



The Chapel of  
The Transfiguration

# Holy Eucharist

## Sunday after Ascension Day

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2025

7.30 am



The first effect of Jesus' ascension is bereavement. The man whom his disciples loved has left them. The second is worship: through that moment of separation they finally see his full, true nature, and respond. Only one who is fully divine can be worshipped without committing the sin of idolatry. What follows from that initial worship? They heed their best instincts by seeking what is holy in this world, in this case the Jerusalem temple; and use it for its only true purpose – worship. True worship is not transactional (a negotiation). It is coming home, becoming most truly ourselves.

### Music before the Service

Heut triumphieret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630     J. S. Bach (1685–1750)  
*(Today God's Son Triumphs)*



## Order of Service

*The congregation is asked to join in all text printed in **bold**.*

*If you are unable to stand at any point during the service, please feel free to remain seated.*

*The service is sung by the Chapel Choir*

*Please remain silent before the service*

# The Gathering

*Please remain seated as the choir enters and takes their place*

*Please stand as the altar party enters and moves to the sanctuary*

*The chaplain sings*

Let us proceed in peace

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

## Processional Hymn



**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 matchless King  
through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Virgin's Son,  
the God incarnate born,  
whose arm those crimson trophies won  
which now his brow adorn:  
Fruit of the mystic Rose,  
as of that Rose the Stem;  
the Root whence mercy ever flows,  
the Babe of Bethlehem.**

**Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
Rich wounds yet visible above  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
absorbed in prayer and praise:  
his reign shall know no end,  
and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.**

**Crown him the Lord of years,  
the Potentate of time,  
creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime:  
glassed in a sea of light,  
where everlasting waves  
reflect his throne-the Infinite!  
who lives-and loves-and saves.**

Words: Matthew Bridges (1800–1894)

Tune: Diademata  
George Elvey (1816–60)

*Please remain standing. The chaplain continues*

## The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

“They said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’”

- John 16:13

Blessed be God

**Blessed by God’s reign for ever. Amen.**

*All kneel and the lay assistant continues*

## Prayer of Preparation

**Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

*The lay assistant invites all to confess their sins*

## Prayers of Penitence

Christ has gone up on high,  
leading captivity captive and bringing gifts for men.  
As we prepare ourselves to meet him here in the  
courts of heaven let us call to mind our many failures and sins.

*Silence is kept*

**Most merciful God,  
Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
we confess that we have sinned in thought,  
word and deed.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart.  
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us to amend what we are,  
and direct what we shall be;  
that we may do justly, love mercy,  
and walk humbly with you, our God.  
Amen.**

*The celebrant gives the Absolution*

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

*All stand to sing*

Gloria

**Glory be to God on high,  
and in earth peace, good will towards men,  
We praise thee we bless thee,  
we worship thee, we glorify thee.  
We give thanks to thee for thy great  
glory, O Lord God, heavenly King,  
God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only begotten Son,  
Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb  
of God, Son of the Father that  
takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us. Thou that  
takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us. Thou that  
takest away the sin of the world,  
receive our prayer. Thou that  
sittest at the right hand of God the  
Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For thou only art holy, thou only  
art the Lord: thou only, O Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, art most high  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

*The lay assistant continues*

## The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you  
**And with thy spirit**

Let us pray

*Silence is kept*

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

*All sit*

## The Liturgy of the Word

### Reading in place of the Old Testament

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles chapter 1.1–11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

*Remain seated*

Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples;  
shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,  
a great king over all the earth.**

He subdued peoples under us,  
and nations under our feet.

**He chose our heritage for us,  
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.**

God has gone up with a shout,  
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

**Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

For God is the king of all the earth;  
sing praises with a psalm.

**God is king over the nations;  
God sits on his holy throne.**

The princes of the peoples gather  
as the people of the God of Abraham.

**For the shields of the earth belong to God;  
he is highly exalted.**

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever.  
Amen.***

New Testament Reading

Ephesians. 1.15 – 23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God

*All stand to sing*

Gradual Hymn



**King of glory, King of peace,  
I will love thee;  
and, that love may never cease,  
I will move thee.  
Thou hast granted my request,  
thou hast heard me;  
thou didst note my working breast,  
thou hast spared me.**

**Wherefore with my utmost art  
I will sing thee,  
and the cream of all my heart  
I will bring thee.  
Though my sins against me cried,  
thou didst clear me,  
and alone, when they replied,  
thou didst hear me.**

**Seven whole days, not one in seven,  
I will praise thee;  
in my heart, though not in heaven,  
I can raise thee.  
Small it is, in this poor sort  
to enrol thee:  
e'en eternity's too short  
to extol thee.**

Words: George Herbert (1593–1633)

Tune: *Gwalchmai*  
Joseph Jones (1827–70)

*Remain standing and face the Gospel*

## The Gospel Reading

**Choir:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

**All repeat:**



**Choir:** Go and make disciples of all nations, says the Lord.  
Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

**Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you  
**And with thy spirit**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
St. Luke, 24<sup>th</sup> Chapter, beginning at the 44<sup>th</sup> verse

**Glory be to thee, O Lord**

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.' Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

*At the end,*

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

**Praise be to thee, O Christ**

*Remain standing until invited to be seated*

Sermon

*given by*

Rev. Suren Watson

*Assistant Chaplain*

*All stand to sing*

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
And of all things visible and invisible;**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten  
of his Father before all worlds,**

**God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
Through whom all things were made:  
Who for us men, and for our salvation  
came down from heaven,  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the  
Virgin Mary, and was made man,  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate,  
He suffered and was buried,  
and the third day he rose again  
according to the Scriptures,  
and ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.  
And he shall come again with glory to judge  
both the quick and the dead:  
Whose Kingdom shall have no end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the  
Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceedeth from the Father,  
who with the Father and the Son together is  
worshiped and glorified, who spake by the Prophets.  
And we believe One Holy Catholic  
and Apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism  
for the remission of sins.  
And we look for the Resurrection of the dead,  
And the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

*All kneel or sit*

Prayers of Intercession

*during which the following response is used*

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer**

*At the end,*

**Almighty God, by raising Jesus Christ your Anointed,  
you conquered the power of death  
and opened for us the way to eternal life.  
In our celebration today, raise us up and renew our  
lives by the Spirit that is within us.  
Grant this through Christ our Redeemer,  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all praise  
and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.  
Amen.**

# The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*All stand*

## Greeting of Peace

Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia. The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

## Preparation of the Table

### Offertory Hymn

*during which the bread, wine and water are placed on the altar, and a collection is taken for the work of the chapel*



**Alleluya, sing to Jesus,  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
Alleluya, his the triumph,  
His the victory alone:  
Hark the songs of peaceful Sion  
Thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation,  
Hath redeemed us by his blood.**

**Alleluya, not as orphans  
Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluya, he is near us,  
Faith believes, nor questions how;  
Though the cloud from sight received him  
When the forty days were o'er,  
Shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore?'**

**Alleluya, Bread of Angels,  
Thou on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluya, here the sinful  
Flee to thee from day to day;  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
Where the songs of all the sinless  
Sweep across the crystal sea.**

**Alleluya, King eternal,  
Thee the Lord of lords we own;  
Alleluya, born of Mary,  
Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:  
Thou within the veil hast entered,  
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
In the Eucharistic Feast.**

Words: Chatterton Dix (1837–1898)

Tune: Hyfrydol  
Rowland H. Prichard (1811–87)

*Remain standing. The celebrant invites all to say,*

**All things come from you  
and for your own do we give you,  
Creator and Lord of the universe,  
ever adored by the holy Angels.  
Accept these gifts of bread and wine  
and these offerings which we present at your  
holy table and with them the dedication of our lives  
for your service, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you  
**And with thy spirit**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them up unto the Lord**

Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God  
**It is meet and right so to do**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

And now we give thee thanks because, after his most glorious resurrection, he appeared to his disciples, and in their sight ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us; that where he is, thither we might also ascend, and reign with him in glory. Therefore with Angels, and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name, evermore praising thee, and saying:

*The choir sings*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee,  
O Lord most high.**

*The people may prayerfully sit, kneel or remain standing*

Holy indeed are you Almighty Father eternal Sovereign, who in all your gifts and works manifests your holiness to all humanity. Holy is your Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ, through whom you did order the universe. And Holy is your ever blessed Spirit who reveals all things, even the deep things of you O God. Just as you yourself are holy, so also you created us in your own image that we might live in holy fellowship.

And when we disobeyed your commandments, you did not abandon us but you guided us as a merciful Father; you revealed yourself to us through the Sages, the Law and the Prophets, and through your redeeming acts in history, and when the time was ripe, you came among us through your Son Jesus, whom you sent into the world to share our human nature in order that the Lord Jesus might revive your own image in us.

**Generous God, Jesus loves us  
and sacrificed himself for us  
and heralded the new life  
in breaking bread with companions.**

On the very night that he was betrayed to suffer death upon the cross for us, the Lord Jesus took bread and when he had given thanks to you Almighty Father, 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 manner after supper, he took the cup also, and after giving thanks, he gave it to them saying:

Drink, all of you from this,

for this is my blood of the new covenant

which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

The Lord Jesus Christ is Saviour

**Christ has died:**

**Christ is risen:**

**Christ will come again.**

And so Father, we present this bread and cup in communion with your whole church, in fellowship with (Blessed Mary, and ....) all the saints, and in union with all creation we celebrate your Son's death and victory; giving thanks for all that Christ has done for us; for preparing us for all that lies ahead, we receive the benefits of Christ's life, death, resurrection and session in glory, and we eagerly await the heavenly banquet after Christ's coming again.

And we entreat you most merciful God to hear us and send your All Holy Spirit on us and on these your gifts, that they being blessed and hallowed by that life giving power, may be for us the Body and Blood of your most dearly loved Son, to the end that we receiving the same may be sanctified and filled with your grace and heavenly blessing.

**Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving;  
make us one body in Jesus Christ our Lord,  
by whom and with whom and in whom in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit all honour and glory be to you  
Almighty Father, world without end.  
Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

The bread which we break  
is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

**We being many are one bread,  
one body for we all partake of the one bread.**

## The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we now pray

*All sing*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

*The celebrant continues*

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And also with you.**

The gifts of God for the people of God

*The choir sings*

## Benedictus

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## Deep Silence

*The choir sings*

## Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world  
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world  
Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world  
Grant us thy peace.

## Giving of Communion

*The celebrant invites the people to receive the Holy Communion, saying*

Draw near with faith and take this Holy Sacrament  
to your comfort.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

*Please sit. If you receive communion in your own church,  
you are welcome to do so here.*

*During communion please remain seated or kneel to sing*

## Communion Hymn



**Jesu, our hope, our heart's desire,  
thy work of grace we sing;  
Redeemer of the world art thou,  
its Maker and its King.**

**How vast the mercy and the love  
which laid our sins on thee,  
and led thee to a cruel death,  
to set thy people free!**

**But now the bonds of death are burst,  
the ransom has been paid;  
and thou art on thy Father's throne,  
in glorious robes arrayed.**

**O may thy mighty love prevail  
our sinful souls to spare;  
O may we stand around thy throne,  
and see thy glory there.**

**Jesu, our only joy be thou,  
as thou our prize wilt be;  
in thee be all our glory now  
and through eternity.**

**All praise to thee who art gone up  
triumphantly to heaven;  
all praise to God the Father's name,  
and Holy Ghost be given.**

Words: John Chandler (1806–76)

Tune: Redhead No. 66  
Richard Redhead (1820–1901)

*After communion all kneel as the chaplain says*

## Prayers after Communion

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious.

**God's mercy endures forever.**

“But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Cor. 15.57

**Almighty God,  
we thank you for feeding us  
with the Body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.  
Through Christ we offer you ourselves  
to be a living sacrifice.  
Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live  
and work to your praise and glory.  
Amen.**

## The Dismissal

## The Blessing

Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory; And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

*All stand to sing*

Recessional Hymn  
*during which the servers and clergy depart*



**Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master, King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
hear us as we sing:**

*Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name.*

**Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
power and majesty concealing  
by your humble birth:**

**Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,  
victim crucified!  
death is through the cross defeated,  
sinners justified:**

**Priestly king, enthroned for ever  
high in heaven above!  
sin and death and hell shall never  
stifle hymns of love:**

**So, our hearts and voices raising  
through the ages long,  
ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
this shall be our song:**

Words: Michael Saward (1932–2015)

Tune: Guiting Power  
John Barnard (b. 1948)  
Descant: John Barnard

*Remain standing as the choir moves out, then sit*

Music after the Service

Intrada

Grayston Ives (b.1948)

*You are invited to be seated for the playing of the organ voluntary or  
to move out quietly at this point.*

**Sunday Fellowship**

You are all invited to a time of fellowship on the chapel steps

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

**7.30 am**

**Day of Pentecost (Whit Sunday)**

Sung Eucharist

7.30 am

All are welcome to attend

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June**

**7.30 am**

**Trinity Sunday**

Sung Eucharist with the choirs of

S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia and

Bishop's College, Colombo

All are welcome to attend

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

**7.30 am**

**First Sunday after Trinity**

Sung Eucharist

**9.00 am**

The Annual General Meeting of the Chapel.

All are encouraged to attend.

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**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June - 5.00 pm**

**Bishop Cyril Abeynaike Memorial Lecture**

*delivered by*

Dr. Dinesha Samararatne, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Colombo

The Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour

Colombo 7