

SMACC Service

17 September 2023 | 11.00 am, 5.00 pm



Welcome & Prayer

Song: Praise To The Lord The Almighty

Praise to the Lord the Almighty
The King of creation
O my soul praise Him
For He is thy health and salvation
All ye who hear now to His temple draw near
Praise Him in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord Who over all things
So wondrously reigneth
Shelters thee under His wings
Yea so gently sustaineth
Hast thou not seen how thy desires ever have been
Granted in what He ordaineth

Praise to the Lord Who doth prosper
Thy work and defend thee
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
If with His love He befriend thee

Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore Him
All that hath life and breath
Come now with praises before Him
Let the amen sound from His people again
Gladly for all we adore Him

Words by Jaochim Neander

Translated by Catherine Winkworth

Music by Lobe den Herren

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The Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Song: Glorious Christ

The radiance of the Father
Before the dawn of time
You spoke and all creation came to be
The molecules and planets
Reveal Your great design
And every one was made so we could see
So we could see

*You are the glorious Christ
The greatest of all delights
Your power is unequalled
Your love beyond all heights
No greater sacrifice
Than when You laid down Your life
We join the song of angels
Who praise You day and night
Glorious Christ*

You left the air of heaven
To breathe the dust of earth
And dwell among the outcast and the poor

You came to be forsaken
And died to take our curse
So You could be our joy forevermore
Forevermore

You're seated now in heaven
Enthroned at God's right hand
You've shattered death and freed us
From our fears
And though we cannot see You
You're coming back again
And all will be made right when You appear
And all will be made right when You appear

Words and Music by Bob Kauflin
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Old Testament Reading: 2 Samuel 14

Now Joab the son of Zeruah knew that the king's heart went out to Absalom. ²And Joab sent to Tekoa and brought from there a wise woman and said to her, "Pretend to be a mourner and put on mourning garments. Do not anoint yourself with oil, but behave like a woman who has been mourning many days for the dead. ³ Go to the king and speak thus to him." So Joab put the words in her mouth.

⁴ When the woman of Tekoa came to the king, she fell on her face to the ground and paid homage and said, "Save me, O king." ⁵And the king said to her, "What is your trouble?" She answered, "Alas, I am a widow; my husband is dead. ⁶And your servant had two sons, and they quarreled with one another in the field. There was no one to separate them, and one struck the other and killed him. ⁷ And now the whole clan has risen against your servant, and they say, 'Give up the man who struck his brother, that we may put him to death for the life of his brother whom he killed.' And so they would destroy the heir also. Thus they would quench my coal that is left and leave to my husband neither name nor remnant on the face of the earth."

⁸ Then the king said to the woman, “Go to your house, and I will give orders concerning you.” ⁹ And the woman of Tekoa said to the king, “On me be the guilt, my lord the king, and on my father's house; let the king and his throne be guiltless.” ¹⁰ The king said, “If anyone says anything to you, bring him to me, and he shall never touch you again.” ¹¹ Then she said, “Please let the king invoke the LORD your God, that the avenger of blood kill no more, and my son be not destroyed.” He said, “As the LORD lives, not one hair of your son shall fall to the ground.”

¹² Then the woman said, “Please let your servant speak a word to my lord the king.” He said, “Speak.” ¹³ And the woman said, “Why then have you planned such a thing against the people of God? For in giving this decision the king convicts himself, inasmuch as the king does not bring his banished one home again. ¹⁴ We must all die; we are like water spilled on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again. But God will not take away life, and he devises means so that the banished one will not remain an outcast. ¹⁵ Now I have come to say this to my lord the king because the people have made me afraid, and your servant thought, ‘I will speak to the king; it may be that the king will perform the request of his servant. ¹⁶ For the king will hear and

deliver his servant from the hand of the man who would destroy me and my son together from the heritage of God.’
¹⁷ And your servant thought, ‘The word of my lord the king will set me at rest,’ for my lord the king is like the angel of God to discern good and evil. The LORD your God be with you!”

¹⁸ Then the king answered the woman, “Do not hide from me anything I ask you.” And the woman said, “Let my lord the king speak.” ¹⁹ The king said, “Is the hand of Joab with you in all this?” The woman answered and said, “As surely as you live, my lord the king, one cannot turn to the right hand or to the left from anything that my lord the king has said. It was your servant Joab who commanded me; it was he who put all these words in the mouth of your servant. ²⁰ In order to change the course of things your servant Joab did this. But my lord has wisdom like the wisdom of the angel of God to know all things that are on the earth.”

²¹ Then the king said to Joab, “Behold now, I grant this; go, bring back the young man Absalom.” ²² And Joab fell on his face to the ground and paid homage and blessed the king. And Joab said, “Today your servant knows that I have found

favour in your sight, my lord the king, in that the king has granted the request of his servant.”²³ So Joab arose and went to Geshur and brought Absalom to Jerusalem.²⁴ And the king said, “Let him dwell apart in his own house; he is not to come into my presence.” So Absalom lived apart in his own house and did not come into the king's presence.

²⁵ Now in all Israel there was no one so much to be praised for his handsome appearance as Absalom. From the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no blemish in him.²⁶ And when he cut the hair of his head (for at the end of every year he used to cut it; when it was heavy on him, he cut it), he weighed the hair of his head, two hundred shekels by the king's weight.²⁷ There were born to Absalom three sons, and one daughter whose name was Tamar. She was a beautiful woman.

²⁸ So Absalom lived two full years in Jerusalem, without coming into the king's presence.²⁹ Then Absalom sent for Joab, to send him to the king, but Joab would not come to him. And he sent a second time, but Joab would not come.³⁰ Then he said to his servants, “See, Joab's field is next to mine, and he has barley there; go and set it on fire.” So

Absalom's servants set the field on fire. ³¹ Then Joab arose and went to Absalom at his house and said to him, “Why have your servants set my field on fire?” ³² Absalom answered Joab, “Behold, I sent word to you, ‘Come here, that I may send you to the king, to ask, “Why have I come from Geshur? It would be better for me to be there still.” Now therefore let me go into the presence of the king, and if there is guilt in me, let him put me to death.’” ³³ Then Joab went to the king and told him, and he summoned Absalom. So he came to the king and bowed himself on his face to the ground before the king, and the king kissed Absalom.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 24:1-6

A psalm of David.

¹ The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,

² **for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.**

³ Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?

⁴ **He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.**

⁵ He will receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

⁶ **Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

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: Hebrews 10:19-23

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Greeting Time

Song: Where Else Have We To Go

We have come to see
To know and understand
Things the very angels long to see
God who owed us nothing
Has spoken to us all
Christ the Word of God Himself has been

*Where else have we to go
When You alone have words of eternal life
Where else have we to go
When You alone have words of eternal life*

Words of truth passed down
To those entrusted few
Who witnessed and proclaimed Him Christ the Lord
We are their descendants
On us the light has dawned
Standing in the gospel we first heard

Come all you who labour
You who are weighed down
You who thirst and hunger for the right
There is truth and meaning
Mercy rest and hope
True salvation comes through Jesus Christ

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Sermon: Dilemma in Reconciliation

2 Samuel 14

Part One

14:1 Problem of Separation

14:2-20 Joab's Clever Solution

14:21-24 Partial Reconciliation

Part Two

14:25-29 Absalom's Frustration

14:30-32 Absalom's Violent Solution

14:33 So-Called "Complete Reconciliation"

Main Point: David reconciled with Absalom by compromising justice while exercising mercy, whereas Christ has reconciled us to Himself without compromising justice and mercy.

(For SMACC 1, if you have questions regarding the sermon, please submit at www.menti.com and use the code 5460 6671)

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**

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.**

Q&A

Announcements

Song: God the Uncreated One (King Forevermore)

God the uncreated One
The Author of salvation
Wrote the laws of space and time
And fashioned worlds to His design
The One whom angel hosts revere
Hung the stars like chandeliers
Numbered every grain of sand
Knows the heart of every man
He is King forever
He is King forever
He is King forevermore

God our fortress and our strength
The Rock on which we can depend
Matchless in His majesty
His power and authority
Unshaken by the schemes of man
Never changing Great I am
Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall
He is faithful through it all
Crown Him King forever

Crown Him King forever
Crown Him King forevermore

Mighty God in mortal flesh
Forsaken by a traitor's kiss
The curse of sin and centuries
Did pierce the lowly Prince of Peace
Lifted high the sinless man
Crucified the spotless Lamb
Buried by the sons of man
Rescued by the Father's hand
To reign as King forever
Reign as King forever
Reign as King forevermore

King eternal God of grace
We crown You with the highest praise
Heaven shouts and saints adore
You're holy holy holy Lord
What joy in everlasting life
All is love and faith is sight
Justice rolls and praises rise
At the name of Jesus Christ
King of kings forever

King of kings forever
King of kings forevermore

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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 **Online Service**
 or the service you normally
 attend.

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 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.

Onsite and Online Services

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

- Liturgical Services – 7am, 9am, 11am
- Contemporary (SMACC) Services – 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.

Carpark Booking

Please visit stmarys.my/booking to book a carpark on Sundays at the Royal Selangor Club or at the Cathedral, if you need to. 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. Please note that you will only be allowed in if your car plate number is on the list given to the guards. If you are parking at the Dataran Merdeka Carpark, you do not need to book a carpark.

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

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.

Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help out at our services. If you are a regular at St Mary's Cathedral and would like to volunteer, please fill in the form at stmarys.my/volunteer.

Kids' Church

The Kids' Church classes run on Sunday mornings. The different age groups meet at their respective classrooms on the ground floor of 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.

CWF Amazing Challenge

It's today!

Fun and fellowship for all ages! Form a team of 4 and come challenge each other to complete mini challenges in the CWF Amazing Challenge! Will you be reciting bible verses? Learn a tik tok dance? Or complete a jigsaw puzzle in record time? Come find out today!

Time: 2pm or when community lunch ends

Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall

Register here: stmarys.my/CWFAmazingChallenge

For more information, please contact Regina Robin at 012 506 8854.

Note: Children who would like to participate should be 10 years old and above and have parental consent.

Health Talk

The UCA Golden Circle Committee is organizing a Health Talk.

Details as follows:

Date: Saturday 23 Sept 2023

Time: 9.30 am – 1.00 pm

Venue: MPH St. Mary's Cathedral

Registration: RM 5.00

Speakers:

- Dr Naresh – Physician (currently doing his subspecialty in Geriatric Medicine)
- Dr Jeffrey Jaya Raj - Consultant Arthroplasty and Joint Reconstruction Orthopedic Surgeon

Please call Mrs Nesamani Alexandor at 013-3366355 to register. Closing date Sunday 17 September 2023. Thank you.

Carolling

If you love to sing and play the guitar, please consider joining our Christmas Carolling Group. Practices will take place weekly from October. Please let us know by filling in the form at stmarys.my/carolling.

If you have any questions about the above, please contact Joyce Yu on 012 225 5277.

SMAGLOW is in 12 days!

Not much time left to get ready.

We will need some volunteers at the camp and if you're able to help we would greatly appreciate it. Many hands make light work, and this would ensure that everybody has a good time.

We also have 9 electives to choose from; due to how many of us there are, allocations to the 3 elective slots will be made by the organising committee.

Please choose 5 electives and indicate if you can volunteer via the form on our SMAGLOW page:

stmarys.my/smaglow

If you have signed up for the camp but are not receiving emails, please do refer to our SMAGLOW page for all your essential updates.

Diocesan Senior Citizen's Day

The UCA Golden Circle Committee is organizing the Diocesan Senior Citizen's Day as follows:

- Date: Saturday 14 October 2023
- Time: 10 am to 1 pm
- Venue: St. James Church Sentul
- Speaker: Rev Jesvinder Singh
- Registration: RM 15.00

We will begin with a Holy Communion Service followed by a fellowship Lunch.

Please register with Mrs Thilly Abraham at 017-8166165 on or before Sunday 1 October.

Senior Citizen's Day High Tea

The Cathedral Golden Circle Committee is organizing a High-Tea event to celebrate Senior Citizen's Day.



Details as follows:

- Date: Saturday 21 October 2023
- Time: 2.30 pm – 5.30 pm
- Venue: Card Room, Royal Selangor Club Dataran Merdeka

Participation is by Invitation priced at RM 35 each.

Please call Mrs Thilly Abraham at 017-8166165 or Mrs Nesamani Alexandor at 013-3366355 for the invitation.
Thank you.

Upper Central Archdeaconry Women's Committee Treasure Hunt

 Get ready for UCAWC's Hunt 4 Fun Treasure Hunt 2023 on October 21st across Klang Valley! 
Upper Central Archdeaconry Women's Committee
(UCAWC)

 Rules in a Nutshell:

Form teams of 2-4 players. (males are welcome!)

Use a 4-wheeled vehicle.

Pay RM300 per team (RM280 if early bird) by October 7th.

Attend the Hunt Briefing on October 19th.

Play fair, be safe, and have a blast!

 Prizes awarded based on points.

 Languages: English and Bahasa Malaysia.

Hit SUBMIT and let's roll! 🚗👉 Good luck, treasure hunters! 🚩

<https://bit.ly/UCAWCTH>

Building Roof

The main roof of the Cathedral is 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.

Golden Circle: Chair and Floor Exercises

The Golden Circle conducts a fitness programme for seniors at the Cathedral. Movements consist of chair and floor exercises to strengthen and tone muscles, improve balance, improve lung function, and improve circulation and cardiac function.

Day: Fridays

Time: 9.30am-10.30am

Venue: MPH

Volunteer with the Social Concerns Team

The Social Concerns Team of St Mary's Cathedral is the first point of referral for members and other St Mary's contacts who may require care, support and/or practical assistance, and seek to organise, facilitate and oversee these needs. This ministry is limited by the availability of more hands to assist with the various needs that arise. If you have a heart for people who are struggling and are willing and able to assist us, please consider and complete the form below to partner with us in any way you are able to show the love of Christ practically:

stmarys.my/socialconcerns.volunteer.

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 contact Janet Chan (017 213 3418) for the type, colour and cost of flowers. Payment for the flowers can be made to Jessica Hoh at the Book Corner.

Music Ministry

If you are someone who is following Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, committed to serving him in St Mary's and interested in serving either in the choir or as an organist at the Liturgical services, please fill in the Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect or let the Cathedral Office know on 03 2692 8672. You will be contacted and furnished with more details by those in charge from the Cathedral.

Lost And Found

If you left something in the Cathedral, you can look for it at the 'Lost and Found' section in the Book Corner. Items

will be kept for a month for people to claim before they are disposed of.

St Mary's Agape Mission School

St Mary's Agape Mission School is now in its 9th year of operation and currently has over 100 students. As such, the school is always on the lookout for volunteers who might be keen to teach the children. If you have a heart for seeing vulnerable children receive an education and would like to find out more about what is involved, please contact Mei Tan on 012 387 3408. (Retired teachers are preferred.)

The school is located near Ampang, and the time for volunteering is 9am-12pm and/or 1-3pm from Mondays to Thursdays.

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 pastor, please let us know by filling in a Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect or call the Cathedral Office on 03 2692 8672.

If you are a woman and there are pastoral matters you prefer to talk about with another woman, you can contact Mrs Christine Rajaratnam or Miss Danielle Cheng. If you would like one of them to contact you, please let us know in the same way – you can fill in a Connection Card at stmarys.my/connect or call the Cathedral Office on 03 2692 8672.

If there is a pastoral emergency, you can reach the pastoral team on our Emergency Pastoral Care Hotline: 011 5762 8524.

Small Groups

Looking to connect with a Christian community? We encourage you to consider joining one of our online or in-person 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/youthconfirmation 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.

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. 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 either click the links here or follow the QR code by the entrances for each hall. 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 Online:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GdKJ70hOT4p7UTZUD2RxpP>

Liturgical 7am:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/FzoyrkZOMcBFUuA5EGygFT>

Liturgical 9am:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BCd6szYiXlk7iyu1VT8s8N>

Liturgical 11am:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KK2bI0HRZsdCmRWXOiPdfK>

SMACC 1:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GqLRkLZgvlF4e5Ht4GktnF>

SMACC 2:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/EXCHpSflvDv8NRGgxqgPhE>
