S. THOMAS' COLLEGE, MOUNT LAVINIA

175

Since 1851

DEUS · PERPETUA · FOR ALL WE HAVE AND ARE

The Chapel *of* The Transfiguration

Sung Eucharist

Creation Sunday

Sunday 27th September 2026
7.30 am

The language about what is happening to our climate and worldwide environment is becoming ever more serious. We have moved from 'climate change', to 'climate crisis' , and sometimes 'climate catastrophe'. Many have denied the science over the years, but now it is recognized as incontrovertible. Human beings have so damaged the environment that we are in danger of making our world uninhabitable. As Christians, we have resources to help us to respond to this crisis. We have an understanding of our relationship with creation and the Creator that can help us to change, that can be 'good news' for our world. But we are slow to hear and slow to respond.

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 service is sung by
The Chapel Choir

Please remain silent before the service

The Gathering

Remain seated as the Choir enters and takes their place

All stand as the servers and clergy enter and move to the Sanctuary

Processional Hymn

during which the Altar is censed



O worship the King, all glorious above;
O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

All lower voices:

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old;
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;
thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn thee above,
thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

Words: Robert Grant (1779–1838)

Tune: Hanover
Dr. William Croft (1678–1727)
Descant: Alan Gray (1855–1935)

All remain standing. The Celebrant continues

The Greeting

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

"Then shall the earth bring forth her increase, and God, our own God, will bless us."

Psalm 67.6

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

All kneel. The Celebrant 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 Celebrant invites all to confess their sins

Prayers of Penitence

Human sin disfigures the whole creation, which groans with eager longing for God's redemption. We confess our sin in penitence and faith.

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	*Lord, have mercy*
Christe Eleison	*Christ, have mercy*
Kyrie Eleison	*Lord, have mercy*

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.

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,
Jesu 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 Celebrant continues

The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray

All kneel

Creator God, who hast made the goodness of the earth,
the treasures of the sea,
and the ordered rhythm of the seasons:
Grant that, as we give thee thanks for the harvest,
we may learn to cherish the bounty of thy creation
and to honour this planet and its peoples;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, one God,
world without end.
Amen.

All sit

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55.12–13

For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us,
and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures for ever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

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

Colossians 1.15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

All stand to sing

Gradual Hymn



God moves in a mysterious way
his wonders to perform;
he plants his footsteps in the sea,
and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
of never-failing skill
he treasures up his bright designs,
and works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
the clouds ye so much dread
are big with mercy, and shall break
in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
but trust him for his grace;
behind a frowning providence
he hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
unfolding every hour;
the bud may have a bitter taste,
but sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,
and scan his work in vain;
God is his own interpreter,
and he will make it plain.

Words: William Cowper (1731–1800) Tune: London New
Melody from the *Scottish Psalter,* 1635

Remain standing and face the Gospel

The Gospel Reading

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

All repeat:



Choir: God has spoken to us through his Son,
through whom he created the worlds.
Alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And with thy spirit

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
St. Matthew 8 Chapter, beginning at the 23rd verse
Glory be to thee, O Lord

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. A gale arose on the lake, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, 'Lord, save us! We are perishing!' And he said to them, 'Why are you afraid, you of little faith?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. They were amazed, saying, 'What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?'

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

Dr. Dinesha Samararatne | *Visiting Preacher*

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 Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

Greeting of Peace

The harvest of the Spirit is love, joy,
peace, patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
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



All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam:

O praise him, O praise him,
Alleluia, alleluia, allelluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heaven along,
O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice;
ye lights of evening, find a voice:

Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire, so masterful and bright,
that givest man both warmth and light:

Choir only:

Dear mother earth, who day by day
unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
let them his glory also show:

Let all things their creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness;
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One:

Words: Francis of Assisi (1182–1226)

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen
German Origin, 1623
Descant: Christopher Gower (b.1939)

Remain standing. The Celebrant says,

Offertory Prayer

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
because thou hast made us stewards of thy creation,
to praise thee day by day
for the marvels of thy wisdom and power.

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 sit or kneel

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 to sing

Communion Hymn



O Lord of every shining constellation
that wheels in splendour through the midnight sky;
grant us your Spirit's true illumination
to read the secrets of your work on high.

All lower voices:

You, Lord, have made the atom's hidden forces,
your laws its mighty energies fulfil;
teach us, to whom you give such rich resources,
in all we use, to serve your holy will.

O Life, awaking life in cell and tissue,
from flower to bird, from beast to brain of man;
Help us to trace, from birth to final issue,
the sure unfolding of your age-long plan.

All upper voices:
You, Lord, have stamped your image on your creatures,
and, though they mar that image, love them still;
lift up our eyes to Christ, that in his features
we may discern the beauty of your will.

Great Lord of nature, shaping and renewing,
you made us more than nature's sons to be;
you help us tread, with grace our souls enduing,
the road to life and immortality.

Words: Albert Bayly (1901–84)

Tune: Highwood
Richard Terry (1865–1938)

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.

"The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few;
therefore ask the Lord of the harvest
to send out labourers into his harvest."

Matthew 9.37b,38

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.

Remain kneeling or seated

The Dismissal

The Blessing

May God our creator,
who clothes the lilies of the field
and feeds the birds of the air, bestow on you has care
and increase the harvest of your righteousness
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



Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.
The heavens are not too high,
his praise may thither fly:
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.
The church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but above all the heart
must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in every corner sing,
my God and King.

Words: George Herbert (1593–1633)

Tune: Luckington
Basil Harwood (1859–1949)

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

Darwall's 148th *from* 'Six Hymn Preludes'
Percy Whitlock (1903–46)

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

The Servers and Chorister's Guild Meeting will take place soon after this service.

Sunday 4 October
7.30 am
Sung Eucharist
with the Choirs of S. Thomas' Preparatory School, Kollupitiya, and S. Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia
Music will include
Teach me, O Lord - *Attwood*
Purest and Highest - *Stanford*
Psalm 19 - *Attwood and more*
All are welcome to attend.

Tuesday 6 October
7.30 am
Confirmation Service
Preacher and Celebrant
Rt. Rev'd. Dushantha Rodrigo
Bishop of Colombo and Visitor to the College

Material from Common Worship is included in this service and is copyright © The Archbishops' Council. The text for the day is by the Church of England. The Mass Setting is by Harold Darke in E. Hymns are taken from the College Hymnal. The Bible passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (Anglicised edition).