



The Chapel of The Transfiguration

Sung Eucharist

The Dedication Festival of The Chapel of the Transfiguration

Sunday 15th February 2026
7.30 am



The eve of Lent presents us with two powerful examples of intense encounter with God. The character of the cloud plays a key part in descriptions of Moses' mountain-top meetings with the Lord, purposely obscuring that which the bystander cannot hope to understand. At the Transfiguration, God's voice from the dazzling cloud on Mount Tabor overwhelms the three disciples with fear. Yet it also provides the explanation they cannot otherwise fathom, clarifying the vision of Jesus in the glory of his Father. Despite the intensity of this experience, however, Jesus' stern words as they descend show the disciples are still far from ready to comprehend its full significance.

Music before the Service

Liturgical Prelude No. 1
Adagio in E

George Oldroyd (1886–1956)
Frank Bridge (1903–46)

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 and former Choristers

Please remain silent before the service

The Gathering

Please remain seated as the Choir enter and take their place

Please stand as the altar party enters

The Choir sings

Introit

Locus iste a Deo factus est,
inaestimabile sacramentum,
irreprehensibilis est.

*This place was made by God,
a inestimable holy place.
It is without blame.*

Words: Gradual for the
Dedication of a Church

Music: Anton Bruckner (1824–96)

The Celebrant says

Let us proceed in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

Processional Hymn



**The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the word:
from heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy Bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.**

**Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation
one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses
with every grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder
men see her sore opprest,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distrest;
yet saints their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, 'How long?'
And soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.**

**'Mid toil and tribulation,
and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation
of peace for evermore;
till with the vision glorious
her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious
shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth hath union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
on high may dwell with thee.**

Words: Samuel Stone (1839–1900)

Tune: Aurelia
Samuel Wesley (1810–1876)

Please remain standing. The celebrant continues

The Greeting

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

Amen.

'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house
of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

Genesis 28:17

Blessed be God.

Blessed be God's reign for ever. Amen.

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

We are a temple of God's indwelling Holy Spirit,
yet we have grieved him.
The temple of our bodies does not belong to us,
but was bought at the price of Christ's precious blood.
So we come, in sorrow yet with confidence,
to ask forgiveness of our Father in heaven.

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 continues with the Absolution

The Lord enrich you with his grace,
and nourish you with his blessing;
the Lord defend you in trouble and keep you from all evil;
the Lord accept your prayers,
and absolve you from your offences,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.
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.

Silence is kept

The lay assistant continues,

The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit

Let us pray

Almighty God,
to whose glory we celebrate the dedication of this house of prayer: we give thee thanks for the many blessings thou hast bestowed upon those who worship thee here; and we beseech thee that all who seek thee in this place may find thee, and, being filled with thy Holy Spirit, may become a living temple acceptable unto thee; through Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

All sit

The Liturgy of the Word

The Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Exodus Chapter 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.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Remain seated. 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)

Remain seated

The New Testament Reading

A reading from the Second Epistle of Peter Chapter 1. 16–21

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain. So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

All stand to sing

Gradual Hymn



**Christ, upon the mountain peak,
stands alone in glory blazing;
Let us, if we dare to speak,
with the saints and angels praise him:
Alleluia!**

**Trembling at his feet we saw
Moses and Elijah speaking;
All the Prophets and the Law
Shout through them their joyful greeting:
Alleluia!**

**Swift the cloud of glory came,
God, proclaiming in the thunder,
Jesus as his Son by name;
Nations, cry aloud in wonder:
Alleluia!**

**This is God's beloved Son:
Law and prophets fade before him;
First and Last, and only One,
let creation now adore him.
Alleluia!**

Words: Brian Wren (b.1936)

Tune: St. Albinus
Henry Gauntlett (1805–76)

Remain standing and face the Gospel

The Gospel Reading

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

All repeat:



Choir: Lord, we love the house of your habitation
and the place where your glory abides.

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
St. Matthew, 17th Chapter, beginning at the 1st verse

Glory be to thee, O Lord

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

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'd. Rajitha de Mel

Old Thomian Clergy | Vicar, St. Matthias Church, Boralesgamuwa

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

The Celebrant invites the Old Boys in the congregation to stand and say together

The Old Boys' Prayer

O God, we bless and praise you for your faithfulness to our Old Boys' Association through the years. Bless all the past students of our College wherever they may be.

Pour upon us the riches of your grace; endow us with enthusiasm and unity to continue to support the College; be our strength in weakness, our courage in doubt, and our joy in achievement.

Strengthen us for the faithful performance of our life's work.

We ask your blessings on the present generation of students, that they may learn to build on what has been inherited and carry it forward with integrity, responsibility, and respect for others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

Greeting of Peace

Peace to this house from God our heavenly Father.
Peace to this house from his Son who is our peace.
Peace to this house from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.
The peace of the Lord be with you all.

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



**Light's abode, celestial Salem,
vision whence true peace doth spring,
brighter than the heart can fancy,
mansion of the highest King;
O how glorious are the praises
which of thee the prophets sing!**

**There for ever and for ever
alleluia is outpoured;
for unending, for unbroken,
is the feast-day of the Lord;
all is pure and all is holy
that within thy walls is stored.**

**There no cloud or passing vapour
dims the brightness of the air;
endless noon-day, glorious noon-day,
from the Sun of suns is there;
there no night brings rest from labour,
for unknown are toil and care.**

**O how glorious and resplendent,
fragile body, shalt thou be,
when endued with so much beauty,
full of health and strong and free,
full of vigour, full of pleasure
that shall last eternally.**

**Now with gladness, now with courage,
bear the burden on thee laid,
that hereafter these thy labours
may with endless gifts be paid;
and in everlasting glory
thou with joy may'st be arrayed.**

**Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever Three and ever One,
consubstantial, co-eternal,
while unending ages run. Amen.**

Words: Thomas á Kempis (1380–1471)

Tune: Regent Square
Henry Smart (1813–79)
Descant by John Scott (1956–2015)

Remain standing. The celebrant says the Offertory Prayers

Blessed are you, Lord God of the universe, you are the giver of this bread, fruit of the earth and of human labour, let it become the bread of life.

Blessed be God forever!

Blessed are you, Lord God of the universe, you are the giver of this wine, fruit of the vine and of human work, let it become the cup of the eternal kingdom.

Blessed be God forever!

Blessed are you, Lord God of the universe, through your goodness we have our lives to offer, fruit of the womb and work of human love, let us become your instruments in the world.

Blessed be God for ever!

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in this bread and wine, so Lord, may your church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom.

Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

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 for thy blessing on this house of prayer, where through thy grace we offer thee the sacrifice of praise, and are built by thy Spirit into a temple made without hands, even the body of thy Son Jesus Christ.

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.

All kneel or sit.

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.

Great is the mystery of faith
**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) 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.

Remain seated or kneeling. The former choristers sing

Communion Hymn



Jesus, these eyes have never seen
that radiant form of thine;
the veil of sense hangs dark between
thy blessed face and mine.

I see thee not, I hear thee not,
yet art thou oft with me;
and earth hath ne'er so dear a spot
as where I meet with thee.

Yet, though I have not seen, and still
must rest in faith alone,
I love thee, dearest Lord, and will,
unseen, but not unknown.

When death these mortal eyes shall seal,
and still this throbbing heart,
the rending veil shall thee reveal
all glorious as thou art.

Words: Ray Palmer (1808–87)

Tune: Nun Danket All
Praxis Pietatis Melica, 1647

All kneel or remain seated

Prayers after Communion

A minister says,

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious.

God's mercy endures forever.

You are the temple of the living God,

and the Spirit of God dwells in you.

The temple of God is holy: you are that temple.

I Corinthians 3:16

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.

All sit. The Choir sings

Anthem

O clap your hands, all ye people;
shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

For the Lord most high is terrible;
he is a great King over all the earth.

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

Sing praises to God, sing praises:
sing praises unto our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth:
sing ye praises with understanding.

God reigneth over the heathen:
God sitteth upon the throne of his holiness.

Words: Psalm 47. 1–2, 5–8

Music: Ralph V. Williams (1872–1958)

All kneel or remain seated

The Dismissal

The Blessing

Christ, whose glory is in the heavens,
fill this house and illuminate your hearts;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Like living stones, precious in his sight,
go in peace to proclaim the mighty acts of God.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Recessional Hymn
during which the servers and clergy depart



**Thy hand, O God, has guided
thy flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page;
our fathers owned thy goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**Thy heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they bade men 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.**

**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, man restored,
was all in this enfolded:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

**And we, shall we be faithless?
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
Shall we evade the conflict,
and cast away our crown?
Not so: in God's deep counsels
some better thing is stored;
we will maintain, unflinching,
one church, one faith, one Lord.**

**Thy mercy will not fail us,
nor leave thy work undone;
with thy right hand to help us,
the victory shall be won;
and then, by men and angels,
thy name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.**

Words: Edward H. Plumptre (1821–91)

Tune: Thornbury
Basil Harwood (1858–1949)

Remain standing as the Choirs move 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

Tocatta in G

Théodore Dubois (1837–1924)



Notices

Sunday Fellowship

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

*February 22nd **The Chapel Choir visits Trinity College, Kandy**
7.30 am
Sung Eucharist
with the joint Choirs of
S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia and
Trinity College, Kandy
All are welcome to attend

*Please note there will be no service in this Chapel next week.

All our services for Lent, Holy Week and Easter can be found on the Notice Board. If you would like to receive these details digitally please speak to one of the Chaplains after this service

Material from Common Worship is included in this service and is copyright © The Archbishops' Council. The text for the day is by Rev'd. Anna Jones, Chaplain, Queen's College, Cambridge, The Mass Setting is by Harold Darke. Hymns are taken from the College Hymnal. The Bible passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (Anglicised edition).