

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist

Sunday 26C | 28 September 2025

# the unfunny comedy of the gospel

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** GF Handel, *Lascia chi's pianga* from *Rinaldo*

### *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!**

Come, let us wait upon the Shepherd;

**who restores our souls  
and guides our way**

Come, let us wait upon the Shepherd;

**goodness and mercy he brings,  
and life with him forever.** (Psalm 23)

**Prayer of invocation**

**Hymn** 361 The day of resurrection

**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 5:19-25 *The hour is now here*

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*

#### After Word: Confession

LORD HAVE MERCY

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

5

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

9

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 will always be with you.  
***And also with you.***

#### Affirmation of Faith via Hymn 145 The king of love

#### 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 394 Christ is risen!

*(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 United 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** 585 I heard the voice of Jesus say

### Word of Mission and Blessing

**Postlude** JS Bach, *Gravement* from *Pièce d'orgue* BWV 572

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## NOTICES

### **TOM GRADEN NEXT WEEK – SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER**

Tom Grayden, the chaplain MtE is supporting at the Southbank campus of Melbourne University, in conjunction with Northcote Uniting Church, will be visiting MtE next week, October 5.

### **MONDAY MOVIES AT THE NOVA - NEXT MONDAY 6 OCTOBER**

The movie and time will be advised late in the week prior. A WhatsApp group has been set up for communication around this in future, including having a say in the next movie!

### **LIVING HISTORY AND FAMILY STORIES – TUESDAY 21 OCTOBER**

*(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 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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>



### **DISCERNMENT DAY - SATURDAY 25 OCTOBER**

Are you wondering "where to from here" in terms of your discipleship? Ever thought about what God might be calling you to? And how do you know it's a call from God? The Synod equipping Leadership for Mission team warmly invites you to attend a Discernment Day on Saturday 25 October. We will offer an opportunity to learn about discernment, lay and ordained ministries, UCA processes, and educational pathways. This event will be held in person in Parkville and online. All are welcome. Come and see! Register online at <https://events.humanitix.com/discernment-day> Where: Centre For Theology and Ministry, 29 College Crescent Parkville When: 9am-4pm Saturday 25 October Cost: \$40 per person (in-person); Free (online via Zoom).

## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

*See above for more details on these events*

Monday Movies at the Nova

Church Council

Hotham Mission Board

Fourth Quarter Discussion Groups

Mon Oct 6, Time TBA

Tue Oct 7, 7.30pm (online)

Fri Oct 17 3pm @ CTM

TBA!

### **People to commemorate this week**

Clare & Francis of Assisi , faithful servants

### **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru

### **Lectionary Readings | 05 October 2025**

Lamentations 1:1-6; Psalm 137; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

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

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