

**THE MINISTERS WHO HAVE SERVED
TRINITY CHURCH OVER THE PAST 70 YEARS**



***Trinity Uniting Church
North Balwyn***

***FAREWELL SERVICE
6 February 2011***

1942 – 1945	REV. HORTON H. WILLIAMS
1946 – 1947	REV. WILLIAM H. GUARD
1947 – 1948	REV. RAYMOND C. MCLEAN
1949 – 1953	REV. ERNEST G. LECHTE
1954 – 1961	REV. HARRY G. MACKAY
1962 – 1968	REV. ALFRED E. MCKAY
1969 – 1973	REV. C. BRUCE RICHARDS
1974 – 1983	REV. N. ERIC DERBYSHIRE
1984 – 1989	REV. ROBERT W. GRIBBEN
1990 – 1997	REV. PETER D. BLACKWOOD
1997 – 2002	REV. RANDALL PRIOR
2003 – 2010	REV. DR PAUL TONSON



PRELUDE *Fugue in D minor* J S Bach

Please stand as the Bible is brought in

INTROIT *Alleluia, alleluia! Come ye people praise the Lord!
Alleluia, Alleluia! Sing his praise with one accord!
O thou God of our salvation, Blest Redeemer,
now we raise joyful songs of adoration worthy
Thou of all our praise. Alleluia, Amen!* Jane LaRowe
(sit)

CALL TO WORSHIP

This is the time, this is the place,
**here and now we meet together
with the experience of many memories.**

People have been baptised and confirmed,
and been fed by bread and wine of Christ.

**People have courted and married,
made strong friendships, and had
sharp conflicts,**

People have learnt from the scriptures and been challenged
and strengthened through preaching,

**prayed in good times and bad,
grieved and mourned the death of family
and friends.**

This is the day, this is the moment
**when we gather to farewell this worship centre
which has been important for many people.**

With all these many experiences and memories
let us worship God in Spirit and in truth.

(stand)

HYMN 456 *Your hand, O God, has guided*

1 Your hand, O God, has guided your flock from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written, full clear, on every page;
your people owned your goodness, and we their deeds recall;
and both of this bear witness: one church, one faith, one Lord.

2 Your heralds brought glad tidings to greatest, as to least;
they bade them rise, and hasten to share the great King's feast;
and this was all their teaching, in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming one church, one faith, one Lord.

3 Through many a day of darkness, through many a scene of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely to guard the nation's life,
their gospel of redemption, sin pardoned, earth restored,
was all in this enfolded: one church, one faith, one Lord.

1977 **UNITING CHURCH FORMATION** between Congregational, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches to form the North Balwyn Parish of the Uniting Church in Australia. The Methodist Church was renamed Trinity Uniting Church.

1978 **CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH** Macedon Avenue, North Balwyn formally joined with Trinity.

1990 **ASSOCIATE MINISTER** Rev. G.L. Turner appointed to Trinity.

1991 **FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY** of Trinity. The Church organ was extensively refurbished to mark the occasion.

1996 **SEPARATION** of St Aidan's and Trinity Churches into independent congregations was formalised from 1st July 1996.

1997 **THE LINK** connecting the Church with Trinity Hall was officially opened on 25th October 1998.

2006 **UNICARE HOUSE** closed and most activities moved to Trinity.

2011 **TRINITY** uses reserves to endow the Sunshine Mission with interest from \$200,000 UCA investment and rejoins with St Aidan's to become North Balwyn Uniting Church. Final service conducted by Rev. Ivan Poole held on 6th February 2011.

RECOGNITION OF 6 FORMER MEMBERS OF TRINITY WHO BECAME ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. Marilyn Boatman B.Theol. (nee Lechte). Retired to Cairns

Rev. Rosalind Terry B.Pharm., B.D.

Rev. Dr. Coralie Jenkin B.Theol., Grad.Dip.Lib.Std., M.Lib., Ph.D.,

Rev. Elaine Frager B.A., Dip.Ed., B.Theol. (Callister)

Rev. Roslyn McDonald B.Theol., B.Sc., Dip.Main. (McLaren)

Rev. Jennifer Pretty B.Theol., Dip.Min. (Roberts)

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE MISSION FIELDS

Amy Wishart, Howard Barclay and David Hickingbotham served as Missionaries in Africa, Nepal and India respectively for over thirty years.

A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE PAST 70 YEARS

- 1939 **LAND** The Canterbury Methodist Circuit purchased land in Doncaster Road as the site for the North Balwyn Methodist Church.
- 1941 **FOUNDATION STONE** of the first building, what is now the Church Hall, was laid on 30th August 1941.
- 1941 **FIRST SERVICES** were held on 30th November 1941 and conducted – at 11am by Rev. T.C. Rentoul; 3pm by Rev. E.H.O Nye; and at 7pm by Rev. H.G.Secomb. The first Sunday School was held on 6th December 1941 under the superintendency of Mr Albert Charlesworth M.B.E.
- 1947 **THE PARSONAGE** North Balwyn Church was transferred from the Canterbury Circuit to the Kew Methodist Circuit and the first full-time minister appointed to the North Balwyn – Deepdene Pastorate. The parsonage was erected and occupied this year.
- 1951 **THE KINDERGARTEN** In accordance with a master plan developed for the site which included a new Church building, the Kindergarten (North Balwyn Play Centre) was erected and opened on 18th March 1951. It now forms part of the rear of the new Church.
- 1956 **THE YOUTH CENTRE** The growth in the numbers of children and young people made the building of a Youth Centre an urgent necessity. It was opened on 23rd June 1956.
- 1961 **FOUNDATION STONE** of the current Church building was laid by the Rev. H.G.Mackay B.A. on 16th December 1961
- 1962 **NEW CHURCH BUILDING** was opened on 3rd November 1962 coinciding with the 21st Church Anniversary. The services were conducted at – 11am Rev. A.W.R. Milligan and at 7pm by Rev. A.E. McKay B.A., B.D. Thus the suite of buildings as we know them today was completed.

The pipe organ was purchased from the Brunswick Presbyterian Church. It contains over 1000 pipes and had been in use for over 80 years by them. It was rebuilt and installed including an entirely new console.

4 Your mercy will not fail us, nor leave your work undone;
with your right hand to help us the victory shall be won;
and then by all creation your name shall be adored,
and this shall be our anthem: one church, one faith, one Lord.

Edward Hayes Plumptre
(sit)

A PRAYER FOR OUR TIMES

(inspired by Ecclesiastes 3:1-7 & Colossians 3:12-17)

Living God, in whom we live, move and have our being,
we give thanks that there are seasons and times
for everything under the sun.

**May whatever we do, be done with thanksgiving,
in the name of our Lord Jesus.**

There is a time for birth and death, dying and rising,
a time to prune back the old, a time to graft in the new,
a time to demolish and a time to rebuild.

**May the peace of Christ rule in our lives
whatever the circumstances.**

A time to repent, a time to celebrate,
a time to mourn, a time to dance,
a time to close, a time to build.

**May the word of Christ live richly in us,
as we sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs.**

A time to reflect, a time to let go,
a time to hug, and a time to be alone,
a time for tears, and a time for laughter.

**May we be clothed with a love that binds
everything in harmony in the name of Christ.**

Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, we have gathered from near and far,
as present members and past members,
on this day of farewell to our worship centre.

**As we close this worship centre,
we do so in the spirit of vision in which it was
opened.**

a time of silence

**Give us love as we value our treasured memories
but seek to live in the present and anticipate the future.**

a time of silence

**We seek to move on gratefully and graciously,
to worship and witness from a new place, and perhaps
in new ways.**

a time of silence

We continue to offer these feelings as we move from this worship
centre, knowing God will hear us and continue to listen.

He will go with us as we set out in new ventures in Christ's name.

Amen

READINGS Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet;
a light to our path.

Isaiah 58: 1-9a

Psalms 112: 1-9

1 Corinthians 2: 1-11

The Gospel Matthew 5:13-20

May your word live in us

and bear much fruit to your glory.

(stand)

HYMN 470 ***Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days***

1 Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days;
a world without saints forgets how to praise.
Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer,
their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.

2 Some march with events to turn them God's way;
some need to withdraw, the better to pray;
some carry the gospel through fire and through flood;
our world is their parish; their purpose is God.

3 Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown,
who bear someone's cross, or shoulder their own;
they shame our complaining, our comforts, our cares;
what patience in caring, what courage, is theirs!

4 Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days;
a world without saints forgets how to praise.
In loving, in living, they prove it is true;
their way of self-giving, Lord, leads us to you.

Frederick Pratt Green

(sit)

SERMON Salt: but how many grains; light: but what wattage ?



*There will be a retiring offering for the
Red Cross Victorian Floods Appeal 2011*



<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Rev Professor Randall Prior</i>
<i>Minister</i>	<i>Rev Ivan Poole</i>
<i>Prayers</i>	<i>Rev Laurie Turner</i>
<i>Reader</i>	<i>Rev Professor Norman Young</i>
<i>Servers</i>	<i>Gwen Charlesworth</i>
	<i>Val Thompson</i>
<i>Organist</i>	<i>Jeannie Poole</i>
<i>Flute</i>	<i>Brice Shen</i>



Acknowledgements

Words reproduced with permission #A1159 LicenSingOnLine
A Prayer for our Times is adapted from Bruce Prewer *Jesus our Future*
The liturgy is adapted from the Presbyterian Church in Canada

God remains with us,
**though we serve in different ways and pursue
different causes.**

God remains with us,
**though we find new friends in our new
congregation.**

God's love remains with us.
**God's justice will inspire us,
God's realm will call us to action.
Thanks be to God.**

CHORAL BLESSING

Go now in peace, *dona nobis pacem*.
May the peace of God be with you,
go in peace and love.

HYMN 569 **Guide me, O thou great Jehovah**

(stand)

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore;
feed me now and evermore.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fiery cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams

BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

POSTLUDE *Nun danket alle Gott*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(stand)

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
We proclaim Jesus Christ, the crucified and
risen One, confessing him as Lord to the glory of
God the Father.**

**In the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we claim Jesus as Lord of the Church,
the head over all things, the beginning of a new creation.**

**We acknowledge that we live and work,
between the time of Christ's death and
resurrection and the final consummation of all
things.**

**We are a pilgrim people,
always on the way to a promised goal;
on the way Christ feeds us with word and sacraments,
and we have the gift of the Spirit
in order that we might not lose the way.**

**We live and work within the faith and unity
of the one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,
bearing witness to that unity
which is both Christ's gift and his will.**

**We affirm that every member of the Church
is engaged to confess the faith of Christ crucified.
Together with all the people of God,
we will serve the world for which Christ died and
is risen.**

(Adapted from the Basis of Union)

(sit)

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

HYMN 598 **Dear Lord and Father of mankind**

(stand)

1 Dear Lord and Father of mankind, forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise,
in deeper reverence, praise.

2 In simple trust like theirs who heard, beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee,
rise up and follow thee.

3 Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace,
the beauty of thy peace.

4 Breathe through the heats of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still, small voice of calm,
O still, small voice of calm.

John Greenleaf Whittier (sit)

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER *THE INSTITUTION AND SETTING*

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING...

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give our thanks and praise

The prayer continues... '...joining with choirs of angels and the whole creation in the eternal hymn' (seated, we sing)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

the prayer continues

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

THE COMMUNION

During Communion the Choir sings

Through the love of God our Saviour all will be well.
Free and changeless in his favour, all, all is well.
Precious is the blood that healed us, perfect is the grace that sealed us,
strong the hand stretched forth to shield us; all must be well.

Though we pass through tribulations, all will be well.
Ours is such a full salvation, all, all is well.
Happy still in God confiding, fruitful, if in Christ abiding,
holy through the Spirit's guiding; all must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow; all will be well.
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, "All, all is well".
On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying,
or in living, or in dying, all must be well.

M Peters

A LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious and loving God, here in this place, you gathered us as
your Church and filled our hearts with your love through our
songs and praises. You heard our confessions and forgave our
sins.

You lifted our sorrows and made us glad in our celebrations.
For this worship space over the years loving God,
we give you thanks.

Almighty God, at this font, you have received our children and
our loved ones and made them one with your Son Jesus Christ
and with us, the body of Christ. You have given them, as you
have given us, your Holy Spirit, the great comforter.

For this baptismal font loving God,
we give you thanks.

Almighty God, at this communion table you have welcomed us
to the banquet of our Lord. You have united us with him and
with one another as we shared the bread and wine. We praise
and thank you for the grace given through the sacrament, and
the strength given for sharing your love in our daily lives.

For this communion table loving God,
we give you thanks.

Almighty God, from this pulpit we have heard your word. You
have lived among us through the Gospel and Biblical stories of
your people of faith.

Through your word of preaching you have called us. Through
your word of teaching you have taught us.
Through your word of law and grace you have guided us on our
way.

For this pulpit and the preaching loving God,
we give you thanks.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

COMMISSIONING

God remains with us,
though we let go of this of place of worship.

God remains with us,
**though we may sing new songs and worship in
different ways.**