S. THOMAS' COLLEGE, MOUNT LAVINIA

175

Since 1851

DEUS PERPETUA

FOR ALL WE HAVE AND ARE

The Chapel *of*
The Transfiguration

# Sung Eucharist

## The Last Sunday after Trinity
## (Reformation Sunday)

Sunday 25th October 2026
7.30 am

The Bible can be seen as a library, full of different kinds of literature. It attempts to tell both the story of God and the story of humanity. We describe God in words that can never do God justice. We live with the paradox of God as both mysterious and intimate. The apocalyptic language here in Matthew's Gospel takes us to the image of the second coming of Christ and the longed-for redemption of all creation. Will it be soon or far away? We don't know. Yet we hope to recognize Christ when he comes.

## 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*
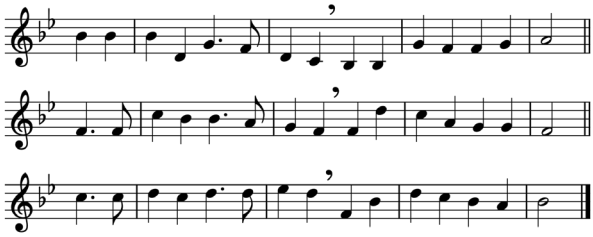
# The Gathering

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

*All stand as the servers and clergy enter*

## Processional Hymn

*during which the altar is censed*



**Thanks to God whose Word was spoken**
**in the deed that made the earth.**
**His the voice that called a nation;**
**his the fires that tried her worth.**
**God has spoken:**
**praise God for his open Word.**

**Thanks to God whose Word Incarnate**
**heights and depths of life did share.**
**Deeds and words and death and rising,**
**grace in human form declare.**
**God has spoken:**
**praise God for his open Word.**

**Thanks to God whose Word was written**
**in the Bible's sacred page,**
**record of the revelation**
**showing God to every age.**
**God has spoken:**
**praise God for his open Word.**

**Thanks to God whose Word is published**
**in the tongues of every race.**
**See its glory undiminished**
**by the change of time or place.**
**God has spoken:**
**praise God for his open Word.**

**Thanks to God whose Word is answered**
**by the Spirit's voice within.**
**Here we drink of joy unmeasured,**
**life redeemed from death and sin.**
**God is speaking:**
**praise God for his open Word.**

Words: R.T. Brooks (1918–85)

Tune: St. Helen
George Martin (1844–1916)

*All remain standing. The celebrant continues*

## The Greeting

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

"But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak"

2 Corinthians 4.13-14

*Silence is kept*

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

*All kneel. The lay assistant continues*

## Prayer of Preparation

*[From the Reformed Book of Common Prayer of Thomas Cranmer of 1552 and 1662]*

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 Prayer of Confession and the Absolution are from 1539; they were used by both John Calvin at Geneva and John Knox in Scotland.]*

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Let us then show our love for him by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*Silence is kept*

Almighty God, eternal Father,
**we acknowledge and confess to you**
**that we were born in unrighteousness.**
**Our life is full of sin and transgression;**
**we have not gladly believed your Word**
**nor followed your holy commandments.**
**For your goodness' sake and**
**for your name's sake, be gracious unto us,**
**we pray, and forgive us all our sin,**
**which is very great.**
**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 sins of the world,
have mercy upon us. Thou that
takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us. Thou that
takest away the sins 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

*[Adapted from the Reformed liturgy of Strasbourg by Martin Bucer (about 1540)]*

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

Let us pray

Almighty and ever-gracious God,
who through the preaching of thy servants, the blessed
Reformers, didst cause the light of the Gospel to shine forth:
Since all our salvation dependeth upon thy holy Word;
Grant, we beseech thee, that our hearts
may be set free from worldly things,
that we may with all diligence and faith hear thy Word,
rightly understand thy gracious will,
and in all sincerity live according to the same,
to thy praise and glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
**Amen.**

*All sit*

# The Liturgy of the Word

## The Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Nehemiah 8. 1–6, 8–12

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. The scribe Ezra stood on a wooden platform that had been made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hash-baddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam on his left hand. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.' So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, 'Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved.' And all the people went their way to eat and

drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

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

*Remain seated*

## *from* Psalm 119

How shall young people cleanse their way •
to keep themselves according to your word?
**With my whole heart have I sought you; •**
**O let me not go astray from your commandments.**

Your words have I hidden within my heart, •
that I should not sin against you.
**Blessed are you, O Lord; •**
**O teach me your statutes.**

With my lips have I been telling •
of all the judgements of your mouth.
**I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies • than in all manner of riches.**

I will meditate on your commandments •
and contemplate your ways.
**My delight shall be in your statutes •**
**and I will not forget your word.**

**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.**

*Remain seated*

## The New Testament Reading
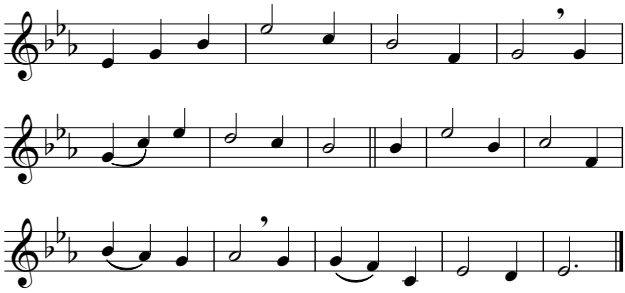
A reading from Paul's Letter to Colossians 3.12–17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

*All stand to sing*

## Gradual Hymn



**Lord, I have made thy word my choice,**
**My lasting heritage:**
**There shall my noblest powers rejoice,**
**My warmest thoughts engage.**

**I'll read the histories of thy love,**
**And keep thy laws in sight,**
**While through thy promises I rove**
**With ever-fresh delight.**

**'Tis a broad land of wealth unknown,**
**Where springs of life arise,**
**Seeds of immortal bliss are sown,**
**And hidden glory lies.**

Words: Isaac Watts (1674–1748)
*from* Psalm 119
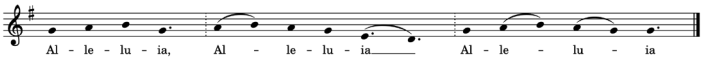
Tune: BILLING
R. R. Terry (1865–1938)

*Remain standing and face the Gospel*

## The Gospel Reading

*Choir:* Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

*All repeat:*




*Choir:* Speak Lord for thy servant is listening
you have the words of eternal life.
**Alleluia.**

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew 24th Chapter, beginning at the 30th verse
**Glory be to thee, O Lord**

Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

‘From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

*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*
Ven. Samuel Ponniah | *Chaplain*

*All stand to sing*

## Affirmation of Faith

*[This version of the Creed was first used in Cranmer’s Reformed Book of Common Prayer of 1552 and then later included in the 1662 version. Although no longer the standard it still forms a link with the Reformation that converted the Church IN England to the Church OF England in the 16th century]*

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*
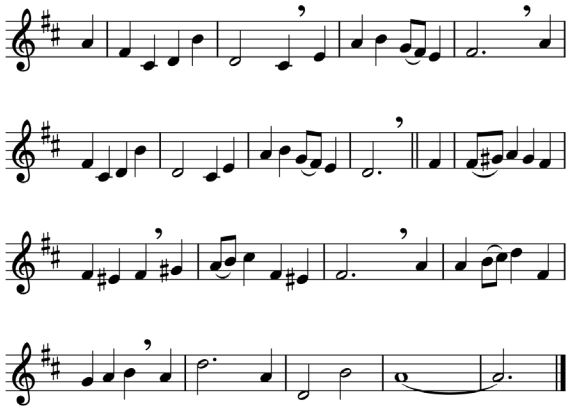
## Greeting of Peace

God will speak peace to his people,
to those who turn to him in their hearts.
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*



**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 Plumptre (1821–91) Tune: Thornbury
Basil Harwood (1869–1949)

*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.**

*The Book of Common Prayer Liturgy of 1662 starts with the Prayer of Humble Access and Concludes with the Amen after the Lord's Prayer which is placed after communion.*

*All kneel or sit. The celebrant continues*

We do not come to this your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy; Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.
**Amen.**

## 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, O Lord,
because thou hast given us the Holy Scriptures,
to instruct us in the wisdom which leadeth to salvation
through faith in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, whom in your tender mercy, gave your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made a full atonement for the sins of the whole world, offering once for all his one sacrifice, of himself; he instituted, and in his holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death, until he comes again.

Hear us, merciful Father, we humbly pray, and grant that we receiving these gifts of your creation, this bread and this wine, according to your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood by the power of the Holy Spirit:

Who in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave thanks; 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 way, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: drink this, all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

## Giving of Communion

*The celebrant invites the people to receive the Holy Communion, saying*
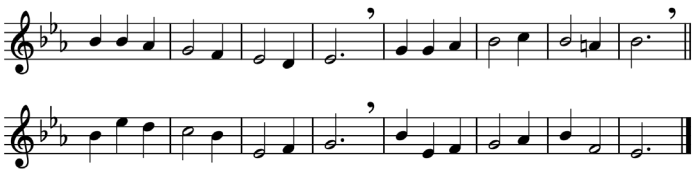
Draw near with faith and take this Holy Sacrament to your comfort.

**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



**Lord, speak to me, that I may speak**
**in living echoes of thy tone;**
**as thou hast sought, so let me seek**
**thy erring children lost and lone.**

**O lead me, Lord, that I may lead**
**the wandering and the wavering feet;**
**O feed me, Lord, that I may feed**
**thy hungering ones with manna sweet.**

**O teach me, Lord, that I may teach**
**the precious things thou dost impart;**
**and wing my words, that they may reach**
**the hidden depths of many a heart.**

Words: Frances Havergal (1836–1879)

Tune: The Holy Son
Peter Hurford (1930–2019)

*After communion all kneel or remain seated as the celebrant says*

### 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.**

*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.**

"Blessed are those who hear the word of God and obey it."
St. Luke 11.28

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

*[Adapted from Martin Luther, who started the Reformation in 1517]*

May God be your safe stronghold still, a trusty shield and weapon to help you clear from all the ill that may overtake you;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
**Amen.**
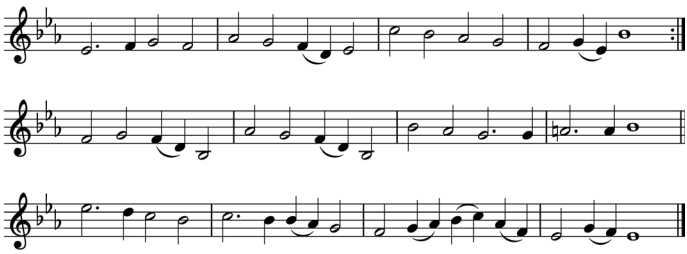
*All stand*

Go in peace to serve the Lord.

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

## Recessional Hymn

*during which the servers and clergy depart*



**Praise the Lord! ye heavens, adore him;**
**Praise him, angels, in the height;**
**Sun and moon, rejoice before him,**
**Praise him, all ye stars and light:**
**Praise the Lord! for he hath spoken,**
**Worlds his mighty voice obeyed;**
**Laws, which never shall be broken,**
**For their guidance hath he made.**

**Praise the Lord! for he is glorious;**
**Never shall his promise fail;**
**God hath made his saints victorious.**
**Sin and death shall not prevail.**
**Praise the God of our salvation;**
**Hosts on high, his power proclaim;**
**Heaven and earth, and all creation,**
**Laud and magnify his name!**

Words: Psalm 148
Foundling Hospital Collection, 1796

Tune: Austria
Franz Joseph Haydn, (1732–1809)

*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.*

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

**November 1st**
**All Saints' Sunday**
**7.30 am — Sung Eucharist**
A service of thanksgiving for the great company of Saints
All are welcome to attend.

**November 8th**
**Remembrance Sunday**
**7.30 am — Sung Eucharist**
A service to honour and pray for all those who gave their lives in service, remembering their sacrifice with gratitude and reverence.

*Music will include*
O God, our help in ages past - *Croft*
For the Fallen - *Guest*
Nimrod - *Elgar*
*and more.*
All are welcome to attend

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