

S. THOMAS' COLLEGE, MOUNT LAVINIA



The Chapel of The Transfiguration

Holy Eucharist Staff Service

Monday 27th April 2026
7.30 am



The sheep can't understand the shepherd's words, but they know and trust his voice because of his actions: he is the one who knows them, leads them to new pasture and keeps them safe in their fold. Jesus' disciples and the crowds that followed him did not always understand everything he said, but they learnt to trust his teaching and thought it worth remembering and pondering because they trusted his actions: he is the one who healed and fed them, demonstrating in tangible ways his desire that they might have abundant life.



Music before the Service

In Green Pastures

Harold Darke (1888–1976)

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 Gathering

All stand as the clergy enter

Hymn

**How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.**

**It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.**

**Dear name! the rock on which I build,
My shield and hiding-place,
My never-failing treasury filled
With boundless stores of grace.**

**Jesus! my Shepherd, Brother, Friend,
My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End,
Accept the praise I bring.**

**Weak is the effort of my heart,
and cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.**

**Till then I would thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
And may the music of thy name
Refresh my soul in death.**

Please remain standing. The celebrant 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!

“For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have
returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.”

I Peter 2. 25

Blessed be God.
Blessed be God's reign for ever. Amen.

The 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.**

Prayers of Penitence

The celebrant continues

Christ our passover lamb has been sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all malice and evil
and confessing our sins with a sincere and true heart.

Silence is kept

Generous and merciful God,
**we confess to you and to our sisters and brothers,
that we have sinned against you,
against one another and against your creation
in thought, word and deed, through our ignorance,
our weakness, and our deliberate disobedience.
We are truly sorry. Forgive us all that is past
and grant us the gift of new life
in Christ Jesus our Saviour.
Amen.**

The celebrant says

May the gracious and merciful God
grant to you pardon and remission of all your sins,
time for newness of life, and the grace and comfort
of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The celebrant continues

The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you
And also with you

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Acts 2. 42–47

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

All stand to sing

Gradual Hymn

**The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine for ever.**

**Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house for ever.**

Remain standing

The Gospel Reading

The Lord be with you
and also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
John 10.1–10

Glory to Christ our Saviour

At the end,

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
Praise to Christ our Lord

Remain standing until invited to be seated

Sermon

All stand

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

All kneel or sit

Prayers of Intercession

during which the following response is used

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

Greeting of Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples
and said, 'Peace be with you.'

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

and also with you. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table
Offertory Hymn

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

**O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou for ever near me,
my Master and my Friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.**

**O let me feel thee near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.**

**O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.**

**O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee,
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be;
and, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end:
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my Friend.**

**O let me see thy foot-marks,
and in them plant mine own;
my hope to follow duly
is in thy strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my Friend.**

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 also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give God thanks and praise

It is right and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to
you gracious Father, creator of heaven

And now we give you thanks because
your Son Jesus Christ is the Good Shepherd of your people,
who laid down his life for the sheep
and, being risen again, leads them beside still waters
into life eternal.

Therefore we praise you joining our voices
with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
who forever sing this hymn
to proclaim the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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 loved 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
and 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,
as 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

**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

**Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Deep Silence

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
Grant us 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.**

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

Prayers after Communion

The celebrant says,

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious.

God's mercy endures forever.

“And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away.”

I Peter 5.4

**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

The God of peace,
who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus,
that great shepherd of the sheep,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will;
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.

Recessional Hymn
during which the clergy depart

**Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Sion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken
Formed thee for his own abode:
On the Rock of Ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.**

**See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters,
And all fear of want remove:
Who can faint, while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord the giver,
Never fails from age to age.**

**Saviour, if of Sion's city
I through grace a member am,
Let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name:
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
All his boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure
None but Sion's children know.**

Music after the Service

Voluntary in B Flat

Maurice Greene (1896–1755)



Material from Common Worship is included in this service and is copyright © The Archbishops' Council. The text for the day is by The Revd. Ally Barrett is the Associate Vicar at Great St Mary's, Cambridge. Hymns are taken from the English Hymnal 1906 version. The Bible passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version.