

St James' Old Cathedral

15th February 2026 at 10:00am

Last Sunday after Epiphany - The Transfiguration



*Service of Holy Communion from
A Prayer Book for Australia (1995)*

Acknowledgement of Country

We worship our creator God on the ancestral lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. We acknowledge them as the traditional and continuing custodians of this land and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Child Safety Officer

We are committed to continuous improvement in a safe culture for all, and especially vulnerable persons. Our parish's Child Safety Officer is Una Ebsworth. Una is an accredited specialist in criminal law. All correspondence and questions relating to safety checks should be forwarded to her at safety@sjoc.org.au

The Old Cathedral Voices

Formed in March 2009 from some of Melbourne's finest choral soloists, The OCV are a consort choir directed by Alex Ritter.

Today's singers are:	Lily Flynn	Eliza Bennetts O'Connor
Maggie Dunleavy	Alex Ritter	Hamish Gould
Tanum Shipp	Clyde Saniga	Andrew Anderson
Matthew Crossley	Alex Owens	Mike Mews

The Organ

The present organ was built in 1991 by Australian Pipe Organs, restoring and expanding the 1866 Fincham organ. 2 manuals, 18 speaking stops, 8 couplers. Gt: 8.8.4.4.2.III. Sw: 8.8.8.4.2.III.8. Ped: 16.16.10-2/3.8.4.

The Old Cathedral's organist is David Brown. David undertook studies as an organ scholar at the Universities of Cambridge and St Andrews. He also serves as College Organist for Scotch College.

The Bells

Melbourne's first peal of bells were the six bells hung in St James' Cathedral in 1853, replacing an old ship's bell. Two more were added in 1885. All were cast by Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel Road, London, and are reputed to be the finest ever cast there. They are still rung regularly by a team of volunteers.

Processional

My Eyes for Beauty Pine

*My eyes for beauty pine,
My soul for God-des grace;
No other care nor hope is mine,
To heaven I turn my face.*

*One splendour thence is shed
from all the stars above:
'Tis named when God's name is said,
'Tis Love, 'tis heavenly Love!*

*And every gentle heart
that burns with true desire,
Is lit from eyes that mirror part
of that celestial fire.*

The Old Cathedral Voices

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

Sonnet: Transfiguration

Canon Matt Williams

What's seen is seen, and cannot be unknown;
and so he turned my soul, and turns it still.

We'd walked a while, just him and us alone;
we'd wandered up some ordinary hill.

The air was cold. The conversation died.

I wondered if I'd left the stove alight.

The curtains of the world were torn aside,
and naked glory overwhelmed my sight;
and oh, the voice, that called to him by name,
so comforting, so terrible to hear:

that man I knew, the same, yet not the same,
touches my arm, and tells me not to fear;
but as I raise my eyes, the light is gone,
and life, and something more, must carry on.

T. Thurman (b. 1975)

Acclamation and Greeting

Bridget Chapman

Jesus Christ will transform the body of our humiliation
that it may be conformed to the body of his glory.

Philippians 3:21

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

Bridget Chapman

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.

Welcome

Bridget Chapman

Hymn 80 v1,4,5 (St Denio)

W. C. Smith (1824-1908)

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
of all thy rich graces this grace, Lord, impart -
take the veil from our faces, the veil from our heart.**

**All laud we would render: O help us to see,
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee;
and so let thy glory, Almighty, impart
through Christ in the story, thy Christ to the heart.**

Commandments

Bridget Chapman

**'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one;
you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind,
and with all your strength.'**

**Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment.
And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself.'**

Collect*Bridget Chapman*

O God, in the transfiguration of your Beloved Son
you revealed his glory and commanded us to listen to him:
grant that we may not be afraid,
but follow him faithfully and share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Ministry of the Word*Bridget Chapman*

Heavenly Father,
give us wisdom and understanding.
As we listen to your Word,
may we know you better, love you more,
and learn to please you in all we do;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gathering for Children's Chapel

Dr Matthew Champion

We offer an age-appropriate experience of the Ministry of the Word for children, led today by Dr Matthew Champion. They are invited to process out to the conference centre, as the following anthem is sung. They will return in time to join us at Holy Communion.

Childsafe Policy: Children's Chapel is supervised at all times by at least two unrelated adults with current Working with Children Check approvals.

Meditation

This is My Son

The Old Cathedral Voices

A. Anderson (b. 1971)

Commissioned for the Old Cathedral Voices. Premiered 15th Feb 2015.

*Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved,
with whom my soul is well pleased.*

*I will put my Spirit upon him,
and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. Matt 12:18 / Isa 42:1*

*When Jesus had been baptised,
just as he came up from the water,
suddenly the heavens were opened to him
and he saw the Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him.
And a voice from heav'n said,
"This is my Son, the beloved,
with whom I am well pleased."* Matt 3:16-17

*Jesus was transfigured before them,
and his face shone like the sun,
and his clothes became dazzling white.* Matt 17:2

*A bright cloud overshadowed them,
and a voice from the cloud said,
"This is my Son, the beloved,
with whom I am well pleased.
Listen to him!"* Matt 17:5

12 The Lord said to Moses,
‘Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there;
and I will give you the tablets of stone,
with the law and the commandment,
which I have written for their instruction.’

13 So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua,
and Moses went up into the mountain of God.

14 To the elders he had said, ‘Wait here for us,
until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you;
whoever has a dispute may go to them.’

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain,
and the cloud covered the mountain.

16 The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai,
and the cloud covered it for six days;
on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud.

17 Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord
was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain
in the sight of the people of Israel.

18 Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain.
Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Hear the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear?

**The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?**

When the wicked, even my enemies and my foes,
come upon me to devour me:

they shall stumble and fall.

If an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not be afraid:

and if war should rise against me, yet will I trust.

One thing I have asked from the Lord,
which I will require:

**that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,**

To see the fair beauty of the Lord:
and to seek his will in his temple.

For he will hide me under his shelter in the day of trouble:
**and conceal me in the shadow of his tent,
and set me high upon a rock.**

And now he will lift up my head:
above my enemies round about me.

And I will offer sacrifices in his sanctuary with exultation:
I will sing, I will sing praises to the Lord.

O Lord, hear my voice when I cry:
have mercy upon me and answer me.

My heart has said of you, 'Seek his face':
your face, Lord, I will seek.

⁷ Whatever gains I had,
these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.

⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss
because of the surpassing value
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things,
and I regard them as rubbish,
in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him,
not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law
but one that comes through faith in Christ,
the righteousness from God based on faith.

¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection
and the sharing of his sufferings
by becoming like him in his death,

¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this
or have already reached the goal,
but I press on to lay hold of that
for which Christ has laid hold of me.

¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it,
but one thing I have laid hold of:
forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,
¹⁴ I press on toward the goal,
toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ Let those of us, then, who are mature think this way,
and if you think differently about anything,
this, too, God will reveal to you.

¹⁶ Only let us hold fast to what we have attained.

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me,
and observe those who live
according to the example you have in us.

¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ;
I have often told you of them,
and now I tell you even with tears.

¹⁹ Their end is destruction, their god is the belly,
and their glory is in their shame;
their minds are set on earthly things.

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven,
and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour,
the Lord Jesus Christ.

²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation
that it may be conformed to the body of his glory,
by the power that also enables him
to make all things subject to himself.

Hear the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 140 (Dix 239)

C. Wesley (1707-88)

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
dayspring from on high, be near;
day-star in my heart appear.**

**Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee:
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.**

**Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew, from the seventeenth chapter, beginning at the first verse.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Six days later,

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

² And he was transfigured before them,
and his face shone like the sun,
and his clothes became bright as light.

³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah,
talking with him.

⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus,
“Lord, it is good for us to be here;
if you wish, I will set up three tents here,
one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

⁵ While he was still speaking,
suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them,
and a voice from the cloud said,
“This is my Son, the Beloved;
with him I am well pleased;
listen to him!”

⁶ When the disciples heard this,
they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.

⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying,
“Get up and do not be afraid.”

⁸ And when they raised their eyes,
they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

For the Gospel of the Lord: **praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

Canon Matt Williams

Anthem

Do not be afraid

The Old Cathedral Voices

M. Nelson (b. 1988)

Commissioned for the Old Cathedral Voices. Premiered 20th April 2014.

*Do not be afraid: I am the first and the last, and the living one.
I was dead, and see, I am alive for ever and ever;
and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.*

Do not be afraid: I am alive for ever. Rev. 1:17b-18

**Athanasian Creed Part 2:
On the Incarnation (All Stand)**

Bridget Chapman

The right Faith is, that we believe and confess:
that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and Man;
God, of the Substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds:
and Man, of the Substance of his Mother, born in the world;
Perfect God, and perfect Man:
of a reasonable soul and human flesh subsisting;
Equal to the Father, as touching his Godhead:
and inferior to the Father, as touching his manhood.
Who, although he be God and Man:
yet he is not two, but one Christ;
One; not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh:
but by taking of the Manhood into God;
One altogether; not by confusion of substance:
but by unity of Person.
For as the reasonable soul and flesh is one man:
so God and Man is one Christ;
Who suffered for our salvation:
descended into hell,
rose again the third day from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
he sitteth on the right hand of the Father, God Almighty:
from whence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
At whose coming all men shall rise again with their bodies:
and shall give account for their own works.
And they that have done good shall go into life everlasting:
and they that have done evil into everlasting fire.
This is the Catholick Faith:
which except a man believe faithfully, he cannot be saved.

Intercessory Prayers

Elizabeth Blades-Hamilton

Response:

Lord, in your mercy:

hear our prayer.

Let us join together in the prayer which Jesus taught us.

**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.**

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

Bridget Chapman

Let us pray.

**We do not presume to come to your table, 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.**

Confession*Bridget Chapman*

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.**

Absolution*Canon Matt Williams*

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.**

The Greeting of Peace*Bridget Chapman*

(All Stand.)

We are the body of Christ: **His Spirit is with us.**
The peace of the Lord be always with you: **And also with you.**

The children's chapel will rejoin us during the following hymn.

Hymn 390 (Carlisle)

J. A. Robinson (1858-1933)

**How good, Lord, to be here!
your glory fills the night;
your face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.**

**How good, Lord, to be here!
your beauty to behold,
where Moses and Elijah stand,
your messengers of old.**

**Fulfiller of the past,
promise of things to be:
we hail your body glorified,
and our redemption see.**

**Before we taste of death,
we see your Kingdom come;
we still would hold the vision bright;
and make this hill our home.**

**How good, Lord, to be here!
yet we may not remain;
but since you bid us leave the mount
come with us to the plain.**

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 your Son,
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,
and honoured him as your beloved Son
who shares your glory from everlasting to everlasting.

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.**

And now we thank you
for these gifts of bread and wine;
may we who receive them,
as Jesus said,
share his body and his blood.

On the night he was betrayed, he took bread
and gave you thanks.
He broke the bread and gave it to his friends, and said,
'Take and eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper he took the cup
and gave you thanks.
He shared the cup with them and said,
'This is my blood poured out
so that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

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

You have gathered us together
to feed on Christ
and to remember all he has done for us:
Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory.

Fill us with your Spirit
that we may follow Jesus
in all we do and say,
working for justice and bringing your peace
to this world that you have made.

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.

Come, let us take this holy sacrament of the body and blood of Christ
in remembrance that he died for us,
and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*All baptised believers in the Lord Jesus Christ
including children at their parents' discretion
are welcome to join us at the Lord's Table.*

Gluten free wafers are available on request.

*If you prefer an individual cup of grape juice,
simply decline the common cup of wine when it is offered to you.*

During Communion
Give me Jesus

The Old Cathedral Voices
Spiritual arr. L. Anderson

1. *In the morning when I rise, Give me Jesus.*

Refrain: *Give me Jesus, Give me Jesus,*
 You may have all this world, Give me Jesus.

2. *I heard my mother say, 'Give me Jesus.'* *Refrain*

3. *Dark midnight was my cry! Give me Jesus.* *Refrain*

4. *And when I come to die, Give me Jesus.* *Refrain*

After Communion

Canon Matt Williams

Father of all

we give you thanks and praise
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.

Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights give life to the world.

Keep us in this hope that we have grasped;
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name.

Hymn 480 (Song 34)

C. Wesley (1707-88)

**Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
my daily labour to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know,
in all I think, or speak, or do.**

**The task thy wisdom hath assigned
O let me cheerfully fulfil,
in all my works thy presence find,
and prove thy good and perfect will.**

**Thee may I set at my right hand,
whose eyes my inmost substance see,
and labour on at thy command,
and offer all my works to thee.**

**Give me to bear thy easy yoke,
and every moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look,
and hasten to thy glorious day;
for thee delightfully employ
whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given,
and run my course with even joy,
and closely walk with thee to heaven.**

Blessing***Canon Matt Williams***

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,

Father, Son and 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***David Brown (Organ)***

*Morning Tea is served
in the Conference Centre next door
after the Service*

Instead of collecting offertories during the service, we gratefully receive free offerings made at the exit, or by electronic transfers to:

St James' Old Cathedral

BSB: 013 377

Acc. No.: 008 684 064

Tax deductible giving to support our music program is also possible through the St James' Gift Fund:

Melbourne West ITF Gift Fund

BSB: 013 377

Acc. No.: 526 890 909

Cover: Panel depicting the Transfiguration
from the “St Peter” window of St James’ Old Cathedral.
Artist: Christian Waller.

National Trust Appeal: Roof Replacement

In 2010 a Heritage Review identified the replacement of our slate roof as an urgent work for the next two years.

We have not been able to fund this, and have continued to tolerate regular leaks in the rain, which are damaging other parts of the church in turn.

Parish Council and the National Trust have authorised an appeal. **We are seeking to raise \$500,000** for the full replacement of the slate roof and the restoration of other things which are urgent or best done at the same time. We have engaged Extent Heritage to guide this process and optimise outcomes.

Just before Tony died, Tony and Wendy Greenwood donated the first \$200,000 to this appeal. They hoped to inspire others.

Donations through the National Trust are Tax Deductible. The National Trust take an 8% administration fee.

Please direct Tax Deductible Donations to:

National Trust of Australia (Victoria)

BSB: 033000

Account number: 937419

Description: St James Old Cathedral

Please follow up any donations with an email to both accounts@nattrust.com.au and office@sjoc.org.au so that we can track donations.

Should we raise more than is needed for urgent works, we are approved to use donations to repay the outstanding loan for the 2011 Tower Restoration.

Child Safe Culture Principle of the Week

5. Make allies not accusations

Genuinely innocent actions can overlap with the practices of grooming. Sometimes we need to explain this to each other as we develop a child safe culture. Sometimes we have to change old, kind habits for the good of the whole culture.

Grooming behaviours include:

- taking a child off by themselves.
- asking a child to keep part of their relationship with you a secret.
- inappropriate or unwelcome touching.
- singling out a child for gifts or attention in a way that exceeds your care-giving role.

It is important no-one feels accused of anything. When we point out an action inconsistent with our culture, we never suggest you meant any harm. If we were actually worried about a matter of safety, we would have referred our concerns to Kooyoora or the police.

We ask everyone to help us establish cultural norms that make opportunities to hurt children hard to come by. If you notice something not in keeping with our culture, please bring it up in a manner that makes an ally and not an accusation.

Kooyoora is on 1800 135 246. Our local police are on 03 8690 4444.

Other principles:

- 1. Insist on two unrelated adults**
- 2. Kooyoora is your friend.**
- 3. Don't look into it.**
- 4. Make grooming look odd.**
- 6. Do paperwork with thanksgiving!**

Intercessions

We pray for: Our West Melbourne Community; Haileybury College; Mike Raiter and The Centre for Biblical Preaching; Emma Payne (CMS); Chris & Sarah Griffioen and family (OM); Australian Indigenous Churches; Ridley College; Trinity College; the Overseas Chinese Christian Church; Janette Wells; Neil; Diane and Roger Smith and family; Beverly Stephenson; Sergio Altin; The Hamilton Family; Jean Ely; Neil Hawthorn; Lorraine Hedley; Jamie Chisholm; Stuart; Jenny Swain; Kim Boulton; Tony Billington; Ken McAlpine; Anne Ellison; Faye Moses; Gillian Williams; Mavis Payne; Lisa Thompson; Warren Mills; Chris & Roselee Jones; Wendy Greenwood; Sharon Goldby.

Notices

- A new Tuesday night dinner & bible study group will begin at Canon Matt's house from February 17th: 96 Roden Street, West Melbourne.
- KYB Women's Bible Study has returned. See Diana for details.
- Sundays March 1-22 will be a special series "Taste and See", with lunch following each Sunday service until 1pm.
- Parish Council meets next Sunday 22nd February at 12pm.

Contact Details

Vicar:	Rev. Canon Matt Williams	0403 770 867
Associate Minister:	Rev. Mike Raiter	0425 211 058
Lay Minister:	Ms. Bei-En Zou	0434 899 839
Student Ministers:	Ms. Bridget Chapman	0406 320 940
	Ms. Lwe Moo San Tay	
On-Site Manager:	Ms. Lisa Wardell	0417 624 915
Child Safety Officer:	Ms. Una Ebsworth	0400 717 571
Churchwardens:	Mr David Spriggs	0417 190 319
	Ms Elizabeth Blades-Hamilton	0423 100 677
	Mr Andrew Watkins	0451 128 788