



The SCOTS' CHURCH MELBOURNE

ORDER OF SERVICE

Sunday 5 May 2024 11.00am

**The service is conducted by Rev Justin Ang
with Rev Dr Arthur Keefer and Rev Litha Heshusius**

**The Director of Music is Douglas Lawrence AM
The organist is Jennifer Chou**

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude in D Minor
Wilhelm Friedemann Bach (1710-1784)

ENTRANCE Improvised Plein jeu in the 3rd ton

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev Dr Arthur Keefer

INTROIT In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was made flesh
and dwelt among us: and we beheld his glory, full of grace and truth.

Text: John 1:14

Music: George Thalben Ball (1896-1987)

1. 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!
Praise the everlasting King.

2. 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!
glorious in his faithfulness.

3. Father-like he tends and spares us;
well our feeble frame he knows;
in his hands he gently bears us,
rescues us from all our foes:
Praise him! Praise him!
widely as his mercy flows.

4. 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!
Praise the high eternal One.

5. 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!
Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847) from Psalm 103

Music: John Gross (1800-1880)

Descant: George Henry Ley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! Thanks for joining us in-person at Scots' Church, and online via YouTube live streaming.

If you're new to Scots' please introduce yourself on the card near your seat. Fill it in and leave it at the foyer desk, or scan the QR code with your phone and give us your contact details online. **We'd love to make you welcome and keep you in touch with happenings at Scots'.**

Join us afterwards for a cuppa and a chat over at the mezzanine level at the Westpac building after today's service.

Midweek Small Groups are held on Tuesday night. There's a light dinner available from 6.30pm (\$5 suggested donation) – please email justin@scotchurch.com if you're planning to come for the first time to help with catering arrangements.

You are invited to join us for lunch in the Westpac Function Room after the morning service on 19th May to find out the latest news from our Mission Partners Lauren Raiter, and Adam and Helene Ramsay. If you are able, a donation of \$5 toward the cost of the lunch would be most welcome.

Phil and Louise Campbell are on leave and will return Friday, 10 May.

HYMN 378 Praise to the Holiest Gerontius

1. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise;
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

2. O loving wisdom of our God!
when all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.

3. O wisest love! that flesh and blood
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail;

4. O generous love! that he who smote
in Man, for man, the foe,
the double agony in Man
for man should undergo;

5. And in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.

6. Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise,
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

Text: John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

Music: John Bacchus Dykes (1863-1937)

PRAYER OF APPROACH Rev Dr Arthur Keefer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

ANTHEM Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in his hand, Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full homage to demand. King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood, Lord of Lords, in human vesture in the Body and the Blood He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way as the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day that the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away. At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, Alleluya, Lord most High. Amen.

Text: Translated from the Greek by G. Moultrie (1799-1874)

Music: Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

A NOTE ABOUT THE OFFERING

If you're part of the Scots' Church family and you're not already giving electronically, this is your opportunity to join us in financial partnership. If you're visiting today, please feel no obligation to contribute – be our guest. If you are in financial need, our Care Committee has various ways to help. Please speak to one of our Ministers after the service.

OFFERTORY HYMN 14 **The Lord's my Shepherd**

Crimond

1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.

He makes me down to lie
in pastures green: he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

2. My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
even for his own name's sake.

3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill:
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

4. My table thou hast furnishèd
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me:
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

Text: Psalm 23

Music: Jessie Seymour Irvine (1836-1887)

PASTORAL PRAYER with Rev Litha Heshusius

**To the choirmaster: according to The Doe of the Dawn.
A Psalm of David.**

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning?

²O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.

³Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

⁴In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.

⁵To you they cried and were rescued;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

⁶But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.

⁷All who see me mock me;
they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

⁸“He trusts in the LORD; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!”

⁹Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

¹⁰On you was I cast from my birth,
and from my mother's womb you have been my God.

¹¹Be not far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.

¹²Many bulls encompass me;
strong bulls of Bashan surround me;

¹³they open wide their mouths at me,
like a ravening and roaring lion.

¹⁴I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint;

my heart is like wax;
it is melted within my breast;

¹⁵my strength is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to my jaws;
you lay me in the dust of death.

¹⁶ For dogs encompass me;
a company of evildoers encircles me;
they have pierced my hands and feet —
¹⁷ I can count all my bones—
they stare and gloat over me;
¹⁸ they divide my garments among them,
and for my clothing they cast lots.
¹⁹ But you, O LORD, do not be far off!
O you my help, come quickly to my aid!
²⁰ Deliver my soul from the sword,
my precious life from the power of the dog!
²¹ Save me from the mouth of the lion!
You have rescued me from the horns of the wild oxen!
²² I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:
²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him!
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him,
and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!
²⁴ For he has not despised or abhorred
the affliction of the afflicted,
and he has not hidden his face from him,
but has heard, when he cried to him.
²⁵ From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will perform before those who fear him.
²⁶ The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the LORD!
May your hearts live forever!
²⁷ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the LORD,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before you.
²⁸ For kingship belongs to the LORD,
and he rules over the nations.
²⁹ All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
even the one who could not keep himself alive.
³⁰ Posterity shall serve him;
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;
³¹ they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,
that he has done it.

CHORAL PSALM 71: 1-4, 13-16,19-22 to a chant by W. H. Gray

In thee O Lord I put my trust, let me never be put to confusion: but rid me and deliver me in thy righteousness, incline thine ear unto me and save me.

Be thou my strong hold whereunto I may alway resort: thou hast promised to help me, for thou art my house of defence and my castle. Deliver me O my God out of the hand of the ungodly: out of the hand of the unrighteous and cruel man.

For thou O lord God art the thing that I long for: thou art my hope even from my youth.

My mouth shall daily speak of thy righteousness and salvation: for I know no end thereof.

I will go forth in the strength of the Lord God: and will make mention of thy righteousness only.

Thou O God hast taught me from my youth up until now: therefore will I tell of thy wondrous works.

Forsake me not O God in mine old age, when I am gray-headed: until I have shewed thy strength unto this generation. And thy power to all them that are yet for to come.

Thou has brought me to great honour: and comforted me on every side. Therefore will I praise thee and thy faithfulness O God, playing upon an instrument of musick: unto thee will I sing upon the harp, O thou Holy One of Israel.

My lips will be fain when I sing unto thee: and so will my soul whom thou has delivered.

My tongue also shall talk of thy righteousness all the day long: for they are confounded and brought unto shame that see to do me evil.

SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 18: 1-8

Read by Dr Rosemary Fethers

18 And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

SERMON: Dark Clouds, Deep Mercy - Part III: Ask Boldly
Rev Justin Ang

What happens when our prayers go unanswered? When it feels like God is *silent*? *In our third instalment of 'Dark Clouds, Deep Mercy', we consider the need to bring our requests to God and to bring them boldly.*

1. Soldiers of Christ, arise,
and put your armour on,
strong in the strength which God supplies
through his eternal Son;
strong in the Lord of hosts,
and in his mighty power;
who in the strength of Jesus trusts
is more than conqueror.

2. Stand, then, in his great might,
with all his strength endued;
and take, to arm you for the fight,
the panoply of God.
To keep your armour bright
attend with constant care,
still walking in your Captain's sight,
and watching unto prayer.

3. From strength to strength go on,
wrestle, and fight, and pray;
tread all the powers of darkness down,
and win the well-fought day,
that, having all things done
and all your conflicts passed,
you may o'ercome through Christ alone,
and stand complete at last.

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: Edward Woodall Naylor (1867-1934)

BENEDICTION AND AMEN

POSTLUDE Postlude-Cantique

Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)

JOIN US AT SCOTS' CHURCH MELBOURNE
FOR TRADITION WITH A TWIST.
SINCE MEDIEVAL TIMES, PEOPLE HAVE GATHERED FOR 'VESPERS',
A REFLECTIVE EVENING SERVICE. WE'LL GUIDE YOU THROUGH AN
ANCIENT OR MODERN SONG (NO SKILL REQUIRED),
A PRAYER, AND A BRIEF BIBLICAL REFLECTION...
FOLLOWED BY DRINKS AT THE CRAFTY SQUIRE.

545PM THURSDAYS THROUGH WINTER

VESPERS



LAUNCHING THURSDAY JUNE 6TH. MORE INFO AT SCOTSCURCH.COM

Freewill offering

You are welcome to continue your giving by electronic means. Other freewill offering methods are:

- By electronic transfer to BSB **083 004**, Account number **630 327 585**
- By Planned Giving envelopes – Contact the office for details.
- By cheque made out to The Scots' Church Melbourne and posted to 1/156 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000
- By the Tap and Pay terminal in the foyer. (Note that you can make multiple taps if the preset amount is insufficient.)
- By credit card over the phone, 9650 9903