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**ST THEODORE'S, TOORAK GARDENS**

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**ORDINARY 6  
16 FEBRUARY 2025**



## 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](mailto:office@theodores.org) to join our mailing list.

*Please stand if you wish*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN: CP 3 "FATHER, WE PRAISE THEE"**

- 1 Father, we praise thee,  
now the night is over;  
active and watchful,  
stand we all before thee;  
singing we offer  
prayer and meditation:  
thus we adore thee.
  
- 2 Monarch of all things,  
fit us for thy mansions;  
banish our weakness,  
health and wholeness sending;  
bring us to heaven,  
where thy saints united  
joy without ending.
  
- 3 All-holy Father,  
Son and equal Spirit,  
Trinity blessed,  
send us thy salvation;  
thine is the glory,  
gleaming and resounding  
through all creation.

Music: *Paris Antiphoner* (1681)  
Words: tr. Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)  
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**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

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.  
(Jer 17.7)

## 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

Christ the Son of God has been revealed as a light to the nations.

*Silence may be kept.*

Let us bring our darkness to his light, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**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

Righteous God,  
you challenge the powers that rule this world  
and you show favour to the oppressed:  
instil in us a true sense of justice,  
that we may discern the signs of your kingdom  
and strive for right to prevail;  
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 17.5-10

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

<sup>6</sup> They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,  
whose trust is the LORD.

<sup>8</sup> They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

<sup>9</sup> The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse —  
who can understand it?

<sup>10</sup> I the LORD test the mind  
and search the heart,  
to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

For the word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 1

**Response: Happy are they who have put their trust in the Lord**

<sup>1</sup> Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the ungodly:  
nor followed the way of sinners,  
nor taken their seat amongst the scornful.

<sup>2</sup> But their delight is in the law of the Lord:  
and on that law will they ponder day and night. **R**

<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted beside streams of water:  
that yield their fruit in due season.

<sup>4</sup> Their leaves also shall not wither:  
and look, whatever they do, it shall prosper. **R**

<sup>5</sup> As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:  
they are like the chaff which the wind scatters.

<sup>6</sup> Therefore the ungodly shall not stand up at the judgement:  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

<sup>7</sup> For the Lord cares for the way of the righteous:  
but the way of the ungodly shall perish. **R**

## SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15.12-20

<sup>12</sup> Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup> If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; <sup>14</sup> and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. <sup>15</sup> We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. <sup>17</sup> If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup> Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup> If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup> But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

For the word of the Lord,  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand if you wish*

## GRADUAL HYMN: CP 391 "BLEST ARE THE PURE IN HEART"

- 1 Blest are the pure in heart,  
for they shall see our God;  
the secret of the Lord is theirs,  
their soul is Christ's abode.
  
- 2 The Lord, who left the heavens  
our life and peace to bring,  
to dwell in lowliness with us,  
their pattern and their King;



3 Still to the lowly soul  
he doth himself impart,  
and for his dwelling and his throne  
chooseth the pure in heart.

4 Lord, we thy presence seek;  
may ours this blessing be;  
give us a pure and lowly heart,  
a temple meet for thee.

Music: WH Havergal (1793-1870)  
Words: John Keble (1792-1866)  
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## THE GOSPEL

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Rejoice / and be glad  
Your reward will be / great in heaven**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke 6.17-26  
**‡ Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>17</sup> Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup> They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup> And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

‘Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> 'Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you,  
revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice on  
that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for  
that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> 'But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> 'Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors  
did to the false prophets.

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.**

*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 368 "ALL MY HOPE ON GOD IS FOUNDED"**

- 1 All my hope on God is founded;  
he doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.
  
- 2 Pride of all and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray his trust;  
what with care and toil he buildeth,  
tower and temple, fall to dust.  
But God's power,  
hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tower.

3 God's great goodness aye endureth,  
deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
splendour, light, and life attend him,  
beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore  
from his store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.

4 Daily doth th' Almighty giver  
bounteous gifts on us bestow;  
his desire our soul delighteth,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand  
at his hand;  
joy doth wait on his command.

5 Still from us to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ his Son.  
Christ doth call  
one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

Music: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)  
Words: Robert Bridges (1844-1930)  
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## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

As the grain once scattered in the fields  
and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside  
are now united on this table in bread and wine,  
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together  
from the corners of the earth  
into 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.  
You anointed him as Messiah,  
the light of the nations,  
and revealed him as the hope  
of all who thirst for righteousness and peace.  
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

**Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. (Luke 6.21)**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the nations,

we thank you for nourishing us with this holy sacrament.

Guide us by your presence,

that we may bring your light to those who dwell in darkness,

and establish your justice in the earth.

## 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

May Christ the Son of God be manifest to you,  
that your lives may be a light to the world;  
and the blessing of God almighty, † the Father, the Son, and the Holy  
Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

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

## NOTICES

### RECESSIONAL HYMN CP 394 "CHRIST FOR THE WORLD WE SING"

- 1 Christ for the world we sing!  
The world to Christ we bring,  
with fervent prayer;  
the wayward and the lost,  
by restless passions tossed,  
redeemed at countless cost,  
from dark despair.
  
- 2 Christ for the world we sing!  
The world to Christ we bring,  
with one accord;  
with us the work to share,  
with us reproach to dare,  
with us the cross to bear,  
for Christ our Lord.

3 Christ for the world we sing!  
The world to Christ we bring,  
with joyful song;  
the new-born souls, whose days,  
reclaimed from error's ways,  
inspired with hope and praise,  
to Christ belong.

Music: Felice de Giardini (1716-1796)  
Words: Samuel Wolcott (1813-1886)  
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## POSTLUDE: LLOYD: CHESTNUT SUNDAY

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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.