



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

8 March 2015 – 10 am

MORNING WORSHIP

Lent 3

Led by David Gill

The Gathering of the People of God

Organ Prelude

Liebster Jesu, wir sind hier (Dearest Jesus, we are here)

J S Bach (1685 - 1750)

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 127 *Holy God, we praise your name* (Grosser Gott)

Prayers of Approach and Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

...This is the Gospel.

Thanks be to God.

Doxology 769

Now to the King of Heaven

(St John)



Now to the King of Heaven your cheer-ful voi-ces
raise; to him be glo-ry given, power, ma-jes-ty and
praise; from shore to shore his name be sung by
ev - ery tongue for ev - er - more.

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

Exodus 20:1-17

1 Then God spoke all these words: **2** I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; **3** you shall have no other gods before me. **4** You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. **5** You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, **6** but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. **7** You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. **8** Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. **9** Six days you shall labor and do all your work. **10** But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. **11** For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. **12** Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. **13** You shall not murder. **14** You shall not commit adultery. **15** You shall not steal. **16** You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. **17** You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

Hymn 25

As pants the hart (Martydom)

(paraphrase of Ps 42)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

18 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. **19** For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." **20** Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? **21** For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. **22** For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, **23** but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, **24** but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. **25** For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Anthem

Teach me, O Lord

Text: Psalm 119:33

Music: *Thomas Attwood (1765 - 1838)*

Teach me, O Lord, the way of thy statutes;
And I shall keep it unto the end.

Gospel Reading

St John 2:13-22

13 The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **14** In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. **15** Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. **16** He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" **17** His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." **18** The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" **19** Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." **20** The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" **21** But he was speaking of the temple of his body. **22** After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

May your word live in us:

And bear much fruit to your glory.

Hymn 684

Love will be our Lenten calling

(Picardy)

Sermon

Hymn 251

Lord Christ, we praise your sacrifice

(Tune: 375 St Petersburg)

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 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.**

Offering

Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 422 *Come, Holy Spirit, come* (Diademata)

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

Allabreve BWV 589

J S Bach (1685 - 1750)

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