

At your great Name, O Jesus, now
all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
all things on earth with one accord,
like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.

Come in your holy might, we pray,
redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below
from all assaults of our dread foe.

To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honour, might, and glory be
from age to age eternally.

Public Domain

With the Children

The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching

ForeWord

Word: The Testimony of Scripture

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

John 17.1-17 Love

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Word: In Preaching

The sermon text will normally be available after worship and online

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

AfterWord: Confession

A musical score for two voices. The top line, in G major, consists of a soprano part with the lyrics 'Lord, have mercy.' The bottom line, in G major, consists of an alto part with the lyrics 'Christ, have mercy.' The music is in common time and includes a repeat sign with a 'C' and a 'D' (Duru) instruction.

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 via Psalm 98 *Sing a new song*

*REFRAIN: Organ, then cantor, then all together (sung also at the end).
The psalm text is then sung responsively to the TONE*

REFRAIN

Hal H. Hopson

Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord. Praise the name of the Lord. _____

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¹ Sing to the Lord | a new song,
for he has done mar- | -velous things.

² His own right hand and his | holy arm
have won for him the | victory.

³ The Lord has made known | his sal-vation;
his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight | of the nations.

⁴ He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the |
 house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

⁵ Sound praises to the Lord, | all the earth;
break into singing | and make music.

⁶ Make music to the Lord | with the lyre,
with the lyre and the | voice of melody.

⁷ With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
sound praises before the | Lord, the King.

⁸ Let the sea thunder and | all that fills it,
the world and all that | dwell upon it.

⁹ Let the rivers | clap their hands
and let the hills ring out together before the Lord, for he comes to | judge the earth.

¹⁰ In righteousness shall he | judge the world
and the | peoples with equity.

The Peace

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

Affirmation of Faith: We are a pilgrim people

Adapted from the Basis of Union of the Uniting Church in Australia

**We believe in one God,
 the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
 We proclaim Jesus Christ, the crucified and risen One,
 confessing him as Lord
 to the glory of God the Father.**

**In the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
 we acclaim Jesus as the Lord of the Church,
 the Head over all things,
 the beginning of a new creation.**

**We acknowledge that we live and work
 between the time of Christ's death and resurrection
 and the final consummation of all things
 which he will bring.**

**We are a pilgrim people,
 always on the way towards a promised goal;
 on the way Christ feeds us with word and sacraments,
 and we have the gift of the Spirit
 in order that we may not lose the way.**

**We will live and work within the faith and unity
 of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
 bearing witness to that unity
 which is both Christ's gift and his will.**

**We affirm that every member of the Church
 is engaged to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
 Together with all the people of God,
 we will serve the world for which Christ died.
 And we await with hope the day of the Lord Jesus.**

Prayers of the People

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

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.

The Visible Word: Eucharist

Hymn 506 Author of love divine

(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 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.

Notices

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 607 Make me a channel of your peace

Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude J Titelouze, *Conditor alme siderum*

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

Our email address is:

enquiries@marktheevangelist.unitingchurch.org.au

Our website is:

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

NOTICES

WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY September 21 will be combined at Church of All Nations, 180 Palmerston Street, Carlton, 10.00am

Tom Grayden, the chaplain MtE is supporting at the Southbank campus of Melbourne University, in conjunction with Northcote Uniting Church, was to visit us today but will now be visiting October 5.

THE WESLEY CENTRE FOR THEOLOGY, ETHICS AND PUBLIC POLICY



MtE provides significant financial support for the Centre

Confronting Extremism - a Wesley conversation with Mark Duckworth

Join us for an important conversation on the rise and resurgence of violent extremist movements in Australia. Robyn Whitaker sits down with Mark Duckworth, an expert on violent extremism and counter measures, to discuss the theology and ideology of such views as well as how we can helpfully respond to combat them.

12.30 - 1.30pm on Thursday 18th September at Wesley Church, Lonsdale Street.

This is part of the Wesley Centre's "Conversations that Matter" series. Find out more at [www.thewesleycentre.org/conversations-that-matter](http://thewesleycentre.org/conversations-that-matter)

LIVING HISTORY AND FAMILY STORIES

(South Melbourne 21 October, 6:30pm)

Join David Radcliffe as he reflects on his fifty-year journey to document the lives of Amos and Sarah Radcliffe, their thirteen children and eleven siblings during the 19th and early 20th centuries in his new book, *Goldfields to Graceville*. From discovering the *Lady Hotham* nugget to oratorios, his talk illustrates how living history opened windows on the world of Amos and Sarah and provided insights when telling their story with 21st century sensibilities. Tues 21 October, 6:30pm. Emerald Hill Library, 195 Bank St, South Melbourne. Book tickets via the QR code or the link. <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1455963>



FOR THE END OF THE WAR



Many of you will remember that last year, to express a voice of (very great) concern about the ongoing crisis in Gaza, many participated in an action involving a photograph of MtE members, as above, pieced together with many from other congregations into an online video clip. The opportunity arises again next Sunday September 21; if you'd like to participate, please be at the CTM by 940am for a photograph outside the building prior to the commencement of worship.

FAITH AFTER FAITH

Craig publishes weekly on *Faith after Faith*, a Substack site, including Sunday sermons with a bit more commentary, and other material. You can subscribe to receive email updates of recent posts (avoid the pushy paid subscription invitations!).

See faithafterfaith.substack.com for more info, or use the QR image here to check in.

Recent posts include

- Of Value and Price in Christian Mission
- More Theological Fragments



UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

See above for more details on these events

Discussion Groups – Passions of the Soul

Ongoing

Confronting extremism (Wesley Centre)

Thu Sept 18, 1230pm

Hotham Mission Board

Fri Sept 19, 3pm @ CTM

Action in support of Gaza

Sun Sept 21 *before worship*

Prayer Service Israel and Palestine

Tue Sept 23, 10.30am at CTM

Monday Movies at the Nova

Mon Oct 6, Time TBA

Church Council

Tue Oct 7, 7.30pm (online)

People to commemorate this week

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

Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Ghana, Nigeria

Lectionary Readings | 21 September 2025

Jeremiah 8:18 - 9:1; Psalm 79:1-9; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

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

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www.hothammission.org.au

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