



The SCOTS' CHURCH MELBOURNE

ORDER OF SERVICE

Sunday 25 May 2025 11.00am

The service is conducted by Rev Dr Arthur Keefer
& Rev Litha Heshusius

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

PRELUDE Choral pour l'Offertoire (1914)
Alice Sauvrezis (1866-1946)

ENTRANCE Orgelprelude
Gustaf Mankell (1812-1880)

CALL TO WORSHIP

INTROIT Lift up your heads, O ye gates, even lift them up ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in. Who is the King of glory?
The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory
Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

HYMN 160 Praise, My Soul

Llanfair

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: Vaughan McAlley (Born 1970)

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.

TODAY after the 11.00am service we are having a **Families' Lunch** for parents and their babies/kids/teens. Please head over to 156 Collins St. on Level 1 of the Assembly Hall for a light lunch together.

Our Midweek Small Groups continue this Tuesday evening. It is held in the Robert White Hall of the Assembly Hall. Enter via 156 Collins Street through the glass doors and make your way up to Level 1. There's a light dinner available from 6.30pm (\$5 suggested donation) and studies start at 7pm. If you have any questions, please email justin@scotschurch.com.

If you're new (or newish) at Scots' join us for our **newcomers' lunch on Sunday, 8 June** after the morning service. Whether you're a recent

addition to our congregation or simply curious about our vibrant community, please complete the form at scotschurch.com/newcomers.

Rev Justin Ang is leading a special service today at St Stephen's Flemingington including 3 children's baptisms.

HYMN 53 Oh, Greatly Blest the People are

St Stephen

1. Oh, greatly blest the people are
the joyful sound that know;
in brightness of thy face, O Lord,
they ever on shall go.

3. For God is our defence; and he
to us doth safely bring:
the Holy One of Israel
is our almighty King.

2. They in thy name shall all the day
rejoice exceedingly;
and in thy righteousness shall they
exalted be on high.

Text: Psalm 89 Vs 15, 16 & 18

Music: William Jones (1726-1800)

PRAYER OF APPROACH

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 Justorum animae

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and the torment of malice
shall not touch them: in the sight of the unwise they seemed to die, but
they are in peace.

Text: The Book of Wisdom, Chapter III

Music: Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

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 the Minister after the service.

The kids and teens leave for KIDSCHURCH

OFFERTORY HYMN 459 Crown Him with Many Crowns *Diademata*

1. 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 matchless King
through all eternity.

2. 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.

3. Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me:
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

Text: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894) & Godfrey Thring (1823-1903)

Music: George Job Elvey (1816-1893)

PASTORAL PRAYER *Rev Litha Heshusius*

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 1:1-20

Read by Elder, Mr Sonal Herlekar

1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

² Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth;
for the LORD has spoken:
“Children have I reared and brought up,
but they have rebelled against me.

³ The ox knows its owner,
and the donkey its master's crib,
but Israel does not know,
my people do not understand.”

⁴ Ah, sinful nation,
a people laden with iniquity,
offspring of evildoers,
children who deal corruptly!
They have forsaken the LORD,
they have despised the Holy One of Israel,
they are utterly estranged.

⁵ Why will you still be struck down?
Why will you continue to rebel?
The whole head is sick,
and the whole heart faint.

⁶ From the sole of the foot even to the head,
there is no soundness in it,
but bruises and sores
and raw wounds;
they are not pressed out or bound up
or softened with oil.

⁷ Your country lies desolate;
your cities are burned with fire;
in your very presence
foreigners devour your land;
it is desolate, as overthrown by
foreigners.

⁸ And the daughter of Zion is left
like a booth in a vineyard,
like a lodge in a cucumber field,
like a besieged city.

⁹ If the LORD of hosts
had not left us a few survivors,
we should have been like Sodom,
and become like Gomorrah.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD,
you rulers of Sodom!
Give ear to the teaching of our
God,

you people of Gomorrah!

¹¹ “What to me is the multitude of
your sacrifices?
says the LORD;

I have had enough of burnt
offerings of rams
and the fat of well-fed beasts;
I do not delight in the blood of
bulls,
or of lambs, or of goats.

¹² “When you come to appear
before me,
who has required of you
this trampling of my courts?

¹³ Bring no more vain offerings;
incense is an abomination to me.
New moon and Sabbath and the
calling of convocations—
I cannot endure iniquity and
solemn assembly.

¹⁴ Your new moons and your
appointed feasts
my soul hates;
they have become a burden to me;
I am weary of bearing them.

¹⁵ When you spread out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.

¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves
clean;
remove the evil of your deeds from
before my eyes;
cease to do evil,

¹⁷ learn to do good;
seek justice,
correct oppression;
bring justice to the fatherless,
plead the widow's cause.

¹⁸ “Come now, let us reason
together, says the LORD:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient,
you shall eat the good of the
land;

²⁰ but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be eaten by the sword;
for the mouth of the LORD has
spoken.”

CHORAL PSALM 29 to a chant by Thomas Attwood

Bring unto the Lord O ye mighty, bring your rams' unto the Lord:
ascribe unto the Lord worship and strength. Give the Lord the
honour due unto his Name: worship the Lord with holy worship.
It is the Lord that commandeth the waters: it is the glorious God
that maketh the thunder. It is the Lord that ruleth the sea, the
voice of the Lord is mighty in operation: the voice of the Lord is a
glorious voice. The voice of the Lord breaketh the cedar-trees:
yea the Lord breaketh the cedars of Libanus. He maketh them
also to skip like a calf: Libanus also and Sirion like a young
unicorn. The voice of the Lord divideth the flames of fire, the
voice of the Lord shaketh the wilderness: yea the Lord shaketh
the wilderness of Cades.

The voice of the Lord maketh the hinds to bring forth young, and
discovereth the thick bushes: in his temple doth every man speak
of his honour. The Lord sitteth above the water flood: and the
Lord remaineth a King for ever. The Lord shall give strength unto
his people: the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 1:1-5

Read by Elder, Mr Sonal Herlekar

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ² the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³ that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. ⁵ This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

SERMON Embracing the Promises of the Holy One

As the prophet Isaiah speaks God's word to God's people, their situation looks dire: the nation is sinful, rebels, sick and full of corruption. How can such a people live before a pure God, the Holy One of Israel? As we follow the biblical story, we see it's not by resistance or religious performance but by embracing his promise of cleansing in Jesus Christ.

HYMN 182 Now Thank We All Our God

Nan Danket

1. Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2. Oh, may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever-joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us in his grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God
who reigns in highest heaven -
the Father and the Son
and Spirit – now be given:
the one, eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)

Music: Johann Crüger (1598-1662)

Harmonised by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Descant: John Scott (1956-2015)

BENEDICTION AND AMEN

POSTLUDE At Eastertide

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

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 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, Telephone the office on 9650 9903