



# 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: ..... Benjamin McKenzie



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**15 November 2015 – 10 am**

**MORNING WORSHIP**

**Pentecost 25**

**Sunday after Remembrance Day -**

**with the 30th Infantry Battalions**

Led by Rev. Ross Smith

This year marks the 100th anniversary since the raising of the first 30th Battalion at Liverpool, NEW on the 5th August 1915. The battalion served for a short time in Egypt while completing their training to take their place in the 8th Brigade of the 5th Division. The 30th Battalion served and fought with distinction in most of the major battles on the Western Front, and never permanently lost a position or a single yard of trench on the Western Front. The Battalion was disbanded on the 4th May 1919.



# ***The Gathering of the People of God***

## **Organ Prelude**

*Adagio for Strings* - Samuel Barber (1910 - 1981)

*Please stand for the entry of the Bible. Remain standing for the entry of the Pipes and Drums of the NSW Scottish Regimental Association and the Standards of the three 30<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalions. The Standards are presented and placed in the sanctuary.*

## **Pipes and Drums Processional**

*Castle Dangerous*

## **Greeting**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all  
**And also with you.**

## **Call to Worship**

**Hymn 111**      *Praise to the Lord*      (Lobe den Herren)

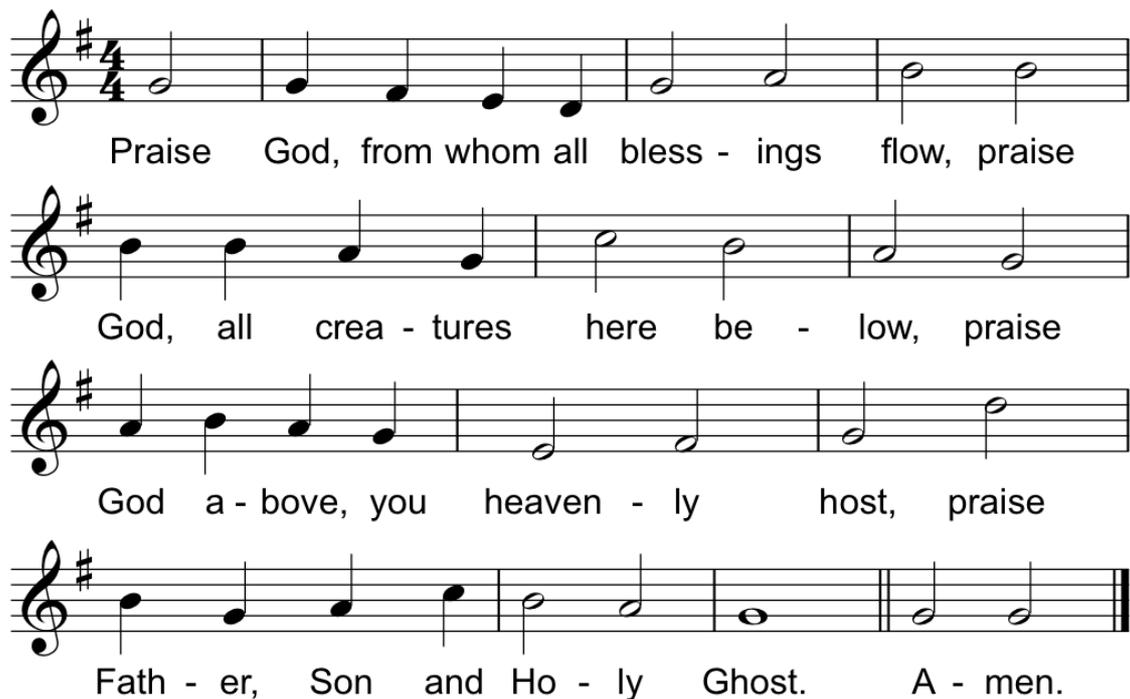
# Prayers of Adoration and Confession

## Declaration of Forgiveness

...This is the Gospel. **Thanks be to God.**

*We stand to sing*

## **Doxology 768** *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow* (i. Old Hundredth)



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow, praise  
God, all crea - tures here be - low, praise  
God a - bove, you heaven - ly host, praise  
Fath - er, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

## 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**

*1 Samuel 1: 4-20*

*Read by Derek Bryden*

for the 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion (1939-45) AIF Association

**4** On the day when Elkanah sacrificed, he would give portions to his wife Peninnah and to all her sons and daughters; **5** but to Hannah he gave a double portion, because he loved her, though the Lord had closed her womb. **6** Her rival used to provoke her severely, to irritate her, because the Lord had closed her womb. **7** So it went on year by year; as often as she went up to the house of the Lord, she used to provoke her. Therefore Hannah wept and would not eat. **8** Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Hannah, why do you weep? Why do you not eat? Why is your heart sad? Am I not more to you than ten sons?" **9** After they had eaten and drunk at Shiloh, Hannah rose and presented herself before the Lord. Now Eli the priest was sitting on the seat beside the doorpost of the temple of the Lord. **10** She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord, and wept bitterly. **11** She made this vow: "O Lord of hosts, if only you will look on the misery of your servant, and remember me, and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a male child, then I will set him before you as a nazirite until the day of his death. He shall drink neither wine nor intoxicants, and no razor shall touch his head." **12** As she continued praying before the Lord, Eli observed her mouth. **13** Hannah was praying silently; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard; therefore Eli thought she was drunk. **14** So Eli said to her, "How long will you make a drunken spectacle of yourself? Put away your wine." **15** But Hannah answered, "No,

my lord, I am a woman deeply troubled; I have drunk neither wine nor strong drink, but I have been pouring out my soul before the Lord. **16** Do not regard your servant as a worthless woman, for I have been speaking out of my great anxiety and vexation all this time." **17** Then Eli answered, "Go in peace; the God of Israel grant the petition you have made to him." **18** And she said, "Let your servant find favour in your sight." Then the woman went to her quarters, ate and drank with her husband, and her countenance was sad no longer. **19** They rose early in the morning and worshiped before the Lord; then they went back to their house at Ramah. Elkanah knew his wife Hannah, and the Lord remembered her. **20** In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the Lord."

**Hymn 106**      *Now thank we all our God*      (Nun danket)

*[based on canticle from 1 Samuel 2: 1-10]*

**Second Reading**      *Hebrews 10: 11-14; 19-25*

*Read by* Frank Woodhams

President 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion NSW Scottish Regimental Association

**11** And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. **12** But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," **13** and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." **14** For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

**19** Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, **20** by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), **21** and since we have a great priest over the house of God, **22** let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. **24** And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, **25** not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

## **Anthem**

### ***God is our Hope and Strength***

*Chorale from Cantata No.24 'Ein ungefärbt Gemüte'*

*Music: J.S Bach (1685 - 1750)*

God is our hope and strength,  
all heaven and earth adore him!  
Renew eternal praise,  
And prostrate fall before him!  
For all things are of him,  
and in all things is he,  
the works that aye have been,  
and evermore shall he.

Honour and thanks to God,  
who wrought this world's creation.  
To taste of heavenly joy,  
in death and tribulation.  
Him praise we while we live,  
and on his will attend,  
until we there arrive,  
where song shall have no end.

## Gospel Reading

*Mark 13: 1-8*

*Read by* Iain Huntley, President 2/30<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF Association

**1** As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" **2** Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." **3** When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, **4** "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" **5** Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. **6** Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. **7** When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. **8** For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

Lord, may your word live in us: **And bear much fruit to your glory.**

**Hymn 560 (i)**      *All my hope on God is founded*      (Michael)

**Sermon**              *The end of religion*

**Hymn 47**              *Our God, our help in ages past*      (St Anne)

# **Concerns of the Church**

## **Prayers of the People**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is 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.**

*We stand for the*

## **Act of Remembrance**

Brothers and sisters, let us remember the courage, devotion to duty and the self-sacrifice of the men and women in our armed services; the toil, endurance and suffering of those who were not in uniform, and the support of those who gave us help from other lands or came and stood beside us.

Let us remember those who were wounded and those who perished; those who were buried at sea, in some corner of a foreign field, or in a place unknown; and especially any we knew and loved whose place is forever in our hearts.

Let us remember those who were our enemies, whose homes and hearts were as bereft as ours. Whose dead lie with our own in a living tomb or remembrance.

Let us remember those who returned; those whose lives still bear the scars of war; those who lost sight or limbs or reason; those who lost faith in God and hope for humanity.

Let us remember the continuing grace of God, whose love holds all souls in life and in death.

## **Silence**

## **The Ode**

*Recited by* Iain Huntley, President 2/30<sup>th</sup> Battalion AIF Association

## **Interlude**

*The Dark Island and Going Home*

## **Prayer for Peace**

Lord God, you hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our anger and sorrow, and give peace to your Church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

*(a prayer offered by Pope Benedict on  
17<sup>th</sup> September 2010, before the  
Grave of the Unknown Warrior in  
Westminster Abbey)*

## **Offering and Dedication**

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

***The Sending Forth of the People of God***

*At the start of the final verse of the following hymn, the  
Standard Bearers come forward to receive the Standards.*

# Hymn

*God of our fathers, known of old*

(Melita)

1. God of our fathers, known of old,  
Lord of our far-flung battle line,  
Beneath whose awful hand we hold  
Dominion over palm and pine:  
Lord God of hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget.
2. The tumult and the shouting dies;  
The captains and the kings depart;  
Still stands thine ancient sacrifice,  
An humble and a contrite heart:  
Lord God of hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget.
3. Far called our navies melt away,  
On dune and headland sinks the fire;  
Lo, all our pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!  
Judge of the nations, spare us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget.
4. If, drunk with sight of power, we loose  
Wild tongues that have not thee in awe,  
Such boastings as the Gentiles use,  
Or lesser breeds without the law:  
Lord God of hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget, lest we forget.
5. For heathen heart that puts her trust  
In reeking tube and iron shard;  
All valiant dust that builds on dust,  
And, guarding, calls not thee to guard:  
For frantic boast and foolish word,  
Thy mercy on thy people, Lord.

## **Blessing**

... and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

## **Dismissal**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ.**

## **Threefold Amen**

*Following the Sung Amen, the Pipes and Drums march out, followed by the Standard Bearers. The congregation remains standing until the procession has passed.*

## **Pipes and Drums Recessional**

*The Green Hills*

# The 30<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalions

This year marks the 100th anniversary since the raising of the first 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion at Liverpool NSW on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 1915. The battalion served for a short time in Egypt while training to take their place in the 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade of the 5<sup>th</sup> Division. The 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion served and fought with distinction in most of the major battles on the Western Front, and never permanently lost a position or a single yard of trench on the Western Front. The Battalion was disbanded on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 1919.

The 2/30th Battalion AIF and the 30th Battalion (1939-45) AIF both served in World War II.

The 2/30th Battalion sailed from the Finger Wharves at Woolloomooloo on the 20th July 1941, bound for Singapore. They were the first Australian forces to engage the Japanese at the now famous ambush at Gemas, on the 14th January 1942. On the fall of Singapore, they became prisoners of war of the Japanese.

The 30th Battalion (1939-45) departed Cairns in Queensland on the 14th January 1944 for service in New Guinea. The battalion saw action in the Sio-Sepik River, Madang, and Wewak being involved in the liberation of New Guinea.

Many would never return having paid the supreme sacrifice. Many would experience years of brutal treatment whilst prisoners of the Japanese. Many would experience months of tremendous hardships whilst fighting in the jungles of New Guinea.

The main party of the 2/30th Battalion returned to the same wharves at Woolloomooloo on the 9th October 1945. The 30th Battalion (1939-45) also returned to the very same wharves on the 30th January 1946.

We must also remember the mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, wives and loved ones of these men who had to wait at home for their return.

They would have been counting each day waiting hopefully for their return. For the men of the 2/30th Battalion, they were away for 1433 days and 747 days for the men of the 30th Battalion. Yet for some families and loved ones their men never returned and the days without them would be forever.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion NSW Scottish Regiment was re-raised on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 1948 and carried on the long and proud traditions of the pre-war 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion NSW Scottish Regiment. Today A Coy Scottish 2/17 Battalion Royal New South Wales Regiment (RNSWR) continues those traditions taking over from the 30<sup>th</sup> Battalion which was disbanded on the 1 July 1960 and the RNSWR was formed.

On the walls of the church are the Regimental Colours handed to St Stephens for safe keeping on the 9<sup>th</sup> December 1962 should the time ever arise the battalion is reformed.

The following units are involved in this church parade:

- 2/30th Battalion AIF Association
- 30th Battalion (1939-45) AIF Association
- 30th Infantry Battalion NSW Scottish Regiment (1948-60)
- A Company (Scottish) Royal NSW Regiment (1960- )

**Major Frank Woodhams OAM ED Retd**

President of the NSW Scottish Regimental Association