

Bishop: In that spirit of reconciliation let us pray together in the words of Bishop Arthur Malcolm:

Dear God, you have forgiven us our sins; please enable us to forgive each other. Lord Jesus, bring healing and reconciliation to this nation, and make us a people who will walk and live together in lasting acceptance and respect for each other. In Jesus Name and for his sake, Amen.

Finally let us dedicate ourselves and our future to Him who is the Creator of all:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we offer ourselves and all that we have afresh in your service, to your praise and glory and for the good of all mankind, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Choir: "Come, Holy Spirit"

10.3 *The Church Triumphant*

Scripture: Ric Norris Choir: "The Church beneath the Southern Cross"

Blessing

GLORIA

(Music by Lorraine Jones)

Afternoon tea will be served in the Parish Hall

We thank the Dean and the Vestry of St Paul's for their helpful co-operation in making the Cathedral available for this presentation.



THE INAUGURAL PRESENTATION OF

BENEATH THE SOUTHERN CROSS

An Ecumenical Bicentennial Presentation of
Sacred poems, readings and hymns
Devised and written by Dr Keith Cole

Programme

and an
ACT OF PENITENCE AND DEDICATION
held at
St Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Myers Street, Bendigo
on
SUNDAY, 20 MARCH 1988 at 2.30 p.m.



BENEATH
THE
SOUTHERN CROSS

Serving the Community

McCalman's

McCalman's

10 QUEEN STREET, BENDIGO

We are delighted to be associated as Sponsor in the publication of this Bicentennial offering.

VARIETY, QUALITY AND VALUE

Narrator: Keith Cole

Readers: Lois Angus, Nancy Stone, Ric Norris

Bendigo Crusade Choir: Director: Lorraine Jones

Orchestra: Leader/Composer of special music: Daniel Herbst

Organist: Cliff Ellis *Liturgical Dance:* Frances Mills

ORDER OF PRESENTATION

Orchestral Prelude composed by Daniel Herbst

1 *Prologue*

Narration: Keith Cole

Scripture: Lois Angus

Choir: "The Awakening Chorus"

2 *Celestial Splendour*

Narration: Keith Cole

Scripture: Nancy Stone

Poem: Lois Angus (Chorus); Ric Norris Choir: Chorus

3 *An Aboriginal Dreaming*

Narration: Keith Cole

Scripture: Nancy Stone

Poem: Lois Angus, Ric Norris, Nancy Stone Choir: Chorus

4 *Land Full of Sunshine*

Narration: Keith Cole

Scripture: Nancy Stone

Poem: Lois Angus, Nancy Stone, Ric Norris

Choir: "God Bless our Native Land"

5.1 *Our Outback Pioneers*

Narration: Keith Cole

Poem: Ric Norris

Choir: Chorus

Congregational Hymn (Offertory for expenses) : 89 "God of Eternity"

5.2 *Dear Susan, Gentle Pioneer*

Narration: Keith Cole

Orchestral Interlude

Poem: Nancy Stone, Lois Angus

Choir: Chorus Orchestral Interlude

6 *Natural Disasters*

Narration: Lois Angus

Reading (pre-recorded): Keith Cole

Liturgical Dance: Frances Mills

Choir: "Master, the Tempest is Raging"

7 *Aborigines of the Southern Cross*

Narration: Keith Cole

Scripture: Nancy Stone

Poem: Ric Norris, Lois Angus, Nancy Stone, Keith Cole

Choir: "Kneels at the Feet of his Friends"

8 *Peace in a Nuclear Age*

Narration: Keith Cole

Scripture: Lois Angus

Poem: Nancy Stone

Choir: "Peace with the Father"

9 *The Cross of Christ*

Narration: Keith Cole

Reader: Lois Angus

Choir: "Hallelujah for the Cross"

Narration: Lois Angus

Congregational Hymn: 258 "When I survey"

10.1 *The Church beneath the Southern Cross*

Narration: Keith Cole

Poem: Lois Angus

ACT OF PENITENCE AND DEDICATION

(led by Bishop Oliver Heyward)

Lord, have mercy on us,

Christ, have mercy on us,

Lord, have mercy on us.

We confess that we have not loved you as we should,

Spare us, good Lord.

We confess that as a nation and as individuals we have not obeyed your holy will and commandments,

Spare us, good Lord.

We confess that in the making of our nation there has been much violence and discrimination on the basis of race and colour,

Spare us, good Lord.

We confess that there is still an urgent need for reconciliation between the original inhabitants of this land and those who arrived in 1788 and after,

Spare us, good Lord.

Narration:

At a service in St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney, commemorating the first Christian service in that place on 7 February 1788, a statement was made on behalf of the congregation seeking forgiveness from God and from the Aboriginal people for the actions of the past and those causing hurt at the present time. This was received by an Aboriginal Bishop on behalf of his people saying:

I accept your seeking our forgiveness, and thank you for your apology.

I believe that we are to work and live side by side in a way that enables God to take hold of each one's contributions and blend them together to enrich and mature us as a people who belong to the nation of Australia."



***BENEATH
THE
SOUTHERN CROSS***

Sacred poetry, hymns and readings
for the
Australian Bicentenary 1988 and other Occasions

Devised and written by Dr Keith Cole

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FOREWORD BY BISHOP OLIVER HEYWARD

There are many words being written for the Bicentenary of 1988, but it is rare to find among them a combination of traditional Christian faith and profound understanding of this land and its history.

Dr Keith Cole combines a life-time's dedication to the Scriptures with some of his own personal history. To this he adds his own close relationship with the Aboriginal people of the North. From the gold-rushes of Central Victoria to Cyclone Tracy in Darwin his personal history spans our history. Behind that lies the Aboriginal Dreaming, shattered but not destroyed, over the last two hundred years.

At the centre of this meditation in verse and song lies the Cross, symbol of the night sky above us, and symbol of God's forgiving love for the human race.

The story proudly records the courage and strength of the early white settlers, while never forgetting the suffering of those they dispossessed. We are reminded of our need to repent before God for the sins of our past, while praising him for the great things that have been achieved.

I am pleased to be able to commend to Christian Australians this unusual work by an unusual man, a scholar and a poet, but above all, a proud Australian. I pray that it will be well used to thank Almighty God as we celebrate his blessings to this country.

+ Oliver Heyward

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The work may be abbreviated where appropriate.

Section 11 - "An Act of Penitence and Dedication" is an integral part of the presentation. It should take the form considered most suitable for the occasion.

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Scripture quotations marked NIV are from the Holy Bible, New International Version. Copyright © 1973, 1974, 1984 International Bible Society. Published by Hodder and Stoughton.

AHB means *The Australian Hymn Book*, Collins, 1977.

A means *Alexander's Hymns No. 3*, Marshall, Morgan and Scott, Undated.

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BENEATH THE SOUTHERN CROSS

1 PROLOGUE

NARRATOR:

We welcome you here for today's celebration,
the two hundredth year of this our great nation;
to thank God for blessings we've had in past days,
and ask His forgiveness for our sinful ways,
our treatment of those who lived first in this land,
the cruel abuse they received at our hand.
We also confess to misconduct to date
the greed and the evil and murder and hate;
we also look forward to blessings anew,
for this our great nation, with God in our view,
so hear now what God in His word has to say
to us, who are gathered together today.

READER: Hear God's word from 1 Chronicles, Chapter 29:

Praise be to you, O LORD,
God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.
Yours O LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendour,
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.
Yours, O LORD, is the kingdom;
you are exalted head over all.
Wealth and honour come from you;
you are the ruler of all things
In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all.
Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.

(1 Chronicles 29.10-13 NIV)

CHOIR:

"All creatures of our God and King" (AHB 3 - selection of verses), or
"The Awakening Chorus" (A 405).