



The Chapel of  
The Transfiguration

# Sung Eucharist

## Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
7.30 am



John appears on the scene in the run-up to Christmas, reminding us that he is only the warm-up act for Jesus' own appearance. He is clearly cast by Matthew as an Old Testament prophet, and as such is a hinge between the Old and the New covenants. So, although his message, 'repent' and 'bear fruit', is not that different to Jesus', it is clear that he is not the Messiah: his job is to point people to Jesus, and let them make their own mind up about him. Maybe that's our job in the church too.

### Music before the Service

Chorale Prelude on 'Merton'

David Thorne (b.1950)



### 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 of S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia*

*Please remain silent before the service*

# The Gathering

*Remain seated as the choir enters and takes their place*

*All stand as the procession of clergy and servers enter*

## Processional Hymn

*during which the altar is censed*



**On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Come then and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every Christian breast,  
And furnished for so great a guest!  
Yea, let us each our hearts prepare  
For Christ to come and enter there.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;  
Without thy grace our souls must fade,  
And wither like a flower decayed.**

**Stretch forth thine hand to heal our sore,  
And make us rise, to fall no more;  
Once more upon thy people shine,  
And fill the world with love divine.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
Whose advent sets thy people free,  
Whom, with the Father, we adore,  
And Holy Ghost, for evermore. Amen.**

Words: Charles Coffin (1676–1749)

Tune: Winchester New  
Musikalisches Handbuch I

*All remain standing. The celebrant continues*

## The Greeting

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

**Amen.**

“The night is far spent, the day is at hand:  
let us therefore cast off the works of darkness and let us put  
on the armour of light.”

Romans 13.11

## Lighting of the Second Advent Candle (The Prophets)

*The celebrant continues*

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true: to you be praise and glory for ever. Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets, but in our days you speak through your Son, whom you have appointed the heir of all things. Grant us, your people, to walk in his light, that we may be found ready and watching when he comes again in glory and judgement; for you are our light and our salvation.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

*The lay assistant invites all to confess their sins*

### Prayers of Penitence

When the Lord comes, he will bring to light things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. In that light we prepare to confess our sins to God.

*All kneel and 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 choir sings*

Kyrie Eleison	<i>Lord, have mercy</i>
Christe Eleison	<i>Christ, have mercy</i>
Kyrie Eleison	<i>Lord, have mercy</i>

*The celebrant pronounces the Absolution*

May God who loved the world so much that he sent his Son to be our Saviour forgive you of your sins and make you holy to serve him in the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you

**And with thy spirit.**

Let us pray

O Lord, raise up, we pray thee, thy power,  
and come among us; and with great might succour us;  
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness,  
we are sore let and hindered in running the race  
that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and  
mercy may speedily help and deliver us;  
through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord,  
to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost  
be honour and glory, world without end.

**Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word

### The Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah 11. 1–10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Give the king your judgements, O God,  
and your righteousness to the son of a king.

**Then shall he judge your people righteously  
and your poor with justice.**

May the mountains bring forth peace, and the little hills  
righteousness for the people.

**May he defend the poor among the people,  
deliver the children of the needy and crush the  
oppressor.**

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,  
from one generation to another.

**May he come down like rain upon the mown grass,  
like the showers that water the earth.**

In his time shall righteousness flourish,  
and abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**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.**

## The New Testament Reading

A reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans 15. 4–13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our  
instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement  
of the scriptures we might have hope.

May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you  
to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ  
Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God  
and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another,  
therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of  
God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the  
circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might  
confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that  
the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,  
'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing  
praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles,  
with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and  
let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of  
Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him  
the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy  
and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the  
power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



**Hark! A herald voice is calling:  
‘Christ is nigh,’ it seems to say;  
‘Cast away the dreams of darkness,  
O ye children of the day!’**

**Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earth-bound soul arise;  
Christ, her Sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.**

**Lo! the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heaven;  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all to be forgiven;**

**So when next he comes in glory,  
Wrapping all the earth in fear,  
May he then as our defender  
On the clouds of heaven appear.**

**Honour, glory, virtue, merit,  
To the Father and the Son,  
With the co-eternal Spirit,  
While unending ages run. Amen.**

Words: Tr. Edward Caswall (1814–78)

Tune: Merton  
William Monk (1823–89)

*Remain standing and face the Gospel*

## The Gospel Reading

**Choir:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

**All repeat:**



**Choir:** Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

**Alleluia.**

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter, beginning at the 1<sup>st</sup> verse

**Glory be to thee, O Lord**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

*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*

*A time for silent reflection is kept following the sermon*

*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,  
By 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 the following prayer is said*

Hasten O Father, the coming of your Kingdom,  
and grant that we and all your servants,  
being strengthened together in the eternal fellowship  
of the Holy Spirit, may with joy behold your  
Son at his coming again in glorious Majesty,  
even Jesus Christ our only Mediator.  
**Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

## The Liturgy of the Sacrament

*All stand*

### Greeting of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,  
the dayspring from on high shall break upon us,  
to give light to those who dwell in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.  
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*



**Hail to the Lord's Anointed!  
Great David's greater Son;  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free;  
To take away transgression,  
And rule in equity.**

**He comes with succour speedy  
To those who suffer wrong;  
To help the poor and needy,  
And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in his sight.**

**He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth,  
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,  
Spring in his path to birth:  
Before him on the mountains  
Shall peace the herald go;  
And righteousness in fountains  
From hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down before him,  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore him,  
His praise all people sing;  
To him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.**

**O'er every foe victorious,  
He on his throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious,  
All-blessing and all-blest:  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand for ever;  
That name to us is Love.**

Words: James Montgomery (1771–1854)

Tune: Crüger

Johann Crüger (1598–1662)

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

**All things come from you and of 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.**

*Remain standing. The celebrant continues*

## 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 thou didst prepare the way of thy Son, Jesus Christ,  
by the preaching of thy servant John the Baptist;  
who did proclaim him to be the Lamb of God, our Saviour.

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 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.

Christ is the Bread of Life

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory**

And so Father, we present this bread and cup in communion with your whole church, in fellowship with Blessed Mary, St. Thomas, 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.**

*All sing:* **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.**

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

*Remain seated or kneeling as the choir sings*

## Communion Hymn

Hark what a sound, and too divine for hearing,  
stirs on the earth and trembles in the air!  
Is it the thunder of the Lord's appearing?  
Is it the music of his people's prayer?

Surely he cometh, and a thousand voices  
shout to the saints, and to the deaf are dumb;  
surely he cometh, and the earth rejoices,  
glad in his coming who hath sworn: I come!

This hath he done, and shall we not adore him?  
This shall he do, and can we still despair?  
Come, let us quickly fling ourselves before him,  
cast at his feet the burden of our care.

Through life and death, through sorrow and through sinning,  
he shall suffice me, for he hath sufficed:  
Christ is the end, for Christ was the beginning,  
Christ the beginning, for the end is Christ.

Words: Frederick Myers (1843–1901)

Tune: Highwood  
Richard Terry (1868–1938)

*All kneel or remain seated*

## Prayers after Communion

*The celebrant says,*

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious.  
**God's mercy endures forever.**

“Stand up and raise your heads,  
because your redemption is drawing near.

Luke 21.28

**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 the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,  
scatter the darkness from before your path,  
and make you ready to meet him when he comes 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.**

*All stand*

Go in peace to serve the Lord.

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

## Recessional Hymn

*during which the servers and clergy depart*



**The kingdom is upon you!  
the voice of Jesus cries,  
fulfilling with its message  
the wisdom of the wise;  
it lightens with fresh insight  
the striving human mind,  
creating new dimensions  
of faith for all to find.**

**‘God’s kingdom is upon you!’  
the message sounds today;  
it summons every pilgrim  
to take the questing way,  
with eyes intent on Jesus,  
our leader and our friend,  
who trod faith’s road before us,  
and trod it to the end.**

**The kingdom is upon us!  
Stirred by the Spirit’s breath,  
we glory in its freedom  
from emptiness and death;  
we celebrate its purpose,  
its mission and its goal,  
alive with the conviction  
that Christ can make us whole.**

Words: Rev. Robert Willis (1947–2024)

Tune: Wolvercote  
William Ferguson (1872–1950)

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

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

## Music after the Service

Chorale Prelude on ‘Winchester New’

*Christopher Tambling (1964–2015)*



## Notices

### Sunday Fellowship

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

### Sung Eucharist Services

Our Sunday Eucharist services in the Chapel will conclude for the term today and will resume in the New Year on 11 January 2026.

**Later today**

**6.00 pm**

**A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

*sung by*

The Chapel Choir of S. Thomas’ College, Mount Lavina

*Music will include carols by*

Philip Ledger

Bob Chilcott

Graham Ellis

*and more*

All are welcome to attend

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**11.15 pm**

**Sung Eucharist of Christmas Night**

All are welcome to attend