



ST STEPHEN'S UNITING CHURCH

197 Macquarie St, Sydney

An Oasis of Christian Worship, Thought and Action

Minister: Position Vacant

Director of Music: Mark Quarmby

Choral Conductor: Dr David Hood

Organ Scholar: Joshua Ryan



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www.ssms.org.au

12 April 2015 – 10 am

MORNING WORSHIP

Easter 2

Led by the Rev. Kent Crawford

The Gathering of the People of God

Organ Prelude

Clair de lune Op. 53, No. 5

Louis Vierne (1870 - 1937)

Please stand at the entry of the choir and clergy and remain standing for the...

Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Call to Worship

Hymn 387 *Christ is alive! Let Christians sing*
(Tune 89 Truro)

Prayers of Approach and Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

...This is the Gospel.

Thanks be to God.

Doxology 101

Come, you people, come adore Him

(Tune 525: Laus Deo)



Come, you peo-ple, come a-dore Him God in Ho-ly Tri-ni-ty,



God the Fath-er, Son and Spi-rit, ev-er bless-èd un-it-y.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Service of the Word

Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet: **A light to our path.**

First Reading

Acts 4: 32-35

32 Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. **33** With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. **34** There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. **35** They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Second Reading*1 John 1: 1 - 2: 2*

1 We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— **2** this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us — **3** we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. **4** 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 there is no darkness at all. **6** If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; **7** but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. **8** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; **2** and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Anthem

Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God

Text: Ephesians 4:30-32

Music: Thomas Tertius Noble (1867 – 1953)

Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God,
whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.
Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger,
and clamour, and evil speaking,
be put away from you, with all malice:
And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted,
forgiving one another,
even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

Gospel Reading

St John 20: 19-31

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." **20** After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. **21** Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." **22** When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. **23** If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." **24** But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. **25** 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." **26** 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." **27** 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." **28** Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" **29** 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." **30** Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. **31** But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

May your word live in us: **And bear much fruit to your glory.**

Hymn 409

O breath of life, come sweeping through us
(Spiritus Vitæ)

Sermon

Hymn 473

Community of Christ, who make the Cross your own
(Leoni)

Concerns of the Church

Prayers of the People

We stand to sing...

The Lord's Prayer

Albert H Malotte

Lento, religioso

Our Fa - ther, _____ which art in heav - en _____
pp

Hal-low-ed be _____ thy name _____ Thy king-dom come.
p

Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heav - en _____
mp *p*

Give us this day our dai - ly bread. And for-give us our
pp *p*

tres-pass - es As we for-give those who tres-pass a - gainst us.

And lead us not in-to temp - ta - tion; But de-
mp

liv - er us from e - vil: For thine is the king - dom, _____ and the
mf *f*

pow - er, _____ and the glo - ry, _____ for ev - er. _____
ff

_____ A - men. _____
f *mf* *p* *pp*

Offering

Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 411 *Filled with the Spirit's power with one accord*
(Woodlands)

Blessing

... and remain with you always.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ.**

Threefold Amen

Organ Postlude

Introduction and Passacaglia in D minor

Max Reger (1873 - 1916)

Adapted from *Uniting in Worship 2* (2005)
Bible Readings taken from the *New Revised Standard Version* (1989)