

St James' Old Cathedral

17th September 2023 at 10:00am

Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Fruitful Word (Colossians 1:1-14)

*Service of Holy Communion from
A Prayer Book for Australia (1995)*



St James' Old Cathedral

Acknowledgement of Country

We worship our creator God on the ancestral lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge them as the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Child Safety Officer

We are committed to continuous improvement in a safe culture for all, and especially vulnerable persons. Our parish's Child Safety Officer is Una Ebsworth. Una is an accredited specialist in criminal law. All correspondence and questions relating to safety checks should be forwarded to her at safety@sjoc.org.au.

The Old Cathedral Voices

Formed in March 2009 from some of Melbourne's finest choral soloists, *The Old Cathedral Voices* are a consort choir directed by Jenny George.

Today's singers are:

Eliza Bennetts O'Connor

Ellen Brown

Jenny George

Charlie Lines-Perrier

Spencer Chapman

Mike Mews

Matthew Crossley

The Organ

The present organ was built in 1991 by Australian Pipe Organs, restoring and expanding the 1866 Fincham organ. 2 manuals, 18 speaking stops, 8 couplers. Gt: 8.8.4.4.2.III. Sw: 8.8.8.4.2.III.8. Ped: 16.16.10-2/3.8.4.

The Old Cathedral's organist is David Brown. David undertook studies as an organ scholar at the Universities of Cambridge and St Andrews, and also serves as Organist of Scotch College.

The Bells

Melbourne's first peal of bells were the six bells hung in St James' Cathedral in 1853, replacing an old ship's bell. Two more were added in 1885. All were cast by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel Road, London, and are reputed to be the finest ever cast there. They are still rung regularly by a team of volunteers.

Processional
Let the Word of Christ

The Old Cathedral Voices
P. Campbell (b. 1967)

Commissioned and Premiered by The Old Cathedral Voices in 2011.

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
in all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another
in psalms, and hymns, and spiritual songs,
singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. Colossians 3:16*

Greeting & Preparation

Bei-En Zou

Just as the gospel is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world,
so it has been bearing fruit among you
from the day you heard it
and truly comprehended the grace of God.

Colossians 1:6

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Hymn 516 (Ottawa)

F. R. Havergal (1836-79)

**Master, speak, thy servant heareth,
waiting for thy gracious word,
longing for thy voice that cheereth;
Master, let it now be heard.**

**I am listening, Lord, for thee:
what hast thou to say to me?**

**Speak to me by name, O Master,
let me know it is to me;
speak, that I may follow faster,
with a step more firm and free,
where the shepherd leads the flock
in the shadow of the rock.**

**Master, speak: and make me ready,
when thy voice is truly heard,
with obedience glad and steady
still to follow every word.**

**I am listening, Lord, for thee:
Master, speak, O speak to me!**

The Commandments (*All Sit or Kneel*) *Bei-En Zou*

‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one;
you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind,
and with all your strength.’

Jesus said: ‘This is the great and first commandment.
And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.’

Canticle: Colossians 1:15-20 *Bei-En Zou*

**The Son is the image of the invisible God
the firstborn of all creation;
for in him all things in heaven and on earth
were created,
things visible and invisible,
whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers -
all things have been created through him
and for him.**

**He himself is before all things,
and in him all things hold together.**

**He is the head of the body, the church;
he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that he might come
to have first place in everything.**

**For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,
and through him God was pleased
to reconcile to himself all things,
whether on earth or in heaven,
by making peace through the blood of his cross.**

The Ministry of the Word

Bei-En Zou

Heavenly Father,
 give us wisdom and understanding.
As we listen to your Word,
 may we know you better,
 love you more,
 and learn to please you in all we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gathering for Children's Chapel

Marinus van Meerten

We offer an age-appropriate experience of the Ministry of the Word for children, led today by Marinus van Meerten. They are invited to process out to the conference centre, as the choir sings. They will return for Holy Communion.

Childsafe Policy: Children's Chapel is supervised at all times by at least two unrelated adults with current Working with Children Check approvals.

Meditation

The Old Cathedral Voices

Teach me, O Lord

P. Stopford (b. 1977)

*Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;
 and I shall keep it unto the end.
Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law;
 yea, I shall keep it with my whole heart.
Make me to go in the path of thy commandments;
 for therein is my desire.
Incline my heart unto thy testimonies,
 and not to covetousness.
O turn away mine eyes lest they behold vanity;
 and quicken me in thy way.
O stablish thy word, thy word in thy servant,
 that I may fear thee. Amen. *Psalm 119:33-39a**

⁵Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse—
who can understand it?

¹⁰I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

Hear the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

Bei-En Zou

Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly:

**nor followed the way of sinners,
nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.**

But their delight is in the law of the Lord:

and on that law will they ponder day and night.

They are like trees planted beside streams of water:

that yield their fruit in due season.

Their leaves also shall not wither:

and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper.

As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:

they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.

Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement:

nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:

but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

Epistle: Colossians 1:1-14

Dan Fleming

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,
and Timothy our brother,

²To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

³In our prayers for you we always thank God,
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

⁴for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus
and of the love that you have for all the saints,
⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven.

You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth,
the gospel ⁶that has come to you.

Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world,
so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves
from the day you heard it
and truly comprehended the grace of God.

⁷This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant.

He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf,
⁸and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹For this reason, since the day we heard it,
we have not ceased praying for you
and asking that you may be filled
with the knowledge of God's will
in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
¹⁰so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord,
fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work
and as you grow in the knowledge of God.

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength
that comes from his glorious power,
and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience,
while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father,
who has enabled you to share in the inheritance
of the saints in the light.

¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness
and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,
¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Hear the word of the Lord: **thanks be to God.**

Hymn 297 (Melita 74)

C. Wesley (1707-88)

**Come, let us with our Lord arise,
our Lord, who made both earth and skies;
who died to save the world he made,
and rose triumphant from the dead;
he rose, the prince of life and peace,
and stamped the day for ever his.**

**This is the day the Lord has made,
that all may see his love displayed,
may feel his resurrection's power,
and rise again to fall no more,
in perfect righteousness renewed,
and filled with all the life of God.**

**Then let us render him his own,
with solemn prayer approach the throne,
with meekness hear the gospel word,
with thanks his dying love record;
our joyful hearts and voices raise,
and fill his courts with songs of praise.**

Gospel: John 15:12-17

Bei-En Zou

The Gospel is written in the fifteenth chapter of the Gospel according to John, beginning at the twelfth verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

¹²This is my commandment,

that you love one another as I have loved you.

¹³No one has greater love than this,

to lay down one's life for one's friends.

¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you.

¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer,

because the servant does not know what the master is doing;
but I have called you friends,

because I have made known to you

everything that I have heard from my Father.

¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you.

And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last,
so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

For the gospel of the Lord: **praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

Canon Matt Williams

Anthem

The Old Cathedral Voices

Greater love hath no man

J. Ireland (1879-1962)

*Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can the floods drown it.*

Love is strong as death.

Song of Songs 8:6-7

*Greater love hath no man than this,
that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13*

*Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,
That we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.*

1 Peter 2:24

*Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified
in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

1 Corinthians 6:11

*Ye are a chosen generation,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation;
That ye should show forth the praises of him who hath call'd you
out of darkness into his marvellous light. 1 Peter 2:9*

*I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,
that you present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy,
acceptable unto to God, which is your reasonable service.*

Romans 12:1

Let us together affirm the faith of the church:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Intercessory Prayers

Elizabeth Blades-Hamilton

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving.

Col 4:2

Response:

Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus taught us.

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.

Preparation

Bei-En Zou

Let us pray.

We do not presume to come to your table, merciful Lord,

trusting in our own righteousness,

but in your manifold and great mercies.

We are not worthy

so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table.

But you are the same Lord,

whose nature is always to have mercy.

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,

so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ,

and to drink his blood,

that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Confession & Greeting of Peace *Bei-En Zou*

God has erased the legal record that stood against us.

He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. *Col 2:14*

So if you have been raised with Christ, *Col 3:1*

put to death whatever in you is earthly. *Col 3:5*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,
confident in God's forgiveness.

**Merciful God, our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:**

**we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.**

Father, forgive us.

**Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Absolution *Canon Matt Williams*

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith:
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace (*All Stand*) *Bei-En Zou*

We are the body of Christ: **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

*Remaining in our pews, we greet those immediately around us:
"Peace be with you."*

The Children's Chapel rejoin us as the next hymn is sung.

Hymn 486 (Wilton)

C. Wesley (1707-88)

**O thou who camest from above
the pure celestial fire to impart
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.**

**There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.**

**Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up thy gift in me,
ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.**

Thanksgiving & Holy Communion

Canon Matt Williams

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.

We joyfully give you thanks, God our Father, *Col 1:12*

for you created all things in heaven and on earth

through your Son and for your Son, *Col 1:16*

the firstborn of all creation. *Col 1:15*

You were pleased to make all your fullness dwell in him, *Col 1:19*

and to reconcile all things to yourself,

whether on earth or in heaven,

by making peace through the blood of his cross. *Col 1:20*

You raised him to new life,

the firstborn from the dead,

so that he might come to have first place in everything. *Col 1:18*

You have rescued us from the power of darkness, *Col 1:13*

and transferred us into the kingdom of your beloved Son,

in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. *Col 1:14*

Therefore with angels and archangels

and with all the saints in the light, *Col 1:12*

we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

And now we thank you
for these gifts of bread and wine;
may we who receive them,
as Jesus said,
share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said,
'Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks.
He shared the cup with them and said,
'This is my blood poured out
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

You have gathered us together
to feed on Christ
and to remember all he has done for us:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory.

Fill us by your Spirit

with faith in Christ Jesus,

love for all the saints,

and hope laid up in heaven,

Col 1:4-5

that we may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord,

and bear fruit in every good work,

as we grow in the knowledge of God.

Col 1:10

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

Come, let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ
in remembrance that he died for us,

and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*All baptised believers in the Lord Jesus Christ
including children at their parents' discretion
are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table.*

Gluten free wafers are available on request.

*If you prefer an individual cup of grape juice,
simply decline the common cup of wine when it is offered to you.*

During Communion

The Old Cathedral Voices

This is my commandment

W. Mundy (1521-1591)

*This is my commandment: that ye love one another,
ev'n as I have loved you.*

No man hath greater love than this:

to give his life e'en for his friends. John 15:12-13

After Communion

Canon Matt Williams

Living God, in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.

Clothe us with your love,

which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Col 3:14

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts,

Col 3:15

and the word of Christ dwell in us richly,

Col 3:16

until we are revealed with Christ in glory.

Col 3:4

Father,

we have died, and our life is hidden with Christ in God.

Col 3:3

Send us out in the power of your Spirit

to do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,

giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Col 3:17

Notices

Canon Matt Williams

Hymn 38 (Darwall 147ii)

I. Watts (1675-1748)

**We give immortal praise
to God the Father's love
for all our comforts here
and better hopes above:
he sent his own eternal Son
to die for sins that man had done.**

**To God the Son belongs
immortal glory too,
who bought us with his blood
from everlasting woe:
and now he lives, and now he reigns,
and sees the fruit of all his pains.**

**To God the Spirit's name
immortal worship give,
whose new-creating power
makes the dead sinner live:
his work completes the great design,
and fills the soul with joy divine.**

**Almighty God, to thee
be endless honours done,
the undivided Three,
and the mysterious One:
where reason fails with all her powers,
there faith prevails, and love adores.**

Blessing & Dismissal**Canon Matt Williams**

May you be made strong with all the strength
that comes from the glorious power of God, *Col 1:11*
and may the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; *Col 3:15*
and may the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord:

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional**David Brown (Organ)****Intrada****J. Ireland (1879-1962)**

**PLEASE STAY FOR MORNING TEA
IN THE CONFERENCE CENTRE NEXT DOOR
AFTER THE SERVICE**

*Instead of collecting offertories during the service, we gratefully
receive free offerings made at the exit, or by electronic transfers to:*

St James' Old Cathedral**BSB: 013 377****Acc. No.: 008 684 064**

*Tax deductible giving to support our music program is also possible
through the St James' Gift Fund:*

Melbourne West ITF Gift Fund**BSB: 013 377****Acc. No.: 526 890 909**

St James' Old Cathedral

Commitment to Child Safety

Jesus said:

*"Anyone who welcomes a little child in my name welcomes me.
But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to stumble –
it would be better for him if a heavy millstone were hung around his neck
and he were drowned in the depths of the sea."*

Matthew 18:5-6

As we meet together to worship God,
we seek to honour him by the diligent protection of children.

We are committed to creating a culture of safety for all,
and undergoing regular training to do so.

We seek to normalise routine submission
to Police Checks and Working With Children Checks
for all members of the community.

If anyone sees any behaviour
related to child safety that strikes them as odd,
they should not investigate the matter themselves,
but call the independent Professional Standards Hotline
(Kooyoora Ltd) for expert guidance:

1800 135 246

or our local police (313 Spencer Street, Docklands):

03 8690 4444

Intercessions

We pray for: Our West Melbourne Community; Haileybury College; Mike Raiter and The Centre for Biblical Preaching; Zoe Creelman (CMS); Chris & Sarah Griffioen and family (OM); City to City Australia; Australian Indigenous Churches; Ridley College; Trinity College; the Overseas Chinese Christian Church; Joan Heard; Lola Russell-Dixon; Joy Palmby; Andrew; Ron & Janette Wells; Rod Robertson; Beverly Stephenson; Jill Sculley; Sergio Altin; Hugo Ellis; Mel; Hannah van Meerten; Josephine Carne; Jean Ely; Lorraine Hedley; John Curtin.

Notices

- Parish Council meets today following the service.
- Canon Matt is on leave for the next week. Rev. Mike is locum.
- We have not been able to arrange an alternative church camp venue. Instead, we will arrange a parish lunch and social on Sunday 1st October.
- We have a new tap and go facility for receiving offerings at the exit, which allows simple selection from four pre-set amounts.

Contact Details

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Matt Williams	0403 770 867
Associate Minister:	Rev. Mike Raiter	0425 211 058
Student Minister:	Mr. Marinus van Meerten	0491 118 986
Lay Minister:	Ms. Bei-En Zou	0434 899 839
On-Site Manager:	Ms. Lisa Wardell	0417 624 915
Child Safety Officer:	Ms. Una Ebsworth	0400 717 571
Churchwardens:		
Mr David Spriggs		0417 190 319
Ms Elizabeth Blades-Hamilton		0423 100 677
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