

BANYULE CHURCHES TOGETHER

ST GEORGE EAST IVANHOE, MELBOURNE



THE 2021 REV'D RICHARD MCKINNEY MEMORIAL ECUMENICAL ADVENT LECTURES: HOPE & COVID-19

A service of Lament and Loss related to Coronavirus

7.30PM, TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2021

BANYULE CHURCHES TOGETHER

Banyule Churches Together is a fellowship of Churches who are united in their common commitment to Christ and the coming of his Kingdom, who have committed themselves to serve one another in both word and deed, who seek ways to strengthen their witness, service and worship, and search for fresh ways to express their unity in Christ so as to grow more united.

Banyule Churches Together currently comprises the Anglican parishes of St John Heidelberg (Banyule Anglican Church) and St George Peace Memorial Church in East Ivanhoe; the Baptist Churches in Ivanhoe and Rosanna, and the Catholic parishes of St John, Heidelberg, Pope Pius X, Heidelberg West and Mary Mother of the Church, Ivanhoe; along with the Banyule Network of Uniting Churches. Whilst not currently a covenant member of Banyule Churches Together St James' Anglican Church in Ivanhoe supports Banyule Churches Together in prayer and practical ways.

THE REV'D DR RICHARD MCKINNEY 1938-1996

"On Wednesday November 20 at midday, a theological light went out in Melbourne," said Dr John Henley, at the funeral service for Richard William Alexander McKinney, November 22, at St George's East Ivanhoe... A year-long battle with cancer led to his retiring as Director of Trinity Theological School from 31 August (1996)... (Eulogists) recalled Dick's delight, as a naturalised Australian of Irish wit and words, at treating each person as his 'mate'.

"Dick McKinney was a passionate theologian, bringing profound insight into the doctrine of the Triune God. He embraced whatever was true of God from every tradition - we sang Wesley, Newton, Newman and Dudman. Melbourne may be dimmer, but heaven is brighter far."

Charles Sherlock, Melbourne farewells an 'Irish mate' The Scene, December 1996

TODAY'S LITURGY

For over 20 years the Churches of East Ivanhoe, Ivanhoe, Heidelberg and Rosanna have been hosting an annual ecumenical Advent and Lenten lecture series in memory of 'Belfast Boy' Dick McKinney. Dick was a passionate ecumenist renowned for his intellect, imagination and sharp wit. Over these past two decades and more, a diverse range of men and women representing the breadth of Christian thought and experience have spoken in his memory. Advent 2021, will hopefully mark a time of new beginnings and hope as the people of Melbourne emerge from restrictions imposed as a consequence of COVID-19. This evening the Richard McKinney lecture is re-imagined as a service of lament and loss as we seek to give voice to our experience of COVID, and as we prepare to hear the 2021 McKinney lecturer the Rev'd Dr Carla A. Grosch-Miller deliver her lecture at 7.30pm on Tuesday 30 November, 2021.

A LITURGY OF LOSS & FRAGILITY

A liturgy from a contemplative tradition which seeks to offer space for honesty about ourselves and our situation and invokes God's comfort and presence.

INVOCATION

We gather in the name of Triune God who brings hope and centredness in the fragility and brokenness of our world:

God the Source, the Creator, the Father, who brings all existence into being;

A candle is lit.

God the liberator, the Redeemer, the Son who brings us salvation showing us a better way to live, and who calls us to follow;

A candle is lit.

God the Sustainer, the Guide, the Spirit, who sustains all life and enables us to grow and find peace and wisdom;

A candle is lit.

God who is present to us now and always.

+ We meet in the name of God the Source, God the Liberator, and God the Sustainer. Amen.

1. Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own:
awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy chosen king
through all eternity.
4. Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save:
his glories now we sing
who died, and rose on high;
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.
6. Crown him the Lord of years,
the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

Matthew Bridges 1800-94 and Godfrey Thring 1823-1903

SCRIPTURE NAMING THE REALITY OF OUR SENSE OF FRAGILITY & LOSS

Some words from Ecclesiastes 3:

1. For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:
2. a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
3. a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
4. a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
5. a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
6. a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
7. a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
8. a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

INTRODUCTION

Who is it that we worship?

We gather to worship the Lord our God.

How do we worship?

We worship you God
with the whole of our minds
with all of our strength
and with all our being,
and to love our neighbour as ourselves.

**May the prayers of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable in your sight, O Lord.**

CONFESSION

As we come before God, let us pause and remember the reality of all that is going on for us in this present moment, remember our sense of sadness, loss of control, trauma, all that we are facing and the pain we carry, and as we do so, offering it back to God, both the good and the challenging and our need for God to forgive all our short comings.

Silence is kept.

So easily we put ourselves before others. Too easily we allow our emotions and pains to overtake us and hurt others. We use mouths and tongues given to us to build people up, to push people too high or knock people too low. We have poisoned our planet, our nations, and our souls.

Lord, forgive us our selfishness,

Lord forgive us.

Lord, forgive us for our false delusions,

Lord forgive us.

Lord, heal us from our brokenness,

Lord heal us.

Lord, free us to be the human 'becomings' you call us to be,

Lord restore us.

A form of absolution as appropriate to the congregation is pronounced.

Let us affirm our faith, trusting in God's love for us:

May our attitude be as that of Christ

Who being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God

something to be grasped,

but made himself nothing,

being in the very nature of a servant,

and became obedient to death,

even death on a tree.

Amen.

POEM

WHEN THIS IS OVER

When this is over,

may we never again

take for granted

A handshake with a stranger

Full shelves in the store

Conversations with our neighbours

A crowded theatre

Friday night out

The taste of communion

A routine check up

The school rush each morning

Coffee with a friend

The stadium roaring

Each deep breath

A boring Tuesday

Life itself

When this ends
may we find
that we have become
more like the people
we want to be
we were called to be
we hoped to be
and may we stay
that way - better
for each other
because of the worst.

Laura Kelly Fanucci

A time in silent meditation or prayer, with a dance 'Meditations' by Mr Jonathan Sinatra, dancing to 'Koyaliya' by Myfanwy Hunter; which will be followed by the Rev'd Keren Terpstra on harp.

A POST PANDEMIC LITANY

Reader The COVID pandemic and its associated lockdowns have affected us in many and varied ways. As people of faith, while lamenting the pain, the anguish, the hardship, the grief and tears that have been visited upon us, may we also acknowledge our learnings, the opportunities for change, and the invitation to rebuild and renew a broken world.

As a candle is lit by a representative of Banyule Churches Together.

Reader Through isolation and exile we have discovered the value of human relationships. May our relationships flourish, our friendships grow, our families unite. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit to represent our local schools.

Reader Through schooling our children and struggling to meet their educational and emotional needs: May we have a new appreciation of the vocation of teachers and give them the honour and respect they deserve. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit to represent our local traders.

Reader Through empty supermarket shelves, angry queues, harsh words and bitter criticism of others: May we better understand the frailty of the human condition, our own sinfulness and the grace of forgiveness. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit to represent our essential services.

Reader Through unemployment, job keeper, layoffs and redundancies: May we value the dignity of human labour especially that deemed the most menial – those labourers who have proved to be the most essential. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit to represent our local doctors and nurses.

Reader Through pandemic, sickness and death we have been reminded of our mortality: May we praise and honour our nurses, doctors, health care and aged care workers, and funeral directors, and all who offer physical and spiritual care and support. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit to represent the Mission agencies of the Church.

Reader Through working at home or discovering our own vulnerability or financial instability: May we work for that justice which ends unemployment, homelessness and poverty. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit to represent our recent migrant community.

Reader Through border closures and exclusion: May we welcome the foreigner and the refugee who can never return home. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit to represent our health care workers.

Reader Through cancelled medical appointments and overcrowded hospitals: May we work to support those without basic health care. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit to represent our local Climate Action Group.

Reader Through our walks and our return to nature and open spaces: May we truly care for Mother Earth, our Common Home - protecting and being a voice for God's creation. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit by a representative of our local clergy.

Reader Through online liturgy and internet prayer, closed churches, and deprivation of the sacraments: May we renew our commitment to joining together with our community of faith for prayer, fellowship and the celebration of liturgy. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

As a candle is lit by a representative of the congregation.

Reader Through the doors that have closed us in: May we continue to keep our hearts open to family, neighbour and stranger. We pray.

All **Lord have mercy and hear our prayer.**

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 for ever.
Amen.**

HYMN

465: ALL MY HOPE ON GOD IS FOUNDED

MEINE HOFFNUNG 187.87.337

Later form of a melody from Joachim Neander's
'Alpha and Omega', 1680

1. All my hope on God is founded;
 he doth my trust renew.
 Me through change and chance he guideth,
 only good and only true.
 God unknown, he alone,
 calls my heart to be his own.
2. Pride of man and earthly glory,
 sword and crown, betray his trust;
 What with care and toil buildeth,
 tower and temple, fall to dust.
 But God's power, hour by hour,
 is my temple and my tower.
3. God's great goodness ay endureth,
 deep his wisdom passing thought:
 splendour, light and life attend him
 beauty springeth out of naught.
 Evermore from his store

newborn worlds rise and adore.

4. Daily doth the almighty giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow;
his desire our soul delighteth,
pleasure leads where we go.
Love doth stand at his hand;
joy will wait on God's command.
5. Still from man to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the gift of Christ his Son.
Christ doth call one and all:
ye who follow shall not fall.

Joachim Neander 1650-80
tr. Robert Bridges 1844-1930

ENDING

In God we find hope to envision us today and tomorrow.
In God we find life, sustenance and a future.
In God we join in with the whole of creation
giving thanks for all that is good.
In God we may struggle in life, but we will not be overcome.

As we leave this place and this time,
teach us to care for all that is entrusted to us.
Motivate us to devote times of silence to encounter you.
Help us to share with others that which you have abundantly given us.
Lead us to see what is possible
when all seems impossible.
Enable us to stand up for justice
when all seems to oppress.
Help us to love generously and to give unconditionally.
Give us hope and joy so that we can keep walking
this Christian road less travelled.

Teach us, help us, lead us, enable us, give us, love us.

BLESSING

May we see and know God
In the world that's around us.
May God take us through desert
and take us through storms.
May God guide us,
protect us,
and keep us.

Lord, give us your peace
wherever you take us.
Bring us joyfully home,
Bring us joyfully home.
+In the name of God, Source, Liberator and Sustainer
Amen.

POSTLUDE

'Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland'

Andreas Nicolaus Vetter (1666-1734)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Much of this material has been composed by the Advisory Group for Liturgy of the Anglican Diocese of Southwark © 2020, but some, has been borrowed or adapted from online sources or Common Worship © The Archbishops Council of the Church of England, and has been adapted by Banyule Churches Together © 2021.

The English translation of The Lord's Prayer was originally prepared by the International Consultation on English Texts (ICET) and revised in 1987 by the English Language Liturgical Consultation (ELLC), and approved for use on ecumenical occasions.

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Hymns AHB © Broughton Publishing, 2012

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THE REV'D DR CARLA A. GROSCH-MILLER

The 2021 Rev'd Dr Richard McKinney Memorial Ecumenical Advent Lecturer



The Rev'd Dr Carla A. Grosch-Miller is a practical theologian and poet. She was ordained in the United Church of Christ in the US and has served churches there and in the United Reformed Church in the UK. She has taught short courses on sexuality, practical theology and trauma-informed ministry for diverse theological education institutions. She is the author of *Trauma and Pastoral Care: A Ministry Handbook*

(Canterbury Press, 2021); *Lifelines: Wrestling the Word, Gathering Up Grace* (Canterbury Press, 2020, mapping the post-traumatic journey); and *Psalms redux: Poems and Prayers* (Canterbury Press, 2014). She contributed chapters on practical theology (the urgency of experience, the power of narrative), on liturgy and on clergy sexual scandals to Warner, Megan et al, *Tragedies and Christian Congregations: The Practical Theology of Trauma* (Routledge, 2019). She lives in Northumberland, where she enjoys walking and sea swimming.

Topic Hope and COVID-19 in Advent
When 7.30pm, Tuesday 30 November 2021
Where St Georges East Ivanhoe

Register for COVID-19 compliance requirements at:
<https://eventbrite.com.au/e/208427130157>

Live Stream via St Georges YouTube Channel:
<https://stgeorgeseastivanhoe.org/online>

2021 SPRING PROGRAM

Book Group - 'A Future That's Bigger Than the Past: Catalysing Kingdom Communities', by the Rev'd Dr Sam Wells

Engage with the text that articulates the HeartEdge movement.

Location: Online (Zoom)

Time: 6pm-7.30pm

Dates: 17 Nov., 1 & 15 Dec. 2021;

19 Jan., 2, 16 & 23 Feb., 2 & 16 Mar. 2022

Book: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/reading-group-a-future-thats-bigger-than-the-past-tickets-199576557857>

Reflection Group: 'Inspired to Follow: The Art of the Bible'

Utilising imagery from the National Gallery in London and reflection from the team at St Martin-in-the-Fields in London. On Sunday afternoon, in person and live streamed.

Location: Online (Zoom)

Time: 2.30pm

Dates: 28 Nov., 5, 12 & 19 Dec. 2021

Book: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/inspired-to-follow-art-and-the-bible-story-tickets-199588423347>

Courtyard Opportunity Shop

A range of goods and gifts for Christmas.

Location: St Georges East Ivanhoe, in the Courtyard

Time: 9am-2pm

Date: Saturday 27 Nov. 2021

Book: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/courtyard-opportunity-shop-tickets-204321058787>

Choral Evensong for Advent Sunday

Theme: Michael Praetorius (Renaissance Composer)

b. 1571. Presentation of music of Praetorius and commentary on his life and influence by Peter Bandy, renowned musicologist and commentator, currently director (among other musical ensembles) of the Hiedelberg Choral Society.

Location: St Georges East Ivanhoe

Time: 5pm

Date: Sunday 28 Nov. 2021

Book: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/choral-evensong-advent-sunday-tickets-204324198177>

2021 Rev'd Richard McKinney Ecumenical Advent Lectures: Hope and COVID-19 in Advent

Location: St Georges East Ivanhoe

Time: 7.30pm

Date: 23 & 30 Nov. 2021

Book: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2021-revd-richard-mckinney-ecumenical-advent-lectures-hope-and-covid-19-tickets-204323305507>
<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/2021-revd-richard-mckinney-ecumenical-advent-lectures-hope-and-covid-19-tickets-208427130157>

Jazz Vespers

Drawing upon some of Melbourne's finest jazz musicians to re-imagine Vespers in an innovative way.

Location: St Georges East Ivanhoe

Time: 5.30pm

Date: Sunday 12 Dec. 2021

Book: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/jazz-vespers-at-st-georges-tickets-204327959427>

Book Launch - Switchback: An Inner and Outer Journey by Gillian Clezy

Location: St Pauls East Kew

Time: 2pm

Date: Sunday 12 Dec. 2021

Book: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/book-launch-switchback-an-inner-and-outer-journey-by-gillian-clezy-tickets-204327106877>

Festival of Lessons and Carols

A COVID-safe festival with the choir and their friends leading this traditional candlelight liturgy.

Location: St Georges East Ivanhoe

Time: 9pm

Date: Sunday 19 Dec. 2021

Book: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/festival-of-lessons-and-carols-tickets-204329213177>