
ST THEODORE'S, TOORAK GARDENS

**CHRIST THE KING
24 NOVEMBER 2024**



WELCOME

St Theodore's is an active, caring and supportive community which values liturgy, prayer and preaching to sustain our daily lives, as we seek to foster love, hope and justice to all. You are welcome here as you are, embraced within God's boundless love. It is good to have you here today and we hope that you will feel at home.

PRAYING WITH CANDLES AND STONES

As you enter our church, there are two stations for prayer. One is an invitation to light a candle, symbolising our praying for each other before God. The other is an invitation to drop stones into a bowl of water, symbolising letting go of something (or someone) weighing us down.

ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion and/or receive anointing for healing at the back. Due to Covid precautions, intinction (dipping) into the wine is prohibited.

If you do not wish to drink the wine, we invite you to pause briefly before the chalice to acknowledge the sacramental presence.

LIVE-STREAMING

Our 9:30am Sunday Service is live-streamed on Facebook Live. During administration of communion, the camera is adjusted so that no one coming forward is visible online, but this cannot be guaranteed.

HEARING ASSISTANCE SYSTEM

We have a Hearing Assistance System available on Wi-Fi, usable with or without hearing aids. Please ask the stewards for assistance.

Please email office@theodores.org to join our mailing list.

Please stand if you wish

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: CP 563 “Rejoice the Lord is King”

1 Rejoice, the Lord is King:
your Lord and King adore!
mortals, give thanks and sing,
and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2 Jesus, the Savior, reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when He had purged our stains,
he took his seat above;
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

3 His kingdom cannot fail,
he rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

4 He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet:
Lift up your heart, Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

5 Rejoice in glorious hope!
Jesus the judge shall come
and take His servants up
to their eternal home:

Lift up your heart Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Charles Wesley © CP 2001

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As we gather in worship, we acknowledge the Kurna People as the traditional owners and custodians of this land.

May we walk together in harmony in a spirit of reconciliation.

INVOCATION AND GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

† Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

WELCOME

OPENING SENTENCE

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and blessing (Rev 5.12)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Let us pray.

**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.**

KYRIES

**Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Silence may be kept

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

**Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness
to all who turn to him in faith:
† pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
 we worship you, we give you thanks,
 we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
 Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take away the sin of the world:
 have mercy on us;
 you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
 receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
 Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit,
 † in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Everlasting God,
whose will is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son,
our Lord and King:
grant that the people of earth,
now divided and enslaved by sin,
may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

FIRST READING: 2 SAMUEL 23.1-7

¹ Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favourite of the Strong One of Israel:

² The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.

³ The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:

One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,

⁴ is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

⁵ Is not my house like this with God?

For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.

Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?

⁶ But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;

⁷ to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.

And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM 93

Response: The Lord has girded himself with strength

¹ The Lord is king, and has put on robes of glory:
the Lord has put on his glory,
he has girded himself with strength.

² He has made the world so firm:
that it cannot be moved. **R**

³ Your throne is established from of old:
you are from everlasting.

⁴ The floods have lifted up, O Lord,
the floods have lifted up their voice:
the floods lift up their pounding. **R**

⁵ But mightier than the sound of many waters,
than the mighty waters or the breakers of the sea:
the Lord on high is mighty.

⁶ Your decrees are very sure:
and holiness, O Lord, adorns your house for ever. **R**

SECOND READING: REVELATION 1.4B-8

⁴ John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

For the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Please stand if you wish

GRADUAL HYMN: CP 494 "King of Glory"

1 King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast,
thou hast spared me.

- 2 Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.
- 3 Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol Thee:
e'en eternity's too short
to extol thee.

George Herbert © CP 2001

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name / of the Lord
Blessed is the kingdom that / is to come.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel according to John 18.33-37
‡ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' ³⁴ Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' ³⁵ Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' ³⁶ Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' ³⁷ Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

The sermon is followed by a time of silence for reflection.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the world and for the Church.

Response:

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer.

Conclusion:

Compassionate God, you have promised to hear our prayers.
**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NOTICES

Please stand if you wish

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ.

His Spirit is with us.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN: CP 398 "Christ triumphant, ever reigning"

- 1 Christ triumphant, ever reigning,
Saviour, Master, King!
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,
hear us as we sing:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

- 2 Word incarnate, truth revealing,
Son of Man on earth!
power and majesty concealing
by your humble birth:
Yours the glory ...

- 3 Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,
victim crucified!
death is through the cross defeated,
sinners justified:
Yours the glory ...

- 4 Priestly king, enthroned for ever
high in heaven above!
sin and death and hell shall never
stifle hymns of love:
Yours the glory ...

5 So, our hearts and voices raising
through the ages long,
ceaselessly upon you gazing,
This shall be our song:
*Yours the glory and the crown,
the high renown, the eternal name!*

Michael Seward © CP 2001

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness
we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, everliving God.

We give you thanks and praise for
our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.
Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

† Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

† Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

AGNUS DEI

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.
May we who share these gifts be found in Christ and Christ in us.

This is the table of communion with the earth,
in which Christ became incarnate
So come to this table, those who have much faith
and those who would like to have more;
those who have been here often
and those who have not been for a long time;
those who have tried to follow Jesus;
and we who have failed.
Come.

Please stand if you wish

POST-COMMUNION SENTENCE

Jesus said, "For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." (John 8:37)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living God,
in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.
May the power of your love,
which we have known in word and sacrament,
continue your saving work among us,
give us courage for our pilgrimage,
and bring us to the joys you promise.

PRAYER OF SELF-OFFERING

Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.

BLESSING

God the Father who has given to his Son the name above every name, strengthen you to proclaim Christ Jesus as Lord; **Amen.**

God the Son who is our great high priest passed into the heavens plead for you at the right hand of the Father; **Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit who pours out his abundant gifts upon the Church make you faithful servants of Christ our King; **Amen.**

and the blessing of God almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Please stand if you wish

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: CP 525 "Name of all majesty"

- 1 Name of all majesty,
fathomless mystery,
King of the ages
by angels adored;
power and authority,
splendour and dignity,
bow to his mastery,
Jesus is Lord!

2 Child of our destiny,
God from eternity,
love of the Father
on sinners outpoured;
see now what God has done
sending his only Son,
Christ the beloved One,
Jesus is Lord!

3 Saviour of Calvary,
costliest victory,
darkness defeated
and Eden restored;
born as a man to die,
nailed to a cross on high,
cold in the grave to lie,
Jesus is Lord!

4 Source of all sovereignty,
light, immortality,
life everlasting
and heaven assured;
so with the ransomed, we
praise him eternally,
Christ in his majesty,
Jesus is Lord!

Timothy Dudley-Smith © CP 2001

POSTLUDE: NIXON: EXALTEMUS

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Where there is a † in the liturgy, you are invited to make a sign of the cross if you wish. When the Gospel is read and we say “† Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ”, you are invited to make three tiny signs of the cross, on the forehead, on the lips and on the chest. This symbolises the Word of God in our minds, our words and our hearts.

The sermon is preceded by a short Children’s Talk if there are children present.