



ST STEPHEN'S UNITING CHURCH

197 Macquarie St, Sydney

An Oasis of Christian Worship, Thought and Action

Minister:Rev. Ken Day
Director of Music:Mark Quarmby
Choral Conductor:Dr David Hood
Organ Scholar:Benjamin McKenzie



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www.ssms.org.au

17 January 2016 – 10 am

MORNING WORSHIP

Epiphany 2

Led by Rev. Ken Day with
guest preacher Rev. Gordon Ramsay

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us

(The St Stephen's Choir is in recess until February)

The Words
became
Flesh

The text is centered on the page. 'The Words' is in a large, black, cursive font. 'became' is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. 'Flesh' is in a large, black, cursive font. The text is surrounded by a sunburst of grey rays.

SOME HELPFUL NOTES FOR YOU ABOUT THE WAY THIS WORSHIP SERVICE FLOWS:

- **CHILDREN** are welcome here. If you have a pram, there are aisles beside the walls where you can 'park' your pram, if that helps. Also, there is more pram space at the back of the church where there is a wider gap. Children do not disturb us, and we are very happy for you to explain to your children what is happening during the service.
- We stand to sing. In the Order of Service it will say other places **WHERE WE STAND UP**, if you are able.
- **HYMNS** are numbered and found in the red hymn book *Together in Song*, or printed in the Order of Service. We sing the hymns unannounced, except for the first hymn.
- If the **LORD'S SUPPER** (communion) is being celebrated, (there will be a white cloth on the communion table) everyone of every age and background is welcome to share in the supper with us. We serve bread (and gluten free bread is available if you indicate to the server) and grape juice.
- **TEXT IN BOLD** is to be said by the congregation.
- It is the tradition at St Stephen's to refrain from talking during the **PRELUDE** and **POSTLUDE** as these form part of our worship.
- After the service has concluded, you are most welcome to join us downstairs in the hall for **MORNING TEA**. Please use the stairs at each end of the vestibule.
- **TOILETS** are located downstairs below the vestibule. A baby changing table is located in the women's toilet area.
- For those with **IMPAIRED HEARING** a hearing loop is available in the church. Please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position.

The Gathering of the People of God

Organ Prelude

Andante religioso (from Sonata No. 4 Op 65)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847)

Please stand at the entry of the minister and remain standing for the...

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Call to Worship (based on Psalm 29)

Hymn 207 *Jesus shall reign* (Warrington)

Prayers of Confession

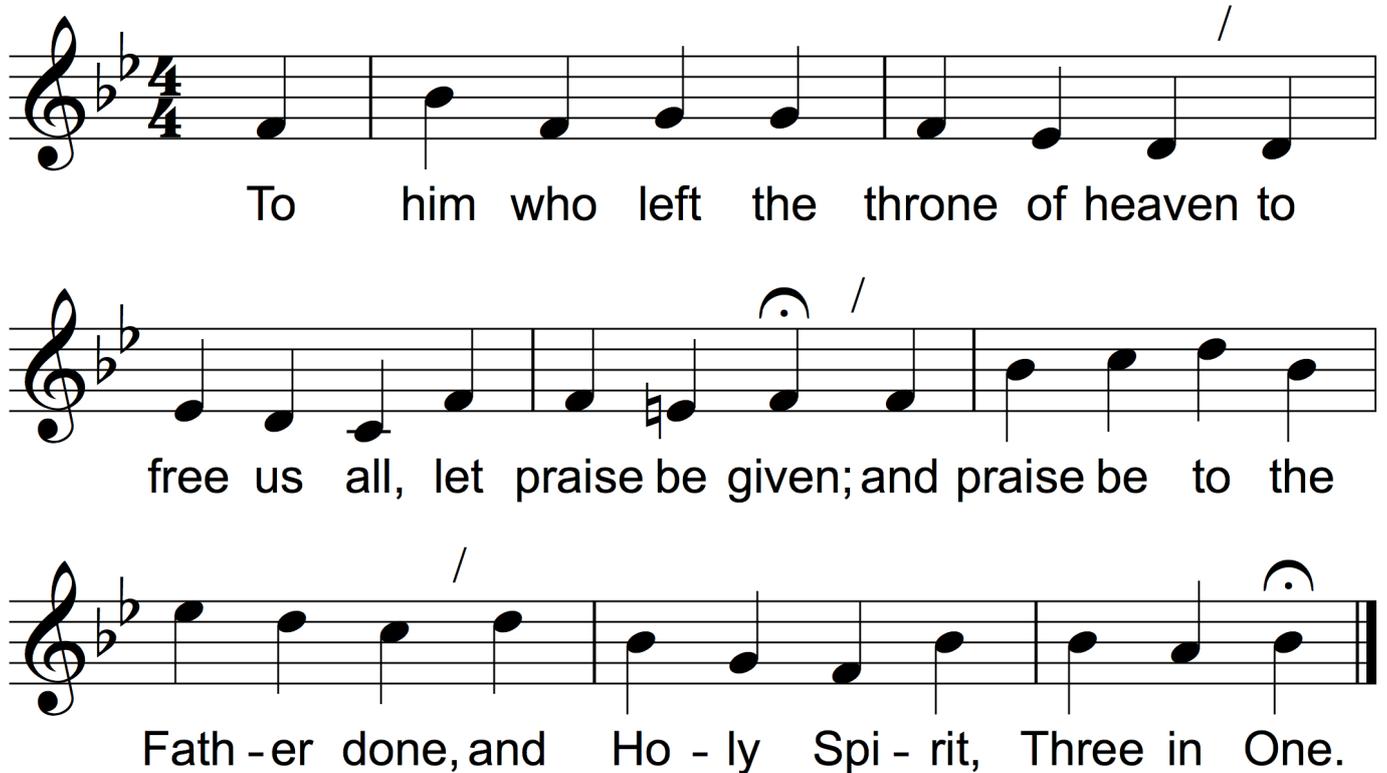
Declaration of Forgiveness

...This is the Gospel.

Thanks be to God.

Doxology 270

*To Him who left the throne of heaven
(Winchester New)*



The musical notation is written on three staves in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "To him who left the throne of heaven to free us all, let praise be given; and praise be to the Fath-er done, and Ho-ly Spi-rit, Three in One." There are slanted lines above the first and third staves, and a fermata over the final note of the third staff.

To him who left the throne of heaven to
free us all, let praise be given; and praise be to the
Fath-er done, and Ho-ly Spi-rit, Three in One.

Welcome

Ministry and mission news, celebrations and pastoral prayer.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Congregational greeting and welcome to visitors and newcomers

The Service of the Word

Hymn 477 *Jesus call us here to meet him* (Gaelic Air)

Listen for the word of God to you:

First Reading *Psalm 36: 5-10*

- 5** Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.
- 6** Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.
- 7** How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.
- 8** They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.
- 9** For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.
- 10** O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!

Gospel Reading *John 1: 1-18*

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being **4** in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. **8** He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. **9** The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. **11** He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. **12** But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. **15** (John testified to him and cried out, 'This was he of whom I said, "He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me."') **16** From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. **17** The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. **18** No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

In this is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We stand to sing: (sung twice)

**Behold, behold,
I make all things new
beginning with you
and starting from today.
Behold, behold,
I make all things new,
my promise is true
for I am Christ the way.**

John L Bell (Iona Community)

Sermon Preacher: Rev. Gordon Ramsay.

Executive Minister, Kippax Uniting Church (& UnitingCare Kippax) and
Chair of the Board of Uniting (previously known as UnitingCare)

Responding to the Word

Hymn *Oh where are you going* (Laredo)

1 Oh where are you going,
and can I come with you
and what is your method for
keeping alive?

No pack or possessions,
no clothing or shelter,
no food to sustain you,
how can you survive?

2 Oh where are you going,
and can I come with you
And why is your company
never the same?

You sit among beggars
and argue with bankers,
debate with the lawyers
and walk with the lame.

3 Oh where are you going,
and can I come with you
And what can you show for
your talents and time?
No profit from trading,
no thing of your making
no mark or memento,
no picture or rhyme.

4 Oh where are you going,
and can I come with you
And what is the secret
towards which you strive?
What hidden inspirer,
what unseen admirer
what dream is the substance
upon which you thrive?

5 I'm going on a journey
and welcome companions
But don't ask me how we'll
survive, where we'll go,
or who will come with us
or what we'll be doing
just join me in travelling
and learn all I know.

John L Bell / Graham Maule (Iona Community)

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.

The Sending Forth of the People of God

*The **Offering** will be received during the following hymn:*

Hymn 595 *O Jesus, I have promised* (Day of Rest)

Blessing

Dismissal

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

Threefold Amen

Organ Postlude

'Prélude' from Suite du deuxième ton
Jean-Adam Guilain (1680 - 1739)



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