

St James' Old Cathedral

29th September 2024 at 10:00am

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Human Shibboleths: John 8:1-11

*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 Alex Ritter.

Today's singers are:

Monika Harris	Eliza Bennetts O'Connor	
Alex Ritter	Jack Jordan	
Matthew Crossley	Alex Owens	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, 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 (All Stand)

Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake

The Old Cathedral Voices

R. Farrant (1530-80)

Lord, for thy tender mercies' sake

lay not our sins to our charge:

but forgive that is past and give us grace to amend our sinful lives,

to decline from sin and incline to virtue:

that we may walk in an upright heart

before thee now and evermore. Amen.

(Lidley's Prayers 1566)

Sentence and Greeting

Bridget Penington

Jesus said to the woman, 'Neither do I condemn you.

Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.'

John 8:11

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 438 (Woodlands 109)

H. Bonar (1808-89)

**Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
here would I touch and handle things unseen,
here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
and in my weariness upon thee lean.**

**Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
here drink with thee the royal wine of heaven;
here would I lay aside each earthly load,
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.**

**This is the hour of banquet and of song,
this is the heavenly table spread for me;
here let me feast, and, feasting, still prolong
this hallowed hour of fellowship with thee.**

**Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;
mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing blood;
here is my robe, my refuge and my peace -
thy blood, thy righteousness, O Lord my God.**

**Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
the Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.**

The Commandments

Bridget Penington

**'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

Bridget Penington

**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

Bridget Penington

God of mercy,

you sent your Son to call sinners to repentance:

teach your Church to reflect humbly on our own sins

that we may put down our stones

and recognise each other as fellow children of mercy,

through the same Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

Bridget Penington

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

Dr Matthew Champion

We offer an age-appropriate experience of the Ministry of the Word for children, led today by Dr Matthew Champion. 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

Dwell in Unity (Psalm 133)

D. J. Griffiths (b. 1955)

*Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!*

It is like the precious oil upon the head:

*running down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron,
running down the collar of his robes.*

It is like the dew of Hermon

that falls on the mountains of Sion.

For there the Lord has commanded his blessings:

Life forevermore.

The men of Ephraim were called to arms,
and they crossed to Zaphon and said to Jephthah,
'Why did you cross over to fight against the Ammonites,
and did not call us to go with you?
We will burn your house down over you!'

²Jephthah said to them, 'My people and I were engaged
in conflict with the Ammonites who oppressed us severely.
But when I called you, you did not deliver me from their hand.

³When I saw that you would not deliver me,
I took my life in my hand,
and crossed over against the Ammonites,
and the Lord gave them into my hand.

Why then have you come up to me this day, to fight against me?'

⁴Then Jephthah gathered all the men of Gilead
and fought with Ephraim;
and the men of Gilead defeated Ephraim, because they said,
'You are fugitives from Ephraim, you Gileadites—
in the heart of Ephraim and Manasseh.'

⁵Then the Gileadites took the fords of the Jordan
against the Ephraimites.

Whenever one of the fugitives of Ephraim said, 'Let me go over',
the men of Gilead would say to him, 'Are you an Ephraimite?'

When he said, 'No', ⁶they said to him, 'Then say Shibboleth',
and he said, 'Sibboleth', for he could not pronounce it right.

Then they seized him and killed him at the fords of the Jordan.
Forty-two thousand of the Ephraimites fell at that time.

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

Psalm 133

Bridget Penington

Behold how good and how lovely it is:

when families live together in unity.

It is fragrant as oil upon the head,

that runs down over the beard:

**fragrant as oil upon the beard of Aaron,
that ran down over the collar of his robe.**

It is like the dew of Hermon:

like the dew that falls upon the hill of Zion.

For there the Lord has commanded his blessing:

which is life for evermore.

²²Then the apostles and the elders,
with the consent of the whole church,
decided to choose men from among their members
and to send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas.

They sent Judas called Barsabbas, and Silas,
leaders among the brothers, ²³with the following letter:

‘The brothers, both the apostles and the elders,
to the believers of Gentile origin
in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia, greetings.

²⁴Since we have heard that certain persons
who have gone out from us,
though with no instructions from us,
have said things to disturb you and have unsettled your minds,

²⁵we have decided unanimously to choose representatives
and send them to you,
along with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,

²⁶who have risked their lives for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁷We have therefore sent Judas and Silas,
who themselves will tell you the same things
by word of mouth.

²⁸For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us
to impose on you no further burden than these essentials:

²⁹that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols
and from blood and from what is strangled
and from fornication.

If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.’

³⁰So they were sent off and went down to Antioch.

When they gathered the congregation together,
they delivered the letter.

³¹When its members read it, they rejoiced at the exhortation.

³²Judas and Silas, who were themselves prophets,
said much to encourage and strengthen the believers.

³³After they had been there for some time,
they were sent off in peace by the believers
to those who had sent them.

³⁵But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch,
and there, with many others,
they taught and proclaimed the word of the Lord.

³⁶After some days Paul said to Barnabas,
'Come, let us return and visit the believers in every city
where we proclaimed the word of the Lord
and see how they are doing.'

³⁷Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark.

³⁸But Paul decided not to take with them
one who had deserted them in Pamphylia
and had not accompanied them in the work.

³⁹The disagreement became so sharp that they parted company;
Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus.

⁴⁰But Paul chose Silas and set out,
the believers commending him to the grace of the Lord.

⁴¹He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

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

Hymn 191 (Christe Sanctorum)

F. P. Green (1903-2000)

**Christ is the world's light, he and no other;
born in our darkness, he became our brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
Glory to God on high.**

**Christ is the world's peace, he and no other;
no man can serve him and despise his brother.
Who else unites us, one in God the Father?
Glory to God on high.**

**Christ is the world's life, he and no other;
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother -
he, who redeems us, reigns with God the Father:
Glory to God on high.**

**Give God the glory, God and no other;
give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father;
give God the glory, God in man my brother:
Glory to God on high.**

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²Early in the morning Jesus came again to the temple.
All the people came to him and he sat down
and began to teach them.

³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman
who had been caught in adultery;
and making her stand before all of them, ⁴they said to him,
'Teacher, this woman was caught
in the very act of committing adultery.

⁵Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women.
Now what do you say?'

⁶They said this to test him,
so that they might have some charge to bring against him.

Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.

⁷When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up
and said to them, 'Let anyone among you who is without sin
be the first to throw a stone at her.'

⁸And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground.

⁹When they heard it, they went away, one by one,
beginning with the elders;
and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him.

¹⁰Jesus straightened up and said to her,
'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?'

¹¹She said, 'No one, sir.'

And Jesus said, 'Neither do I condemn you.

Go your way, and from now on do not sin again.'

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

Sermon

Canon Matt Williams

Anthem

The Old Cathedral Voices

Sweet is Thy Mercy

J. Barnby (1838-1896)

*Sweet is Thy mercy, Lord!
Before Thy mercy seat,
My soul adoring pleads Thy word,
and owns thy mercy sweet.*

*Where'er Thy Name is blest,
Where'er Thy people meet,
There I delight in Thee to rest,
and find Thy mercy sweet.*

*Light Thou our weary way,
Lead Thou my wand'ring feet;
That while we stay on earth we may
Still find Thy mercy sweet.*

*Thus shall the heav'nly host
Hear all our songs repeat,
To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
Our joy, Thy mercy sweet.*

J. S. B. Monsell (1811-75)

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

Bridget Penington

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 *Bridget Penington*

Why do you see the speck in your neighbour's eye,
but do not notice the log in your own eye? *Matt 7:3*

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 *Bridget Penington*

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

Hymn 364 (Vienna)

C. Wesley (1707-88)

**Christ, from whom all blessings flow,
perfecting the saints below,
hear us, who thy nature share,
who thy mystic body are.**

**Join us, in one spirit join,
let us still receive of thine;
still for more on thee we call,
thou who fillest all in all.**

**Move, and actuate, and guide:
various gifts to each divide;
placed according to thy will,
let us all thy work fulfil;**

**freely may we all agree,
touched with loving sympathy;
kindly for each other care;
every member feel its share.**

**Love, like death, has all destroyed,
rendered all distinctions void;
names, and sects, and parties fall;
thou, O Christ, art all in all.**

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.

Loving God,

we thank you for this world of wonder and delight.

You have given it to us to care for,

so that all creatures may enjoy its bounty.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that when we turned away from you,

you sent Jesus to live and work as one of us,

and bring us back to you.

He showed us how to love you

and set us free to love and serve one another.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you that on the cross

Jesus took away our sin,

all that keeps us from each other and from you.

He frees us from hate and fear,

from all that destroys love and trust.

Lord our God,

we give you thanks and praise.

And so with everyone who believes in you,
with all the saints and angels,
we rejoice and praise you, 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.

*The sacrament is given with the following words,
after which the communicant responds **Amen.***

The body of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

*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.*

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
O Most Merciful

The Old Cathedral Voices
C. Wood (1866-1926)

Oh most merciful! Oh most bountiful!
God the Father Almighty!
By the Redeemer's sweet intercession,
Hear us, help us when we cry!

Purge me, O Lord

T. Tallis (1505-1585)

Purge me, O Lord, from all my sin,
and save thou me by faith from ill,
that I may rest and dwell with thee,
upon thy holy blessed hill.

And that done, grant that with true heart
I may without hypocrisy
affirm the truth, detract no man,
but do all things with equity.

After Communion

Canon Matt Williams

Living God, in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.
May the power of your love,
 which we have known in word and sacrament,
continue your saving work among us,
give us courage for our pilgrimage,
and bring us to the joys you promise.

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.

Hymn 503 (Londonderry Air)

J. G. Whittier (1807-92)

**O brother man, fold to thy heart thy brother:
where pity dwells, the peace of God is there;
to worship rightly is to love each other,
each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.
For he whom Jesus loved has truly spoken:
the holier worship which he deigns to bless
restores the lost, and binds the spirit broken,
and feeds the widow and the fatherless.**

**Follow with reverent steps the great example
of him whose holy work was doing good:
so shall the wide earth seem our Father's temple,
each loving life a psalm of gratitude.**

**Then shall all shackles fall: the stormy clangour
of wild war music o'er the earth shall cease;
love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
and in its ashes plant the tree of peace.**

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; Joy Surgical; 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; Andrew; Beverly Stephenson; Jill Sculley; Sergio Altin; Hugo Ellis; Josephine Carne; Jean Ely; Lorraine Hedley; Merle Taylor; Jamie Chisholm; Zoe Creelman; Stuart; Janette Wells; The Altin family; Lisa Thompson; Jenny Swain; Jean Miller; Tony Billington.

Notices

- Today's service is also part of our church camp. Those who have registered will return to our base in Collins Street for lunch.
- Dr Jenny George has been elected chair of the Board of Nominators, which is managing the process for selecting candidates to be the next Archbishop of Melbourne. Please see www.boardofnominators.org for ongoing updates on how you can be involved in consultations.
- The Parish AGM will be 24th November at 12pm.

Contact Details

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