

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist

Sunday 28C | 12 October 2025

# *In and of the world*

Or, the AI Sermon

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** P du Mage, *Grand Jeu*

### *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**

Come, worship the LORD,  
whose works are truth and justice,  
***whose commandments are sure.***

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
***let the wise praise God's name forever.*** *cf. Psalm 111.7,10*

**Prayer of invocation**

**Hymn** 477 Jesus calls us here to meet him

**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 17:6-8, 13-19, 22-24 *In or of the world?*

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



#### 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



#### The Peace

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

#### Affirmation of Faith: Psalm 111 *via TIS 68*

*Led by members of the Queen's College Choir*

#### 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 34 O Lord, you are my God, for you I long

*(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

**LitBitt:** What difference does it make if the bread and wine turn into the Body and Blood of Christ and we don't? GODFREY DIEKMANN OSB

**Motet:** Ave Verum Corpus ("Hail, true body"; Edward Elgar)

*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** 392 At the dawning of salvation

**Word of Mission and Blessing**

**Postlude** L-N Clérambault, *Caprice sur les grands jeux*

COPYRIGHT INFORMATION All music printed in this order of service and live-streamed is either in the public domain or is covered by the congregation's CCLI licence (#449158) or its ONE LICENSE with license (#737505-A). All rights reserved. Psalm responses from PCS are used with permission from The Psalter, 1993.

---

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)

### **El Salvador**

El Salvador is part of the Central American region, where indigenous societies existed long before the area was conquered by Spain in the 16th century. Colonization disrupted these communities and killed hundreds of thousands of people. When the population was almost exterminated, the Spanish brought in slaves from Africa. Today El Salvador has a very mixed population. It achieved independence from Spain in 1821. Throughout its history, El Salvador was ruled by a small oligarchy that oppressed the poor. The growing disparity, and the call for land reform, led to the guerilla war of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN), from 1980-1992. The population suffered massive killings and human rights abuses, mostly at the hands of government and paramilitary forces, supported by the USA. The UN brokered an end to the armed conflict, and since then the FMLN acts as a political party. Within the Catholic Church in El Salvador and the Protestant churches, Christians have stood up for justice and solidarity with the poor. Many have paid with their lives, among them Archbishop Romero who was shot dead while celebrating the mass, in 1980. The people of El Salvador continue to struggle with poverty. The country's economy is agricultural, with some processing industry. Main export products are coffee, cotton and sugar. About 25 percent of the population belong to non-Catholic churches, of which at least 50 percent are Pentecostal. There is an Evangelical Fellowship, affiliated with the WEA.

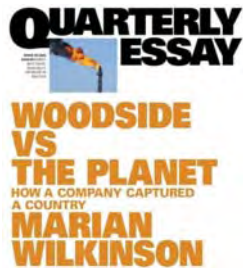
### **Panama**

The Roman Catholic Church is the largest religious body, but indigenous religions still exist in Panama, where indigenous people make up 8 percent of the population. Panama also has a significant numbers of adherents of several world religions, including Muslims, Baha'is, and Buddhists. There are no WCC member churches based in the country.

## NOTICES

We welcome to worship today members of the Queen's College chapel choir, with their director, Will Fellows.

### QUARTERLY CONVERSATION - FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER



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!** We meet for the conversation from 11:00am-12:30pm.

### CHURCHES RESPONDING TO YOORROOK: CAN WE HANDLE THE TRUTH? - SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER

A special forum to explore the church's response to Yoorrook recommendations. This is co-hosted by The Wesley Centre, Christians for Yoorrook, and ANTAR Victoria.

Sat 18th October, 10:30am – 2:30pm at 95 Brunswick St, Fitzroy.

<https://events.humanitix.com/can-we-handle-the-truth>

### 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).

### 'STORIES OF SAINTS IN FILM' – TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER

*The Revd Canon Dr Bob Derrenbacker* - Dean, Trinity College Theological School

This presentation will examine the portrayal of three saints of the church – Joan of Arc (1412-1431), Sir Thomas More (1478-1535), and Franz Jägerstätter (1907-1943) – in three different films:

- 'The Passion of Joan of Arc' (dir. Carl Theodor Dreyer [1928])
- 'A Man for All Seasons' (dir. Fred Zinnemann [1966])
- 'A Hidden Life' (dir. Terrence Malick [2019])

Through discussion and the watching of film clips, we will consider how the filmmakers portray the 'saintliness' of the various protagonists in these films, how they communicate their portrayal through the art of filmmaking, how their filmmaking reflects the time in which their films were produced, and what the films may (or may not) be saying to viewers today.

Tuesday 28th October 6:00pm. Tickets via

<https://events.humanitix.com/films-and-faith-2025>

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



*MtE provides significant financial support for the Centre*

**THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER 6:00 PM FOR 6:30PM START**

**FREE WILL OR DIVINE SCRIPT? WHO'S REALLY IN CONTROL?**

Christian and Muslim reflections on Theology and the World.

Panel Discussion with Rev Dr Daniel Sihombing, Pilgrim Theological College; Dr Omer Ergl, Islamic Sciences & Research Academy with Moderator Noor Gillani, from The Conversation. A conversation exploring Divine Control, Human Agency, and the implications for Moral Responsibility. Light Refreshments at 6:00pm. Panel starts at 6:30pm. Venue: Yuma Auditorium, Centre of Theology & Ministry, 29 College Crescent Parkville.

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/free-will-or-divine-script-whos-really-in-control-tickets-1395516079159?aff=oddtcreatorFAITH>

## 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 paid subscription invitations!). See [faithafterfaith.substack.com](http://faithafterfaith.substack.com) for more info, or use the QR image here to check in.

Recent posts include

- Recent Sermons
- More Theological Fragments



## UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

*See above for more details on these events*

Church Council	Tue Oct 14, 7.30pm (online)
Quarterly Conversation	Fri Oct 17, 11:00am @ CTM Library
Hotham Mission Board	Fri Oct 17 3:00pm @ CTM
Monday Morning Movies at the Nova	Mon Nov 3, time TBC
Fourth Quarter Discussion Groups	TBA!

## People to commemorate this week

Elizabeth Fry (1780-1845), renewer of society

## Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama

## Lectionary Readings | 19 October 2025

Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104; 2 Timothy 3:14 - 4:5; Luke 18:1-8

---

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)