

SMACC Service

12 January 2025 | 9am, 11am, 5pm



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Welcome & Prayer

Song: Christ Our Hope In Life And Death

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

*O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death*

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin and Matthew Merker,
Matt Papa

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The Nicene Creed

All: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
one in being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered, died and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in fulfilment of the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
With the Father and the Son
he is worshipped and glorified,
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Job 42:1-9

¹ Then Job answered the LORD and said:

² “I know that you can do all things,
and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

³ ‘Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?’
Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,
things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

⁴ ‘Hear, and I will speak;
I will question you, and you make it known to me.’

⁵ I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear,
but now my eye sees you;

⁶ therefore I despise myself,
and repent in dust and ashes.”

⁷ After the LORD had spoken these words to Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite: “My anger burns against you and against your two friends, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has. ⁸ Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and offer up a burnt offering for yourselves. And my servant Job shall pray for you, for I will accept his prayer not to deal with you according to your folly. For you have

not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.”

⁹ So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did what the LORD had told them, and the LORD accepted Job's prayer.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 13 (SMACC 1 & 2)

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

¹ How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?

² **How long must I take counsel in my soul
and have sorrow in my heart all the day?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

³ Consider and answer me, O LORD my God;
light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death,
⁴ **lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him,"
lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.**

⁵ But I have trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

⁶ **I will sing to the LORD,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.**

Reader: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,

All: **As it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be forever.
Amen.**

New Testament Reading: Romans 8:12-30

¹² So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation

has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸ And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Greeting Time

Ministry Updates

Song: I Will Trust You In The Darkness

I will trust You in the darkness
I will serve You in my pain
I will worship in the wilderness
And will follow to the end
For You are the suffering shepherd
And You know Your sheep by name
So I will trust You in the darkness once again

I'll believe Your word of comfort
When the light of life grows dim
I will heed Your voice at midnight
When the tempests rage within
I will cling to Christ my Saviour
Who has borne my sorrow's sting
And I will trust You in the darkness once again

I will praise Your name in winter
When the skies are cold and grey
I will feed upon Your promises
And will cry to You each day
I will lean upon Your Spirit
And Your word will I obey
Yes I will trust You in the darkness come what may

I will trust You in the darkness
On Your faithfulness depend
As I long for Your appearing
And the day that never ends
I will glory in the gospel
And Your word of truth defend
Yes I will trust You in the darkness once again
Yes I will trust You in the darkness O my friend

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Sermon: Suffering: A Christian Perspective

1. Introduction

2. A Biblical Perspective on Suffering

- This is a fallen world.
- The effects of the fall are not felt evenly or fairly now.
- God will judge justly in the in the end.
- The day of judgment is a far bigger threat to us than any disaster that happens in this world.
- God has an alternative future for us in glory where there will be no more suffering.
- Jesus suffered and died to make that alternative future possible.

- In the meantime, God uses all things, including suffering, for the good of his people.

3. The Gospel and Suffering

- God can bring good out of evil.
- God is just.
- God loves us and cares for us.
- God suffered too.
- God brings a reversal and makes it worthwhile in the end.

4. Conclusion

(If you have questions regarding the sermon, please submit at stmarys.my/ask)

Prayers of Intercession

The Lord's Prayer

All: **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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever.
Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

All: **Almighty God,
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Creator of everything, Judge of everyone,
We admit that we have sinned against you
In thought, speech and action,
And deserve your just punishment.
We truly repent and are sorry
for what we have done.
Have mercy on us, merciful Father.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
Forgive us all that is past,
And enable us to serve and please you
in a fresh way,
To the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Song: It Is Well With My Soul (Verses 1, 2, 3)

When peace like a river
Attendeth my way
When sorrows
Like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot
Thou hast taught me to say
It is well
It is well with my soul

It is well with my soul

It is well

It is well with my soul

Tho' Satan should buffet
Tho' trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded
My helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood
For my soul

My sin O the bliss
Of this glorious tho't
My sin not in part
But the whole
Is nailed to the cross
And I bear it no more
Praise the Lord
Praise the Lord O my soul

The Lord's Supper

The Minister prays:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father,
We thank you that in your love and mercy,
you gave your only Son Jesus Christ
to die on the cross for our redemption.

We thank you that by offering himself once for all,
he made a full, perfect and sufficient sacrifice for sin
and completely satisfied your holiness,
justice and love.

And he instructed us to remember his death together
until his coming again.

Hear us, merciful Father,
and grant that by your Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink this bread and wine,
according to our Lord's command
may remember his death for us with faith,
trusting in him alone for our salvation
and so share in his body and blood.

For on the night he was betrayed, he took bread, and when he had given you thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, and when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them saying, “Drink from this, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

All: **Amen.**

The Minister says:

Eat and drink this in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

Song: It Is Well With My Soul (Verse 4)

And Lord haste the day
When my faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back
As a scroll
The trump shall resound
And the Lord shall descend
Even so it is well
With my soul

It is well with my soul

It is well

It is well with my soul

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Prayer of Response

Q&A

Song: The Lord Is My Salvation

The grace of God has reached for me
And pulled me from the raging sea
And I am safe on this solid ground
The Lord is my salvation

I will not fear when darkness falls
His strength will help me scale these walls
I'll see the dawn of the rising sun
The Lord is my salvation

*Who is like the Lord our God
Strong to save faithful in love
My debt is paid and the victory won
The Lord is my salvation*

My hope is hidden in the Lord
He flow'rs each promise of His Word
When winter fades I know spring will come
The Lord is my salvation

In times of waiting times of need
When I know loss when I am weak
I know His grace will renew these days
The Lord is my salvation

And when I reach the final day
He will not leave me in the grave
But I will rise He will call me home
The Lord is my salvation

Glory be to God the Father
Glory be to God the Son
Glory be to God the Spirit
The Lord is our salvation

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Closing and Grace

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

Minister: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Connect with us

Thank you for joining our service. If you would like for us to get in touch with you, or have any feedback for us, please fill in our Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect.

Giving

Online transfer

Bank name: **Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Bhd**

Account name: **St Mary's Cathedral**

Account number: **312 142 334 691**

Recipient reference: If giving a pledge, enter ***your 3-digit pledge number***.
 Otherwise, enter the service you normally attend.
 If giving to the Ministry Workers Fund, please put **“MWF”**.

For one-off giving, please email the bank-in slip or online transfer receipt to: **collections@stmaryscathedral.org.my**

E-wallet

Scan the following QR code using any banking or e-wallet app (Touch n Go/GrabPay/Boost). Please ensure **“SMACC”** is listed as the payee.



SMACC

Note: This method of giving is analogous to putting cash into the offertory bag/box. Your donation will go to the General Fund. You will not be given a receipt. Do not use this to give a pledge.

Details on our webpage: stmarys.my/give.

Giving via Pledge Envelopes

In recent years, the church giving system has moved from a pledge envelope system to an online giving system. Those who wish to remain contributing via pledge envelopes are advised to write their pledge numbers on any blank envelopes and drop them in the allocated boxes at church.

Giving to the Ministry Workers Fund

If you would like to give to the Ministry Workers Fund, please scan the following QR code using any banking or e-wallet app (Touch n Go/GrabPay/Boost). Please ensure “**MWF**” is listed as the payee.



MWF

Onsite and Online Services

Here are the details of our English onsite services on Sundays:

- Liturgical Services – 7am, 9am, 11am
- Contemporary (SMACC) Services – 9am (Wisma Anglican), 11am, 5pm

If you are joining us online on Sundays, the Liturgical service will be livestreamed at 9am.

More information about our services can be found here: stmarys.my/services.

Cathedral Kids' Church

The Kids' Church classes run on Sunday mornings. The different age groups meet at their respective classrooms at the Cathedral. Parents may pick up their children after the 11am church services ends. Please email kidschurch@stmaryscathedral.org.my or speak to our Kids' Church teachers for further information.

Opportunities to Serve

Do you have a heart for service and a desire to be part of a vibrant community? St Mary's Cathedral is looking for dedicated people to help us in various roles. If you're a regular at the Cathedral and would like to lend a hand, we encourage you to register your interest today! Simply visit stmarys.my/serve to learn more and fill out the serving form. We look forward to welcoming you onto our team!

Community Meal at the Cathedral

Next Community Meal: 12 January 2025

Tuesday Night Training

Tuesday Night Training (TNT) is a good and systematic way for all of us to keep studying God's Word and to be trained for ministry. The first term for 2025 begins on 21 January.

Online theological courses on offer are Bible Overview, New Testament 1 and New Testament 2. These courses are offered in partnership with Equip Seminary.

If you are new to TNT, we encourage you to consider taking our Bible Overview course. This is a great way to learn how the whole Bible fits together and points to Jesus.

Find out more about the courses and register here:

stmarys.my/tnt

Personal Details Update

Thank you for being here with us at St Mary's Cathedral and we would like to get to know you better.

Here is a form to update your contact details on our church management system, for us to stay in touch with you. This will also help the pastoral and admin teams to have details of those whom we are seeking to serve.

stmarys.my/survey

Rest assured that we will be safeguarding the information and it will not be used for any commercial purposes.

Building Roof & External Walls

The main roof and external walls of the Cathedral are in need of major repairs to address leaks that are threatening the comfort and safety of the building. We will need to raise funds for the repair and restoration works. For more information on the extent of damage and works, and for occasional updates on the funds collected, please visit stmarys.my/building.

Seminars

Our website has a page dedicated to seminars that we ran in the past. Topics include gender identity, parenting, relationships and church history. If you would like to listen to or watch videos of these seminars, you can find them at stmarys.my/seminars.

Donation for Flowers

If you would like to donate flowers to commemorate occasions (such as anniversary, memorial, baptism, birthday), you can let us know by indicating on the spreadsheet on the notice board at the Cathedral entrance. Please send a WhatsApp message to Janet Chan (017 213 3418) and she will contact you to discuss the type, colour and cost of flowers. Payment for the flowers can be made by placing it in an envelope and writing on the envelope the purpose for the payment (in this case 'Flowers'). Please drop the envelope in one of the allocated collection boxes at church. If you would like a receipt to be issued to you, please write your name and contact number on the envelope, and we will send the receipt to you.

St Mary's Agape Mission School

St Mary's Agape Mission School is always on the lookout for volunteers or anyone looking to sponsor a refugee child's education for the short / long term. No prerequisites required.

For more information, please contact Dr Mei Tan at agapeschool@stmaryscathedral.org.my

The Daily Office

We invite you to join us for the Daily Office – a short daily service with systematic Bible readings and set prayers. This will take place every day at 7.30am by Zoom (except Sunday).

If you think this would be a helpful part of your daily routine, please join us by simply going to stmarys.my/dailyoffice at about 7.25am each day for a 7.30am start. That will take you directly to the Zoom room where the service takes place. The service will finish before 8am.

Pastoral Needs

If you are a regular at St Mary's Cathedral and would like to make an appointment to talk to a member of the pastoral team, please let us know by filling in a Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect or call the Cathedral Office at 03 2692 8672.

If there is a pastoral emergency, you can reach the pastoral team on our Emergency Pastoral Care Hotline: 011 2091 4458.

Small Groups

Looking to connect with a Christian community? We encourage you to consider joining one of our in-person or online small groups. This is one of the important ways we grow together as a community of God's people as we gather under his Word and seek to encourage one another to persevere in following Jesus.

If you would like to join a small group, please fill in a form at stmarys.my/smallgroups and we'd be happy to help find you one.

Youth Fellowship

Our Youth Fellowship (ages 13-18) meets on Sundays at 9am in the GF3 room (the room between the Pantry and the Old Office). If you would like to join us, please sign up at stmarys.my/youth.

Youth Confirmation Programme

If you would like to indicate interest in our Youth Confirmation Programme for your teenager aged 13-17, please let us know at stmarys.my/youthbaptismconfirmation and we will inform you when the next one starts.

Subscribe to our Mailing List

To receive emails about latest updates and important news about the Cathedral, fill in the form at stmarys.my/subscribe.

Carparking for Cathedral Services

If you are attending any of the services or events at St Mary's Cathedral, please park at the Dataran Merdeka Underground Carpark across the road.

The Cathedral Carpark is reserved for women travelling alone who may feel unsafe parking in the Dataran Merdeka Underground Carpark, people with young children who would find it hard to cross the road with them, and those who are elderly, or suffering from illness or disability who would then find it hard to walk from the carpark across the road.

If you fall into any of the categories above and wish to park in the Cathedral, please visit stmarys.my/booking to book a carpark on Sundays. There is also an option for you to indicate on the form that you would like to book a parking spot for 6 months. Your car plate number will then be given to the guards and you will be allowed in.

Bookings for carparking will open at 2pm on Sunday and close at noon on Friday.

If you miss a booking but you fall into any of the categories mentioned above and need to park in the Cathedral, you may request for a temporary paper form from the guard to allow you to park just for that day.

If you are parking in the Cathedral, please drive slowly and carefully for the sake of the safety of the many pedestrians in the Cathedral compound.

Dataran Merdeka Underground Carpark

Here are the weekend parking rates (Saturday & Sunday):

12am-9.59am – RM 4.00 per entry

10am-11.59pm – RM 5.00 per entry

For more information on payment methods, you can find them at stmarys.my/dataran.

Work Care Panel

We have a panel to help our Cathedral community look for work or advise about work and training opportunities. If you're looking for work and wouldn't mind a helping hand, fill in our Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect, indicating that you would like someone from the Work Care Panel to contact you.

Photography/Video Recordings during Services

Please note that taking photographs and/or recording videos are not allowed during our services without prior permission. If you would like to have footage of the service, you may look up our [YouTube channel](#).

WhatsApp Announcement Groups

We have new WhatsApp announcement groups! Do join your service community to receive the appropriate updates on the goings-on here at the cathedral. You can join by clicking the links below. Only admins will be able to post and to see the phone numbers of everyone in the group. You will get the order of service for the congregation you are in each week (with all the announcements within the document). Admins will carefully limit the number of other announcements sent out to avoid overloading your WhatsApp inbox.



[Liturgical 7am](#)



[Liturgical 9am](#)



[Liturgical 11am](#)



[Liturgical Online](#)



[SMACC 1](#)



[SMACC 2](#)



[SMACC Wisma](#)

In Memoriam

Give thanks for the lives of Mrs Jemima Paul Samuel who passed away on 7 January 2018 and Miss Elizabeth Periathamby who passed away on 9 January 2024. Thank God for his promise that all who depart in the faith of Christ rest now in peace and will surely rise in glory.