

The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist

Sunday 33C | 16 November 2025

truth

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** G Bohm, *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!***

Come, worship the Lord,

***in whom mercy and truth meet;***

Come, worship the Lord,

***in whom righteousness and peace kiss.***

*Psalms 85*

### **Prayer of invocation**

**Hymn 552** Come, my way, my truth, my life

### **With the Children**



## The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching

### Forword

#### Word: The Testimony of Scripture

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

John 8:31-38 *The truth will set you free*

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

#### Psalm 25.1-5, 9-10 *Oh my God, in you I trust*

*PCS p.344 n.6*

*The REFRAIN is sung before and after the whole psalm.*

*The psalm text will then be sung responsorially to the TONE below: the first line is  
sung by the 'half' of the congregation closest to entry doors, the second bold-italic  
line by the other side*

REFRAIN Hal H. Hopson

God is our ref - uge; God is our strength.

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TONE \*

God is our ref - uge; God is our strength.

*Refrain*

<sup>1</sup> To you, O Lord, I lift | up my soul;

***O my God, in | you I trust;***

let me not be | put to shame;

***let not my enemies triumph | over me.***

<sup>2</sup> Let none who look to you be | put to shame,  
***but let the treacherous be | shamed and frustrated.***

<sup>3</sup> Make me to know your | ways, O Lord,  
***and teach | me your paths.***

<sup>4</sup> Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
***for you are the God of my salvation;***  
***for you have I hoped all | the day long.***

<sup>5</sup> Remember, Lord, your compas- | -sion and love,  
***for they are from | ever-lasting.***

<sup>9</sup> All the paths of the Lord are | mercy and truth  
***to those who keep his covenant | and his testimonies.***

<sup>10</sup> For your name's | sake, O Lord,  
***be merciful to my sin, for | it is great.***

*Refrain*

#### 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

Glo - ry to God... in the high - est and  
peace to Gods' peo - ple on earth. Lord God... heav'n-ly king... al-migh-ty God. and...  
Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you... for... your glo-ry.  
Lord Je-susChrist, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the



## The Peace

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

## The Apostles' Creed

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
 creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the Virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to the dead.  
 On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the holy catholic Church,  
 the communion of saints,  
 the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body,  
 and the life everlasting. Amen.***

## 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...)*



*(The prayer continues...)*



*(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** 453 We limit not the truth of God

## Word of Mission and Blessing

**Postlude** A van Noordt, *Fantasia*

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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)

### Aotearoa New Zealand

The indigenous people of the islands that form New Zealand, the Polynesian Maori, arrived there some 800 years ago and called it "Aotearoa - land of the long white cloud". Britain annexed the territory in 1840 and negotiated the Treaty of Waitangi, by which the Maoris ceded their sovereignty, but retained their perpetual rights to the land. The treaty was violated by the colonizers, and white settlers soon outnumbered the Maoris, who lost several land wars between 1843 and 1872, but resisted the assimilation imposed by the British. In 1947 New Zealand became fully independent as a constitutional monarchy within the British Commonwealth. In 1975 the Waitangi Tribunal was established, to deal with claims of violation of the Treaty since 1840. Maoris constitute 14 percent of the population, Pakeha (people of European descent) 80 percent, and Pacific islanders and other immigrants six percent. New Zealand has a modern, developed economy, based on the export of agricultural and industrial products. The Anglican Church is the largest church, followed by the Catholics, the Presbyterians and the Methodists. These churches have in various ways provided possibilities for the Maoris to have their own jurisdiction, without separation. Similarly, there have been two ecumenical bodies, for the Pakeha and the Maori. Churches have also been the first to add Aotearoa to New Zealand in their name. An interesting form of local unity emerged in the 1980s, called "cooperative ventures" between congregations of different confessions. There are several Pentecostal church groupings and independent charismatic groups, and an Evangelical network.

## NOTICES

### BOOK LAUNCH - THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER, 4.30PM – 6.00PM

Emeritus Professor Graeme Davison AO will launch John Smith's book at the AMPLE CAFÉ AND BAR, 31 Arden St North Melbourne.

RSVP to John by 17 November to 0458 146 630 or [revdrjohnsmith@ozemail.com.au](mailto:revdrjohnsmith@ozemail.com.au)



### "CHRIST THE KING" LUNCHEON - SUNDAY 23 NOVEMBER

On Sunday November 23 we will hold our re-located All Saints luncheon (now a "Christ the King" luncheon), after worship. Please speak to Rod and Rosemary about whether you're able to come, and what you can bring to share for the meal.

### 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](https://faithafterfaith.substack.com) for more info, or use the QR image here to check in.

Recent posts include

- Recent Sermons
- New Theological Fragments: Nomen-ing God





# PASTORAL CARE INTERACTIVE SEMINAR

## LIFE TRANSITIONS AND LEARNINGS

**AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERACTIVE PASTORAL  
CARE EDUCATION WITH TWO LEADING AUSTRALIAN  
CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATORS: GRAEME GIBBONS  
& CAROLYN DAGGERS**

Saturday 27 November  
9am-12pm (8:30am for coffee)

Heidelberg Scots Uniting Church  
187 Burgundy St, Heidelberg

*Presented by the Banyule Network  
of Uniting Churches Pastoral Care  
Committee and CPE Centre*

Register on Try Booking



### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

*See above for more details on these events*

Hotham Mission Board	Fri Nov 21, 3pm @ CTM
MtE Luncheon	Sun Nov 23, after worship
Monday Morning Movies at the Nova	Mon Dec 1, time TBC
Church Council	Tue Dec 2, 7.30pm online
Congregational Meeting (2026 Budget)	Sun Dec 14, after morning tea
Advent Carols Service	Sun Dec 23, (usual service)

#### People to commemorate this week

Hilda of Whitby, faithful servant

#### Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia

#### Lectionary Readings | 23 November 2025

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

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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