St James' Old Cathedral

26th November 2023 at 10:00am Feast of Christ the King

The Despised King: Hebrews 13:8-16

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 Roslyn White

Rosie O'Reilly Jenny George Jack Jordan Julien Robinson

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. He also serves as College Organist for 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 You have come to Mount Zion

The Old Cathedral Voices M. Nelson (b. 1990)

Hebrews 12:22-24

Commissioned for The Old Cathedral Voices. Premiered 16th November 2014.

You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word

than the blood of Abel.

Greeting & Preparation

Canon Matt Williams

Let us then go to Jesus outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured.

For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.

Hebrews 13:13-14

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 163 (Diademata)

M. Bridges (1800-94)

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own:
awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy chosen king
through all eternity.

Crown him the Son of God
before the worlds began:
and ye who tread where he hath trod
crown him the Son of man;
who every grief hath known
that wrings the human breast,
and takes and bears them for his own
that all in him may rest.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds yet visible above
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Cont. Over =>

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave, and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save: his glories now we sing who died and rose on high; who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.

Crown him, the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease absorbed in prayer and praise: his reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

The Commandments

Canon Matt Williams

'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.'

Gloria in Excelsis

Canon Matt Williams

Glory to God in the highest
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One;
you alone are the Lord;
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collects

Canon Matt Williams

Stir up, we pray you, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people, that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Everlasting God,
whose will is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son,
our Lord and King:
grant that the people of earth,
now divided and enslaved by sin,
may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

Canon Matt Williams

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 Canon Matt Williams

We offer an age-appropriate experience of the Ministry of the Word for children. They are invited to process out to the conference centre, as the following anthem is sung.

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

Meditation Jenny George (Alto)

"He was despised" from Messiah G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

He was despised and rejected of men,

A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. Isaiah 53:3

He gave his back to the smiters,

and his cheeks to them that plucked off the hair.

He hid not his face from shame and spitting. Isaiah 50:6

First Reading: Isaiah 53:3-12 Joan Lorych

³He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases;

yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted.

⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way,

and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth;

like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future?

For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people.

⁹They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich,

although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth.

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin,

he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;

through him the will of the Lord shall prosper.

¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;

he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;

because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Hear the word of the Lord: Thanks be to God.

For the director of music. To the tune of "A Dove on Distant Oaks." Of David. A miktam. When the Philistines had seized him in Gath.

Be merciful to me, O God, for they are treading me down: all day long my adversary presses upon me.

My enemies tread me down all the day:

for there are many that arrogantly fight against me.

In the hour of fear:

I will put my trust in you.

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust and fear not: what can flesh do to me?

All day long they afflict me with their words: and every thought is how to do me evil.

They stir up hatred and conceal themselves:
they watch my steps, while they lie in wait for my life.

Let there be no escape for them:

bring down the peoples in your wrath, O God.

You have counted my anxious tossings; put my tears in your bottle: are not these things noted in your book?

In the day that I call to you, my enemies shall turn back: this I know, for God is with me.

In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust and fear not: what can flesh and blood do to me?

To you, O God, must I perform my vows:

I will pay the thank-offering that is due.

For you will deliver my soul from death, and my feet from falling: that I may walk before God in the light of the living.

Epistle: Hebrews 13:8-16 Owen Billington

- ⁹Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings; for it is well for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by regulations about food, which have not benefited those who observe them.
- ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who officiate in the tent have no right to eat.
- ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp.
- ¹²Therefore Jesus also suffered outside the city gate in order to sanctify the people by his own blood.
- ¹³Let us then go to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured.
- ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come.
- 15Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name.
- ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

Hymn 68 v1,2,4,5 (Praise, my Soul) J. Goss (1800-1880)

Praise, my soul, the king of heaven; to his feet thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who like me his praise should sing? praise him, praise him, hallelujah, praise the everlasting king!

Praise him for his grace and favour to our fathers in distress; praise him still the same for ever, slow to chide and swift to bless: praise him, praise him, hallelujah, glorious in his faithfulness.

Frail as summer's flower we flourish, blows the wind and it is gone; but while mortals rise and perish, God endures unchanging on.
Praise him, praise him, hallelujah, praise the high eternal one.

Angels, help us to adore him, ye behold him face to face; sun and moon, bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space: praise him, praise him, hallelujah, praise with us the God of grace!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46 Canon Matt Williams

The Gospel is written in the twenty-fifth chapter of the Gospel according to Matthew, beginning at the thirty-first verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

³¹'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.

³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;

³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

³⁷Then the righteous will answer him,

"Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?

³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?

³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?"

⁴⁰And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;

⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me."

"Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?"

⁴⁵Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me."

⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

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

⁴⁴Then they also will answer,

Sermon Canon Matt Williams

Anthem Then Shall the King Say

The Old Cathedral Voices
A. Anderson (b. 1971)

Premiered by The Old Cathedral Voices 22nd July 2018.

Then shall the King say unto them:

"Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you.

For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
was a stranger and you took me in,

naked, and you clothed me, sick, and you visited me,

I was in prison, and you came to me.

Then shall the righteous answer him:

"When did we see you, Lord, in such great need? Hungry, or thirsty, naked, or sick, imprisoned, or a stranger? When was it that we offered you help?"

And then the King shall answer them:

"As you did these things for one of the least of my people, so you have done these things for me." Matthew 25:34-40 (Alt.)

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.

Intercessions (All Sit or Kneel)

Chris White

Response:

Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

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

Canon Matt Williams

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 Canon Matt Williams

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

(Silence may be kept.)

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)

Canon Matt Williams

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

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

Hymn 496 (Breslau)

C. W. Everest (1814-77)

'Take up your cross,' the Saviour said,
'if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart
and humbly follow after me.'

Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak spirit with alarm; his strength shall bear your spirit up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, and let your foolish pride be still: your Lord refused not even to die upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.

Take up your cross, then, in his strength and calmly every danger brave; it guides you to a better home and leads to victory o'er the grave.

Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for only he who bears the cross may hope to wear the glorious crown.

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.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere, mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross

and rising to new life,

he offered the one true sacrifice for sin and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

You have highly exalted him,

and given him the name which is above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
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.'

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

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Fill us with your Spirit

that we may follow Jesus

in all we do and say,

working for justice and bringing your peace

to this world that you have made.

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 Once for All

The Old Cathedral Voices
A. Anderson (b. 1971)

Commissioned for The Old Cathedral Voices. Premiered 27th July 2014.

By God's will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all.

For by a single offering Christ has perfected for all time those who have been sanctified.

Heb 10:10,14

After Communion

Canon Matt Williams

God of glory

you sent your Son Jesus Christ into the world to preach the gospel of the kingdom.

Strengthen us who share this meal to continue his mission by living the good news we proclaim.

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Notices

Canon Matt Williams

Hymn 190 (Austria 374i)

I. H. Jones (1934-2016)

Christ, our King before creation,
Son, who shared the Father's plan,
crowned in deep humiliation
by your friend and partner, man:
make us humble in believing,
and, believing, bold to pray 'Lord, forgive our self-deceiving,
come and reign in us today!'

Lord of life and Lord of history, giving us, when man despairs, faith to wrestle with the mystery of a God who loves and cares: make us humble in believing, and, believing, bold to pray - 'Lord, by grace beyond conceiving, come and reign in us today!'

Word that ends our long debating,
Word of God that sets us free,
through your body re-creating
man as he is meant to be:
make us humble in believing,
and, believing, bold to pray 'Lord, in us your aim achieving,
come and reign in us today!'

Blessing & Dismissal

Canon Matt Williams

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and 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)

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

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; Josephine Carne; Jean Ely; Lorraine Hedley; John Curtin; Merle Taylor; Jamie Clingin; Jamie Chisholm; Hannah, Marinus, and Samuel van Meerten.

Notices

- o Our Parish AGM will follow the service at 12pm.
- Lorraine Hedley has returned to her home from hospital on Thursday.
 She is currently housebound and still appreciative of visitors.
- Reverend Mike is away on a two month locum at Providence Church in Perth. Please keep him in your prayers.

Contact Details

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