



# 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:.....Position Vacant



*Ph: 02 9221 1688*

*[www.ssms.org.au](http://www.ssms.org.au)*

***24 May 2015 – 10 am***

## **Choral Matins**

### **The Day of Pentecost**

being the 50th day after Easter commonly called

## **WHITSUNDAY**

Cantor and Preacher: Rev. Dr John Bunyan

## **Welcome to this service of Matins, or Morning Prayer.**

The origins of Matins go back many centuries, and have their roots in the ancient patterns of monastic worship which were based on the regular singing of all 150 psalms and the systematic reading of the Bible. Brief services, or 'offices', were said or sung throughout the day and night, in accordance with St Paul's instruction to 'pray without ceasing'. With an emphasis on congregational worship during the Reformation, elements from a number of these monastic offices were combined to form Matins and Evensong in the English church. Hymns were added, and sometimes a sermon was included. This format was formalised in the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer*, building on previous versions, and has remained largely unchanged ever since and has influenced the structure of non-communion services of most English-speaking denominations.

If such a traditional style of worship is unfamiliar to you, try to see it as a timeless expression of humanity's offering of prayer and praise to God. The texts used in the service are drawn largely from Scripture, often with a musical setting which enhances and enriches them. Our efforts to create worship which embodies beauty and poetry are our response to the abundant goodness, blessing and love shown to us by God, which should inspire us to give back of our best to him. There are many forms of participation in worship, and these include allowing ourselves to be open to the glimpses of the divine which can be imparted through sacred music, as well as using the serenity and calm which are characteristic of parts of the service to make one's own personal prayers to God.

# ***Order of Service for Choral Matins***

## **Organ Prelude**

*Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist (Now we ask the Holy Spirit)*  
Dieterich Buxtehude (1637 - 1707)

**Introit**            *(sung from the Narthex)*

## ***Holy, Holy, Holy***

Music: Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)  
from the *German Mass II*, 1826.

Holy, Holy, Holy, God Almighty Lord!  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Ev'rywhere adored!

1. He without beginning,  
He th' eternal One,  
Reigns and rules for ever,  
All things 'neath the sun.
2. Power and love and wonder,  
Circling round His throne,  
Praise Him, Holy, Holy,  
Lord of life alone.

*Please stand and sing as the choir and clergy enter the church.*

## **Processional Hymn 422**

*Come, Holy Spirit, come* (Diademata)

*Please sit...*

## **Scripture Sentences**

### **Introduction**

Dearly beloved brethren, the Scripture moves us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying with me:

## **General Confession**

*All say together:*

**Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have offended against thy holy laws, we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us: but thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults, restore thou them that are penitent, according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord: and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of thy holy name. Amen.**

## **Absolution**

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The congregation stands*

**Preces** .....Thomas Tallis (1505 - 1585)

*These are sung by the cantor and choir.*

O Lord, open thou our lips.

**And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

*All stand.*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:  
world without end. Amen.**

Praise ye the Lord.

**The Lord's Name be praised.**

*The congregation remains standing and joins the choir in singing the Responsorial Psalm. The congregation sings the Response following the choir and then after each verse.*

**Hymn 65**    *Praise the Lord, O my soul*

[paraphrase of Psalm 104]

## First Lesson

*Proverbs 3: 13-18*

**13** Blessed is the one who finds wisdom, and the one who gets understanding, **14** for the gain from her is better than gain from silver and her profit better than gold. **15** She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her. **16** Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honour. **17** Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. **18** She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed.

Here endeth the First Lesson

*The choir sings the...*

**Te Deum** ..... **Stanford in B flat**

*Charles Villiers Stanford (1852 - 1924)*

*A traditional hymn of thanksgiving to God.*

We praise thee, O God, we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.  
All the earth doth worship thee, the Father everlasting.  
To thee all Angels cry aloud, the Heavens,  
and all the Powers therein.  
To thee Cherubin and Seraphin continually do cry,  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Heaven and earth are full of the Majesty of thy glory.  
The glorious company of the Apostles praise thee.  
The goodly fellowship of the Prophets praise thee.  
The noble army of Martyrs praise thee.  
The holy Church throughout all the world  
doth acknowledge thee;  
The Father of an infinite Majesty;  
Thine honourable, true and only Son;

Also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter.  
Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ.  
Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father.  
When thou tookest upon thee to deliver man,  
thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb.  
When thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death,  
thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.  
Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.  
We believe that thou shalt come to be our Judge.  
We therefore pray thee, help thy servants,  
whom thou hast redeemed with thy precious blood.  
Make them to be numbered with thy Saints in glory  
everlasting.  
O Lord, save thy people and bless thine heritage.  
Govern them and lift them up for ever.  
Day by day we magnify thee;  
And we worship thy Name, ever world without end.  
Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin.  
O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.  
O Lord, let thy mercy lighten upon us as our trust is in thee.  
O Lord, in thee have I trusted, let me never be confounded.

## **Second Lesson**      *The Acts of the Apostles 2: 1-21*

**1** And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **3** And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. **5** And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. **6** Now when this was noised

abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. **7** And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? **8** And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? **9** Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, **10** Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, **11** Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. **12** And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this? **13** Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine. **14** But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: **15** For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. **16** But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; **17** And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: **18** And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: **19** And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: **20** The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come: **21** And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

*All stand while the choir sings the...*

**Jubilate Deo ..... Stanford in B flat**

*Charles Villiers Stanford (1852 - 1924)*

*Psalm 100 - A Psalm of Praise*

- 1 O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
- 2 serve the Lord with gladness,  
and come before his presence with a song.
- 3 Be ye sure that the Lord he is God;  
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,  
and into his courts with praise;  
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
- 5 For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting;  
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and every shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

*The congregation remains standing and says the...*

## **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth:  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
Born of the Virgin Mary,  
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, dead, and buried:  
He descended into hell;  
The third day he rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
The holy Catholick Church;  
The Communion of Saints;  
The Forgiveness of sins;  
The Resurrection of the body,  
And the Life everlasting. **Amen.**

*The congregation remains standing for the...*

**Responses**.....Thomas Tallis (1505 - 1585)

*sung by the cantor and choir*

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray.

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**Christ, have mercy upon us.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

# 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*

The congregation sits and the choir continues...

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

**And grant us thy salvation.**

O Lord, save the Queen.

**And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.**

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

**And make thy chosen people joyful.**

O Lord, save thy people.

**And bless thine inheritance.**

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

**Because there is none other that fighteth for us,  
but only thou, O God.**

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

**And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.**

**Collects** *(sung by the cantor and choir)*

*The Collect for Whitsunday or Pentecost*

God, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit; Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen. **Amen** *(choir)*

*The Collect for peace*

O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** (*choir*)

*The Collect for grace*

O Lord, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen** (*choir*)

**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.

## **Sermon**

**Offertory Hymn 405**      *O Spirit of the living God*  
(Gonfalon Royal)

*....during which a collection will be taken.*

## **Dedication of Offering**

## **Concerns of the Church**

**Prayers** ... *which will end with all saying together:*

## **The Grace**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.**

**Hymn 416**      *Great God, your Spirit, like the wind unseen*  
(Jerusalem)

## **Blessing**

## **Dismissal**

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

## **Threefold Amen**

## **Organ Postlude**

*Komm, heiliger Geist, Herre Gott BWV 651 (Come, Holy Ghost)*  
J S Bach (1685 - 1750)

Towards the end of Bach's life, while working in Leipzig, Bach composed eighteen large organ compositions based on Lutheran Chorales or hymn tunes which became known as the 'Leipzig Chorales' or the 'Eighteen Chorales'. This particular chorale, sung on Pentecost Sunday, is set in the form of a large Fantasia. Like many of Bach's works, it contains many examples of numerical symbolism. The opening bass note lasts for 7 bars (7 being the number of the gifts of the Holy Spirit). The theme appears 43 times (43 being the sum of the letters spelling CREDO). The chorale melody is played slowly in the pedals while a virtuosic, toccata-like figure of leaping arpeggios, played by the hands, represents the tongues of fire leaping amongst the believers. During the final two bars, Bach signs his name with the musical figure BACH.

Service taken from *The Book of Common Prayer (1662)*  
Lessons taken from the *English Standard Version* and the *King James Version*