

# St James' Old Cathedral

12<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 10:00am  
Second Sunday of Easter

Thomas: John 20:19-29

*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 and continuing 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](mailto: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 Alex Ritter.

Today's singers are:	Monika Harris	Lily Flynn
Alex Ritter	Jenny George	Tanum Shipp
Bailey Montgomerie	Mike Mews	
Alex Owens	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. 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**

***The Old Cathedral Voices***

**I know that my redeemer liveth**

***T. Tomkins (1572-1656)***

*I know that my redeemer liveth,  
and that I shall rise out of the earth in the last day,  
and shall be covered again with my skin,  
and shall see God in my flesh:  
yea, and I myself shall behold him,  
not with other, but with these same eyes. Job 19:25-27*

**Opening Sentence and Greeting**

***Lwe Moo San Tay***

Jesus said to Thomas,

“Have you believed because you have seen me?

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

*John 20:29*

Although you have not seen Jesus, you love him,  
and even though you do not see him now,  
you believe in him and rejoice  
with an indescribable and glorious joy.

*1 Peter 1:8*

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.**

Christ is risen. Alleluia!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**Prayer of Preparation**

***Lwe Moo San Tay***

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 280 (Easter Hymn)**

***Anon 14<sup>th</sup> C. alt.***

**Jesus Christ is risen today, *alleluia!*  
our triumphant holy day, *alleluia!*  
who so lately on the cross, *alleluia!*  
suffered to redeem our loss, *alleluia!***

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, *alleluia!*  
unto Christ, our heavenly king, *alleluia!*  
who endured the cross and grave, *alleluia!*  
sinners to redeem and save, *alleluia!***

**But the pain that he endured, *alleluia!*  
our salvation has procured, *alleluia!*  
now exalted he is king, *alleluia!*  
and the angels ever sing, *alleluia!***

**Sing we to our God above, *alleluia!*  
praise eternal as his love, *alleluia!*  
praise him, all ye heavenly host, *alleluia!*  
Father, Son and Holy Ghost: *alleluia!***

## **Commandments**

*Lwe Moo San Tay*

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

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.

This is the great and first commandment.

And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

*Lwe Moo San Tay*

**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.**

**Collect**

***Lwe Moo San Tay***

Almighty and eternal God,  
the strength of those who believe  
and the hope of those who doubt:  
may we, who have not seen, have faith  
and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Prayer for The Ministry of the Word** ***Lwe Moo San Tay***

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**

**Bridget Chapman**

*We offer an age-appropriate experience of the Ministry of the Word for children, led today by Bridget Chapman. They are invited to process out to the Conference Centre, as the following anthem is sung. They will return in time to join us at 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***

**Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace** ***S. S. Wesley (1810-1876)***

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace  
whose mind is stayed on thee.*

*The darkness is no darkness with thee,  
but the night is as clear as the day.*

*The darkness and the light to thee are both alike.*

*God is light and with him is no darkness at all.*

*Oh let my soul live, and it shall praise thee.*

*For thine is the Kingdom,  
the power and the glory, for evermore.*

*Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace  
whose mind is stayed on thee.*

**First Lesson: Isaiah 26:12-19**

***Ruth Champion***

<sup>12</sup> O Lord, may you ordain peace for us,  
for indeed, all that we have done,  
you have done for us.

<sup>13</sup> O Lord our God, other lords besides you have ruled over us,  
but we acknowledge your name alone.

<sup>14</sup> The dead do not live;  
shades do not rise  
because you have punished and destroyed them  
and wiped out all memory of them.

<sup>15</sup> But you have increased the nation, O Lord;  
you have increased the nation; you are glorified;  
you have enlarged all the borders of the land.

<sup>16</sup> O Lord, in distress they sought you;  
they poured out a prayer  
when your chastening was on them.

<sup>17</sup> Like a woman with child  
about to give birth  
writhes and cries out in her pain,

so were we because of you, O Lord;

<sup>18</sup> we were with child; we writhed,  
but we gave birth only to wind.

We have won no victories on earth,  
and no one is born to inhabit the world.

<sup>19</sup> Your dead shall live; their corpses shall rise.

Those who dwell in the dust will awake and shout for joy!  
For your dew is a radiant dew,  
and the earth will give birth to those long dead.

Hear the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

The sounds of joy and deliverance:

**are in the tents of the righteous.**

The right hand of the Lord does mighty things:

**the right hand of the Lord raises up.**

I shall not die but live:

**and proclaim the works of the Lord.**

The Lord has disciplined me hard:

**but he has not given me over to death.**

Open me the gates of righteousness:

**and I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.**

This is the gate of the Lord:

**the righteous shall enter it.**

I will praise you, for you answered me:

**and have become my salvation.**

The stone that the builders rejected:

**has become the head of the corner.**

This is the Lord's doing:

**and it is marvellous in our eyes.**

This is the day that the Lord has made:

**let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**Epistle: 1 Peter 1:1-9**

***Chris White***

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ,

To the exiles of the dispersion in Pontus, Galatia,

Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia,

<sup>2</sup> who have been chosen and destined by God the Father  
and sanctified by the Spirit

to be obedient to Jesus Christ

and to be sprinkled with his blood:

May grace and peace be yours in abundance.

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead

<sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable,  
undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,

<sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith  
for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while  
you have had to suffer various trials,

<sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—  
being more precious than gold that,  
though perishable, is tested by fire—

may be found to result in praise and glory and honor  
when Jesus Christ is revealed.

<sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him,  
and even though you do not see him now,  
you believe in him and rejoice  
with an indescribable and glorious joy,

<sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith,  
the salvation of your souls.

Hear the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 300 (Carlisle 552)**

***T. Kelly (1769-1855)***

**The Lord is risen indeed!  
Now is his work performed;  
now is the mighty captive freed  
and death's strong castle stormed.**

**The Lord is risen indeed!  
The grave has lost its prey;  
with him is risen his ransomed seed  
to reign in endless day.**

**The Lord is risen indeed!  
He lives, to die no more;  
he lives, the sinner's cause to plead,  
whose curse and shame he bore.**

**Then, angels, tune your lyres  
and strike each cheerful chord;  
join, all ye bright celestial choirs,  
to sing our risen Lord.**

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

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

<sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

<sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

<sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

<sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord."

But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them.

Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

<sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands.  
Reach out your hand and put it in my side.  
Do not doubt but believe.”

<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me?  
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

For the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon**

***Rev. Mike Raiter***

**Anthem**

***The Old Cathedral Voices***

**This Joyful Eastertide**

***C. Wood (1866-1926)***

*This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!*

*My love, the crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.*

*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three day prison,  
our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen!*

*My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber*

*'til trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.*

*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three day prison,  
our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen!*

*Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus cross'd the river.*

*Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.*

*Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three day prison,  
our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen!*

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**

*Rev. Mike Raiter*

*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 for the Lord's Supper**      *Lwe Moo San Tay*

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**

*Lwe Moo San Tay*

We were buried with Christ by baptism into death,  
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead...  
we too might walk in newness of life. *Romans 6:4*

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith,  
with a sincere and true heart.

**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**

*Rev. Mike Raiter*

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**

*Lwe Moo San Tay*

*(All Stand.)*

We are the body of Christ: **His Spirit is with us.**  
The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

*During the Hymn which follows,  
the Children's Chapel rejoin us for Holy Communion.*

Hymn 303 (Maccabaeus)

*E. Budry (1854-1932)*

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes, where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord is living, death has lost its sting...

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;  
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love:  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above...

**Thanksgiving & Holy Communion**      *Rev. Mike Raiter*

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.

And now we give you thanks  
that you raised him to life triumphant,  
and exalted him in glory.

By his victory over death,  
the reign of sin is ended,  
a new day has dawned,  
a broken world is restored  
and we are made whole once more.

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.'

**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 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 baptised children at their parents' discretion,  
are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table.*

*If you need gluten-free bread,  
advise the minister at the rail.*

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

**During Communion**  
**Christ rising again**

***The Old Cathedral Voices***  
***T. Tallis (1505-1585)***

*Christ rising again from the dead now dieth not:  
death from henceforth hath no power upon him.  
For in that he died, he died but once to put away sin:  
but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.*

*And so likewise count yourselves dead unto sin:  
but living unto God in Christ Jesu our Lord.*

*Romans 6:9-11*

*Christ is risen again: the first fruit of them that sleep.  
For seeing that by man came death:  
by man also cometh the resurrection of the dead.  
For as in Adam all men do die:*

*so by Christ all men shall be restored to life. Alleluia! 1 Cor 15:20-22*

**After Communion**

***Rev. Mike Raiter***

Eternal God, giver of life,  
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.  
May we who celebrate this holy feast  
walk in his risen light  
and bring new life to all creation.

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**

***Rev. Mike Raiter***

**Hymn 276 v1,6-8 (Lasst Uns Erfreuen) Anon. Latin 7<sup>th</sup> C.**

**Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky;  
heaven thunders forth its victory; *alleluia!*  
The glad earth shouts her triumph high  
and groaning hell makes wild reply: *alleluia!***

**That Eastertide with joy was bright,  
the sun shone out with fairer light, *alleluia!*  
when to their longing eyes restored  
the apostles saw their risen Lord. *alleluia!***

**He bade them see his hands, his side,  
where yet the glorious wounds abide: *alleluia!*  
the tokens true which made it plain  
their Lord indeed was risen again. *alleluia!***

**Jesus, the king of gentleness,  
come now yourself our hearts possess, *alleluia!*  
that we may give you all our days  
the tribute of our grateful praise. *alleluia!***

**Blessing & Dismissal*****Rev. Mike Raiter***

May the God of peace, who raised from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
the first and the last and the living one,  
draw you up to live forever through him,  
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 join us for Morning Tea  
in the Conference Centre next door  
following 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; Emma Payne (CMS); Chris & Sarah Griffioen and family (OM); Australian Indigenous Churches; Ridley College; Trinity College; the Overseas Chinese Christian Church; Lorraine Hedley; Diane and Roger Smith and family; Beverly Stephenson; The Hamilton Family; Jean Ely; Neil Hawthorn; Jenny Swain; Kim Boulton; Tony Billington; Ken McAlpine; Jamie Chisholm; Anne Ellison; Gillian Williams; Mavis Payne; Lisa Thompson; Warren Mills; Chris & Roselee Jones; all who mourn Carl Moses and Sergio Altin.

## Notices

- Canon Matt is on annual leave until Wednesday.
- Tuesday night Dinner and Bible Study will return this week, at Canon Matt's house (96 Roden Street, West Melbourne), led by Bridget Chapman. It runs 7pm-9pm and all are welcome.
- Youth Group returns Friday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

## Contact Details

<b>Vicar:</b>	Rev. Canon Matt Williams	0403 770 867
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