



The Chapel of
The Transfiguration

Choral Evensong

Eve of the Feast of
The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Tuesday 5th August 2025
6.00 p.m.

About This Service

Welcome to the Chapel of the Transfiguration, and to Choral Evensong on the eve of the Feast celebrating Our Lord's Transfiguration.

Evensong is drawn almost entirely from the Bible. Its primary purpose is to proclaim the wonderful works of God in history and in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Its secondary purpose is to evoke from the worshipper a response of praise, penitence, prayer, and obedience.

Though the language of Evensong may seem archaic, its meaning remains as profound and relevant today as ever. Much of the service is sung by the choir. As the choir sings, space is given for personal reflection, allowing us to participate inwardly and prayerfully, even in silence.

Thank you for joining us this evening. Please be assured of our continued prayers for you as you return to your homes and places of worship.

Please ensure that all mobile phones are on its silent setting.

Please refrain from video recording or taking photographs of any parts of the service

Please remain silent before the service

Music before the Service

Allegretto from Five Short Pieces

Percy Whitlock (1909–46)

Order of Service

*The congregation is asked to join in all texts printed in **bold**.
If you are unable to stand at any point during the service, please feel free
to remain seated*

Remain seated as the choir enters and takes their place

All stand as the clergy enter

Remain standing as the choir sings

Introit

O NATA lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum
laudes precesque sumere.
Qui carne quondam contegi
dignatus es pro perditis
Nos membra confer effici
Tui beati corporis.

*O holy light once born of light
Jesu redeemer of mankind,
with loving kindness pray receive
the praise and prayer we offer thee.
Thou who once deigned to take on flesh
to save the souls of those who strayed.
Grant us to live as members here
of thy most sacred body blest.*

Words: Office hymn for Lauds
on the Feast of the Transfiguration

Music: Thomas Tallis (1505–68)

The officiant welcomes the congregation and introduces the prayer of penitence

DEARLY beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us kneel in silence, and with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

All kneel and silence is kept

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father,
**we have erred, and strayed
from thy ways like lost sheep.
We have followed too much the
devices and desires of our own hearts.
We have offended against thy holy laws.
We have left undone those things which we ought to have done;
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done;
and there is no health in us.
But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders.
Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults.
Restore thou them that are penitent;
according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu,
our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
to the glory of thy holy name.
Amen.**

The officiant gives the Absolution

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father,
who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins
to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith
turn to him: have mercy on you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

All stand. The officiant and the choir sings

The Responses

○ LORD, open thou our lips;
and our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

○ God, make speed to save us;
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Spirit;
*as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.*

Praise ye the Lord;
The Lord's name be praised!

Music: Kenneth Leighton (1929–88)

Remain standing to sing

Office Hymn



**'TIS good, Lord, to be here,
Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun,
Shine with unborrowed light.**

**'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Thy beauty to behold,
Where Moses and Elijah stand,
Thy messengers of old.**

**Fulfiller of the past,
Promise of things to be,
We hail thy body glorified,
And our redemption see.**

Choir:

Before we taste of death,
We see thy kingdom come;
We fain would hold the vision bright,
And make this hill our home.

**'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Yet we may not remain;
But since thou bidst us leave the mount,
Come with us to the plain.**

Words: Joseph Armitage Robinson (1858–1933)

Tune: CARLISLE
Charles Lockhart (1745–1815)
Descant: Denham Pereira (b.1979)

Remain standing. The choir sings

Psalm 99

THE Lord is King, be the people never so impatient •
He sitteth between the cherubims, be the earth never so unquiet.

The Lord is great in Sion •
and high above all people.

They shall give thanks unto thy Name •
which is great, wonderful, and holy.

The king's power loveth judgement; thou hast prepared equity •
thou hast executed judgement and righteousness in Jacob.

O magnify the Lord our God •
and fall down before his footstool, for he is holy.

Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among such as call upon his Name •
these called upon the Lord, and he heard them.

He spake unto them out of the cloudy pillar •
for they kept his testimonies, and the law that he gave them.

Thou heardest them, O Lord our God •
thou forgavest them, O God, and punishedst their own inventions.

O magnify the Lord our God, and worship him upon his holy hill •
for the Lord our God is holy.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son •
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be •
world without end. Amen.

Chant: James Turle (1802–82)

All sit

The First Lesson

Exodus 24.12–18

THE Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.' So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.' Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

All stand with the choir, which sings

Magnificat

during which the altar and the congregation are censed

MY soul doth magnify the Lord:
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his hand-maiden.
For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.
He hath shewed strength with his arm:
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat:
And hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things:
And the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel:
As he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:
world without end. Amen.

Words: St. Luke 1. 46–55

Music: Evening Service in A Flat
Basil Harwood (1859–1949)

All sit

Second Lesson

St. John 12. 27–36a

‘**N**OW my soul is troubled. And what should I say — “Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, ‘We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?’

Jesus said to them, 'The light's with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.' After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

All stand with the choir, which sings

Nunc Dimittis

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace:
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles:

and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:

world without end. Amen.

Words: St. Luke 1. 46–55

Music: Evening Service in A Flat
Basil Harwood

Remain standing

The Apostles' Creed

BE-LIEVE in God the Father almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

Born of the Virgin Mary,

Suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell;

The third day he rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty;

From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.**

Remain standing. The officiant and choir sings

The Lesser Litany

THE Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

All kneel or sit

*Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.*

OUR Father,
*which art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive them that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil.
Amen.*

○ Lord, shew thy mercy upon us;
And grant us thy salvation.

○ Lord, be gracious unto our land:
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy ministers with righteousness;
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people;
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God

O God, make clean our hearts within us;
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collect of the Day

○ FATHER in heaven,
whose Son Jesus Christ was wondrously transfigured
before chosen witnesses upon the holy mount,
and did speak of the exodus which he should accomplish at Jerusalem:
grant unto us grace so to hearken unto his voice, and to take up our cross,
that in the world to come we may behold him as he is;
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end.
Amen.

The Collect for Peace

○ GOD, from whom all holy desires,
all good counsels, and all just works do proceed:
give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give;
that both, our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments,
and also that by thee,
we being defended from the fear of our enemies
may pass our time in rest and quietness;
through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

The Collect for Aid against all Perils

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend us
from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Music: Kenneth Leighton

All sit. The choir sings

Anthem

O THOU, the central orb of righteous love,
Pure beam of the most High, eternal Light
Of this our wintry world, thy radiance bright
Awakes new joy in faith, hope soars above.

Come, quickly come, and let thy glory shine,
Gilding our darksome heaven with rays Divine.
Thy saints with holy lustre round thee move,
As stars about thy throne, set in the height
Of God's ordaining counsel, as thy sight
Gives measured grace to each, thy power to prove.

Let thy bright beams disperse the gloom of sin,
Our nature all shall feel eternal day
In fellowship with thee, transforming clay
To souls ere-while unclean, now pure within. Amen.

Words: H. R. Bramley (1833–1917)

Music: Charles Wood (1866–1926)

Remain seated

A Reflection

given by

Rev'd. Suren Watson

Assistant Chaplain

All stand with the choir. The officiant 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 piercèd 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)

All kneel or sit

The Prayers

The officiant continues

The Grace

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

All stand to sing

Recessional Hymn



THE day thou gavest, Lord, is ended,
the darkness falls at thy behest;
to thee our morning hymns ascended,
thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

**We thank thee that thy Church unsleeping,
while earth rolls onward into light,
through all the world her watch is keeping,
and rests not now by day or night.**

Choir only

As o'er each continent and island
the dawn leads on another day,
the voice of prayer is never silent,
nor dies the strain of praise away.

**The sun that bids us rest is waking
our brethren 'neath the western sky,
and hour by hour fresh lips are making
thy wondrous doings heard on high.**

**So be it, Lord: thy throne shall never,
like earth's proud empires, pass away;
thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
till all thy creatures own thy sway.**

Words: John Ellerton (1826–93)

Tune: ST. CLEMENT
Charles Scholefield (1839–1904)
Descant: Philip Stopford (b.1977)

Please remain standing as the choir moves out to the vestry, then sit.

Music after the service

Fugue in C BWV 547

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

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



Notice

Wednesday 6th August

7.30 am - Sung Eucharist

Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord

Preacher and Celebrant: Rt. Rev'd Dhiloraj Canagasabey

Bishop Emeritus of Colombo

All are welcome to attend

Please take this order of service with you to reflect on the prayers and readings and as a reminder of your visit



Material from Common Worship is included in this service and is copyright © The Archbishops' Council. Text for the hymns are taken from the New English Hymnal. The Bible passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (Anglicised edition).