

Welcome to St Peter's Cathedral. We are delighted to have you worship with us today for this Choral Eucharist from A Prayer Book for Australia. Please join us in saying the words in bold. The hymns can be found in the separate hymn book. All indications for sitting, kneeling, and standing are a guide only: please do whatever is most comfortable for you.

**St Peter's Cathedral is a Christ-centred, sacramental, inclusive, thinking, mission-oriented faith community.**

Each Sunday in January, in place of Evensong, it has been our practice to have a service of Night Prayer based upon Compline in our liturgical guide, A Prayer Book for Australia. This year, we will broadly be doing the same except that we will be treating the four Sundays as part of a whole and seeking to create a prayerful tapestry based on the foundation of the Word while using the warp and weft of Prayer, Music, and Silence to create a holy cloak of worship. We are calling this series a Serenata of worship.

In his homily on Prayer, St John Chrysostom wrote: 'Prayer is the light of the soul, giving us true knowledge of God. It is a link mediating between God and (each of us). By prayer the soul is borne up to heaven and in a marvellous way embraces the Lord.'

On Music, Johann Sebastian Bach wrote that it 'is an agreeable harmony for the honour of God and the permissible delights of the soul'

While on Silence, Mother Teresa said: 'In the silence of the heart God speaks. If you face God in prayer and silence, God will speak to you.'

This year, as I lead us through the next four Sunday sessions of Night Prayer, I will be reflecting back on the time leading to my own decision to proceed along the path towards ordination back in 2012. A key part of the process of personal discernment was the following a strict Lenten practice according to the Orthodox traditions along with a daily search during the Great Lent for suitable prayers that seemed to echo my feelings along the journey. I encountered over forty such prayers which were significant to me on that pilgrimage; over these four weeks, I will be sharing some of those as well as making some commentary about their spiritual import.

Each evening, our organist will guide our worship through reflective playing and accompanying us in the singing of hymns to enable our worship to reach that space where we may feel a union with God. There will also be periods of silent worship where we will wait upon the 'still small voice of God' amidst the busyness of our lives. I pray that this series of Night Prayer might nourish each of us.

May God bless and keep you always,

*Rev Dr Lynn Arnold AO*

**Officiant:** The Rev'd Dr Lynn Arnold AO

**Please do not remove this order of service from the Cathedral.**

*Please stand as the clergy enter*

*The Blessing of Light*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. In him was life, and the life was the light of all.

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Who is worthy of all thanksgiving and praise.**

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, our light and our salvation, to you be glory and praise for ever! In the beginning you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. To dispel the darkness of our night, you sent forth your Son, the first-born of all creation. He is our Christ, the light of the world, and him we acclaim, as all creation sings to you,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit: **Blessed be God for ever!**

*The Paschal candle is lit in silence (please kneel/sit)*

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

O Lord, I call to you; come to me quickly;

hear my voice when I cry to you.

Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,

and guard the door of my lips.

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;

let me not be occupied in wickedness.

But my eyes are turned to you, Lord God, in you I take refuge;

do not leave me defenceless.

**Let my prayer rise before you as incense,  
The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,

so may your mercy come down upon us

to cleanse our hearts and set us free to sing your praise, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Silence*

The Lord almighty grant us a quiet night and a perfect end. **Amen**

Lord Jesus, you came to call sinners to repentance, **have mercy on us.**

Lord Jesus, sent to heal those who are burdened in soul, **have mercy on us.**

Lord Jesus, seated at the Father's right hand to intercede for us, **have mercy on us.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, **who made heaven and earth.**

Glory to God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**as in the beginning, so now and for ever. Alleluia!**

*Please stand to sing*

## THE HYMN

*Please sit*

## THE FIRST READING

## THE PSALM

## THE SECOND READING

*Reflection*

*The organist will play to aid our reflection*

## THE RESPONSORY

Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

For you have redeemed me, Lord God of truth.

**I commend my spirit.**

Glory to God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.**

Keep me as the apple of your eye.

**Hide me under the shadow of your wings.**

## THE NUNC DIMITTIS (THE SONG OF SIMEON)

**Save us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:

**your word has been fulfilled.**

My own eyes have seen the salvation

**which you have prepared in the sight of every people;**

A light to reveal you to the nations

**and the glory of your people Israel.**

Glory to God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

**as in the beginning, so now and for ever.**

**Save us, O Lord, while waking, and guard us while sleeping,  
that awake we may watch with Christ and asleep may rest in peace.**

Lord have mercy. **Christ have mercy.** Lord have mercy.

*Please stand to sing hymn*

## THE HYMN

*Please sit/ kneel*

## THE PRAYERS

## THE COLLECT FOR EPIPHANY

Everlasting God, who brought the nations to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising: fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations; through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray:

**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 forever.  
Amen.**

*Please stand to sing*

## THE HYMN

## THE BLESSING

*Remain standing as the choir and clergy depart. After this, you are invited to sit to listen to the organ postlude.*



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**The Cathedral is open to visit and to pray:**  
Mon 10:30am – 1:00pm  
Tues-Fri 10:30am – 3:30pm

**Holiday Sunday Services:**  
8:00am Eucharist (BCP)  
10:30am Sung Eucharist  
6:00pm Night Prayer

**Holiday Weekday Services:**  
Wednesday 7:30am & 10:00am Eucharist  
Friday 7:30am Eucharist

**Regular service schedule will resume on Sunday 29 January 2023.**

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*St Peter's Cathedral resides on the lands of the Kaurna people. We give thanks for their ancestors and acknowledge the ongoing right and responsibility of their elders to care for this Country. We are committed to work and pray towards a more just settlement for all Indigenous people and pay our respect to First Nations people with us.*