



St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne

Together transforming our City and Diocese

Choral Eucharist

in Thanksgiving and Celebration of the Life of

The Very Reverend

David John Leyburn Richardson

AO OBE CStJ

14 March 1946 – 6 May 2026



Thursday, 21 May 2026, 2pm

Welcome to St Paul’s Cathedral as we give thanks for the life of the Very Revd David Richardson, thirteenth Dean of Melbourne. We meet on land that was taken, not ceded—the Sovereign Country of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation. We give thanks for their ancestors, acknowledge the ongoing right and responsibility of their elders to care for this Country, and pay our respects to all First Peoples here.

SERVICE LEADERS *President:* The Very Reverend Dr Andreas Loewe, Dean; *Preacher:* The Reverend Dr Gregory Seach, Vicar, St George’s, Malvern; *Deacon:* The Reverend Lydia Thangadurai, Succentor; *Sub Deacon:* The Reverend Canon Dr Tim Watson, Precentor; The Right Reverend Garry Weatherill, Bishop of Ballarat, The Reverend Kuncoro Rusman, Vicar, All Saints’ Kooyong; The Choir of St Paul’s Cathedral: Cathedral Lay Clerks, and choristers from our choir schools, Lowther Hall Anglican Grammar School, and Trinity Grammar School; Margi Orr, soprano, and Siegfried Franke, Cathedral Organist directed by Canon Philip Nicholls, Director of Music.

THE VERY REVD DAVID RICHARDSON AO OBE CStJ was born on 14 March 1946 in Townsville. Though he spent much of his childhood in England where his father served as a priest, he completed his schooling in Brisbane. After studying English literature at the University of Queensland he trained for ordination at St Barnabas College, Adelaide, and was ordained deacon in 1970 and priest in 1971.

After further study at the University of Birmingham and a curacy at Great St Mary’s, Cambridge, where he also served as chaplain at Girton College, David returned to St Barnabas as sub-warden, teaching New Testament studies, liturgy, and pastoral theology. He subsequently served as rector of Christ Church, St Lucia, before his appointment as Dean of St Peter’s Cathedral, Adelaide in 1989 (he had been preceded there by nine Bishop’s Vicars, the title Dean held by another senior cleric).

In 1999, David became Dean of this Cathedral, a role he held for nearly a decade. He led a major public appeal to restore our spires and renew the interior. His likeness is also preserved in a carved stone sculpture on the central Moorhouse spire. David’s contribution to Anglican life has been substantial. He served for a decade as Australia’s clerical representative on the Anglican Consultative Council, spent twenty-five years on the National Liturgical Commission (including fifteen as its executive secretary), and was one of the principal authors of *A Prayer Book for Australia* (1995). From 2008 to 2013, he served as the Archbishop of Canterbury’s representative to the Holy See and Director of the Anglican Centre in Rome.

He was an emeritus provincial Canon of Canterbury Cathedral and has been a Chaplain of the Order of St John since 1996. His services to ecumenism and the Anglican Communion have been recognised with an OBE (2013) and an AO (2016). David died in Adelaide on 6 May 2026, surrounded by his family.

MUSIC BEFORE THE SERVICE

Jesu Joy of Man’s Desiring – J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

‘Nimrod’, from *Enigma Variations* (Op.36) – Edward Elgar (1857-1934)





THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Please stand for the procession, and join in singing:

THE HYMN



1 A - bide with me; fast falls the e-ven-tide: the dark-ness
dee - pens; Lord, with me a - bide: when o-ther hel - pers
fail, and com-forts flee, help of the help-less, O a - bide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.
Change and decay in all around I see:
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies:
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)
Hymns Ancient and Modern New Standard 13

THE GREETING

The Dean greets the people and introduces the service:

Grace and peace from the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

We have come together to thank God
for the life of David Richardson, priest,
to mourn and honour him,
to lay to rest his mortal body,
and to support one another in grief.

We face the certainty of our own death and judgement.
Yet Christians believe that those who die in Christ
share eternal life with him.

Therefore in faith and hope we turn to God,
who created and sustains us all.

The Deacon reminds us of the hope of life eternal:

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things
present, not things to come, shall be able to separate us from the love of God,
which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8.38-39

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Matthew 5.6

THE COLLECT

**Loving God, you alone are the source of life.
May your life-giving Spirit flow through us,
and fill us with compassion, one for another.
In our sorrow give us the calm of your peace.
Kindle our hope, and let our grief give way to joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Please be seated for

THE EULOGIES

Emma Chapple and Tom Richardson

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

George Herbert, *Love (III)*

Read by Michael Leighton Jones

Love bade me welcome. Yet my soul drew back
 Guilty of dust and sin.
But quick-eyed Love, observing me grow slack
 From my first entrance in,
Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,
 If I lacked any thing.

A guest, I answered, worthy to be here:
 Love said, You shall be he.
I the unkind, ungrateful? Ah my dear,
 I cannot look on thee.
Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,
 Who made the eyes but I?

Truth Lord, but I have marred them: let my shame
 Go where it doth deserve.
And know you not, says Love, who bore the blame?
 My dear, then I will serve.
You must sit down, says Love, and taste my meat:
 So I did sit and eat.

Please stand to sing

PSALM 23



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want. He
makes me down to lie in pas - tures green, he
lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.

2
My soul he doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'vn for his own name's sake.

3
Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear none ill:
for thou art with me; and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

⁴
My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

⁵
Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me:
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

*Scottish Psalter (1650)
Australian Hymn Book 16i*

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 13

Read by Margie Richardson AM

A reading from the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians:

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³ Now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

For the Word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Please stand to sing

THE GRADUAL ALLELUIA

Repeat the acclamation after the Cantor, then as indicated



‘I am the resurrection and the life’, says the Lord. ‘Those who believe in me will live; and I will raise them up on the last day’.



The Lord be with you:
and also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John: 13.34–14.6
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

³⁴ Jesus said: ‘I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’

¹ ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.’

⁵Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ ⁶Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

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

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE ADDRESS

The Reverend Dr Gregory Seach

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please sit or kneel

The Reverend Kuncoro Rusman prays:

Gracious God, we mourn David’s unexpected death and yet we celebrate his life, giving thanks for all he has meant to us.

We recall his courtesy, warmth and genuine interest in others; his wicked sense of humour and impersonations; his culinary skills and love of good red wine and oysters; the lively coloured socks he began to wear when clothed in black as a priest; the beauty of his language and preaching, and the poetry brought forth so often from his prodigious memory.

We thank you for his vocation as a priest—with a love of liturgy and community—in parishes, a university college, and as a Dean of Cathedrals in Melbourne,

Adelaide and later, briefly, in Perth. We acknowledge his skill in raising funds that transformed worship spaces and the diplomacy and hospitality he displayed as the representative of the Archbishop of Canterbury to the Holy See. The All Saints Kooyong congregation gives thanks for his faith and his humility in washing up after Sunday services.

Thanks be to God for the gift of life.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Merciful God, we pray for David's family and friends, remembering especially Margie, Emma and Tom and their families, whose sense of loss is so keen. When we cannot understand the things that happen, and are weighed down by grief and loneliness, uphold us in your love. Give us the assurance of your constant care, that we may have courage for the days ahead, through Jesus Christ our friend.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we confess that 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. Grant us forgiveness, and assure us of your love. Strengthen us to love and obey you, that we may live the rest of our lives following your Son, and be ready when you call us to the fullness of eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We praise you, Lord God, for your faithful servants in every age. May we, with David and all who have died in the faith of Christ, be brought to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of your eternal kingdom.

Almighty 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 for

THE GREETING OF PEACE

The Dean greets the congregation:

‘Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you’, says the Lord.
‘Not as the world gives do I give you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled,
neither let them be afraid’.

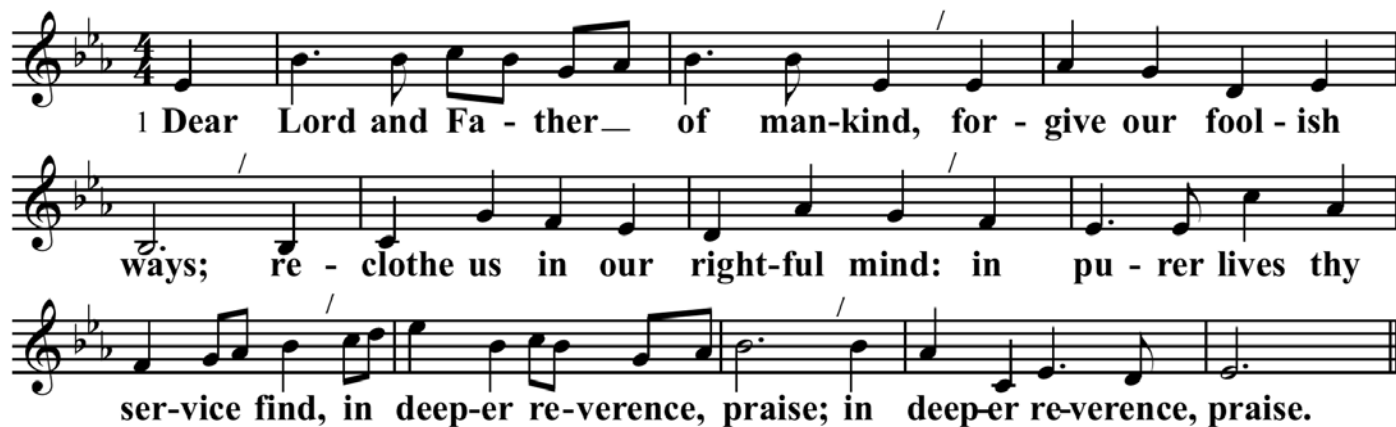
John 14.27

Alleluia. The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you. Alleluia.

The people may greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

Remain standing to sing:

THE OFFERTORY HYMN



1 Dear Lord and Fa - ther — of man-kind, for - give our fool - ish
ways; re - clothe us in our right-ful mind: in pu - rer lives thy
ser-vice find, in deep-er re-verence, praise; in deep-er re-verence, praise.

2
In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee,
rise up and follow thee.

3
O sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love,
interpreted by love!

4
Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls
the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace,
the beauty of thy peace.

5
Breathe through the heats
of our desire
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake,
wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm,
O still small voice of calm.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-92)
Australian Hymn Book 519ii

THE HOLY COMMUNION

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.

It is right to praise you, faithful God,
always and everywhere,
for with your only begotten Son
and life-giving Spirit,
you are the one true God from everlasting to everlasting.

At the dawn of time you wrought from nothing
a universe of beauty and splendour,
bringing light from darkness
and order from chaos.

You formed us in your image,
and endowed us with creative power.
We turned away from you but you did not abandon us.

You called us by name and searched us out,
making a covenant of mercy,
giving the law, and teaching justice by the prophets.

And so we praise you,
joining with your faithful people of every time and place,
singing the eternal song:

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt cæli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

*Sung by the choir
Requiem, Op. 48
Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

The President recalls the Last Supper and prays:

When the fullness of time was come,
you sent your Son, to be born of Mary.

Bright image of your glory,
he learnt obedience to you in all things,

even to death on a cross,
breaking the power of evil,
freeing us from sin, and putting death to flight.

You raised him from death,
exalting him to glory,
and the new day dawned.

On the night he was betrayed
your Son Jesus Christ shared food with his friends,
his companions on the way.

While at table he took bread,
blessed, and broke it,
and giving it to them, said:
'Take, eat; this is my body.'

He took a cup of wine,
and, giving thanks, he gave it to them, and said,
'This is my blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

Therefore, living God, as we obey his command,
we remember his life of obedience to you,
his suffering and death,
his resurrection and exaltation,
and his promise to be with us for ever.

The Subdeacon says:

With this bread and this cup
we celebrate his saving death until he comes:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The President continues the prayer:

Accept, we pray, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration
that all who eat and drink at this table
may be strengthened by Christ's body and blood
to serve you in the world.

As one body and one holy people,
may we proclaim the everlasting gospel
of Jesus Christ our Lord,
through whom, with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, eternal God,
now and for 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.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND COMMUNION

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.

The Dean invites the people to Communion. Gluten free wafers are available.

Please let the priest know if you would like to receive a blessing instead of Communion.

'Taste and see, how gracious the Lord is'.

Psalm 34.8

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Pie Jesu — Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924), *Requiem*, Op. 48

Solo: Margi Orr

*Pie Jesu Domine, dona eis requiem,
dona eis requiem sempiternam.*

Merciful Lord Jesus, grant them rest; grant them everlasting rest.

In paradisum

*In paradisum deducant te angeli;
in tuo adventu suscipiant te martyres,
et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem.
Chorus angelorum te suscipiat,
et cum Lazaro quondam paupere æternam habeas requiem.*

*May the angels lead you into paradise; may the martyrs receive you
at your arrival and lead you to the holy city Jerusalem.
May choirs of angels receive you and, with Lazarus, once a poor man,
may you have eternal rest.*

Bring us, O Lord God — William Harris (1883–1973)

*Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening
into the house and gate of heaven,
to enter into that gate and dwell in that house,
where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling,
but one equal light;
no noise nor silence, but one equal music;
no fears nor hopes, but one equal possession;
no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity;
in the habitation of thy glory and dominion,
world without end. Amen.*

Words: John Donne (1572–1631)

Please stand for

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord of life and death, we thank you that in your great love
you have given us this foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all your saints.
Grant that this sacrament of Christ's death
may be to us a comfort in affliction,
a firm assurance of his resurrection,
and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom
where death and sorrow are no more,
but all things are made new. **Amen.**

Please remain standing.

The clergy gather at the coffin.

The Dean leads:

THE COMMITTAL

David, God has called you by name and made you his own.

Silence may be kept.

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour,
we commend your servant, David.
Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold,
a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.
Receive him into the arms of your mercy,
into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

Pallbearers Tom Richardson, James Chapple, Sean Richardson, Mike Richardson, Alex Chapple, Finn Richardson, Lachie Chapple, Alice Richardson join the sacred ministers at the coffin.

The choir sings:

THE KONTAKION OF THE DEPARTED

Give rest, O Christ,
to thy servant with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more;
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Thou only art immortal, the Creator and Maker of man;
and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and unto earth shall we return;
for so thou didst ordain when thou createdst me, saying:
'Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return'.
All we go down to the dust, and, weeping o'er the grave we make our song:
'Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia'.

Give rest, O Christ,
to thy servant with thy saints,
where sorrow and pain are no more;
neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Kyiv Orthodox Hymn

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

The Bishop of Ballarat, The Right Reverend Garry Weatherill, blesses the people:

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Deacon dismisses the people:

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

*David's coffin is carried from the cathedral
as Siegfried Franke, Cathedral Organist, plays the*

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Toccata in B minor, Dix Pièces pour Orgue, No.4 – Eugène Gigout (1844–1925)

The congregation follows the family in accompanying the coffin to the hearse.

At the hearse the Dean prays:

David, go forth on your journey from this world.
Go in the name of God the Father Almighty who created you,
in the name of Jesus Christ, his Son, who suffered for you,
in the name of the Holy Spirit who strengthened you.
In communion with the saints and angels,
may your portion this day be peace. **Amen.**

The Dean leads the Cathedral Clergy and the hearse in procession along Flinders Street.

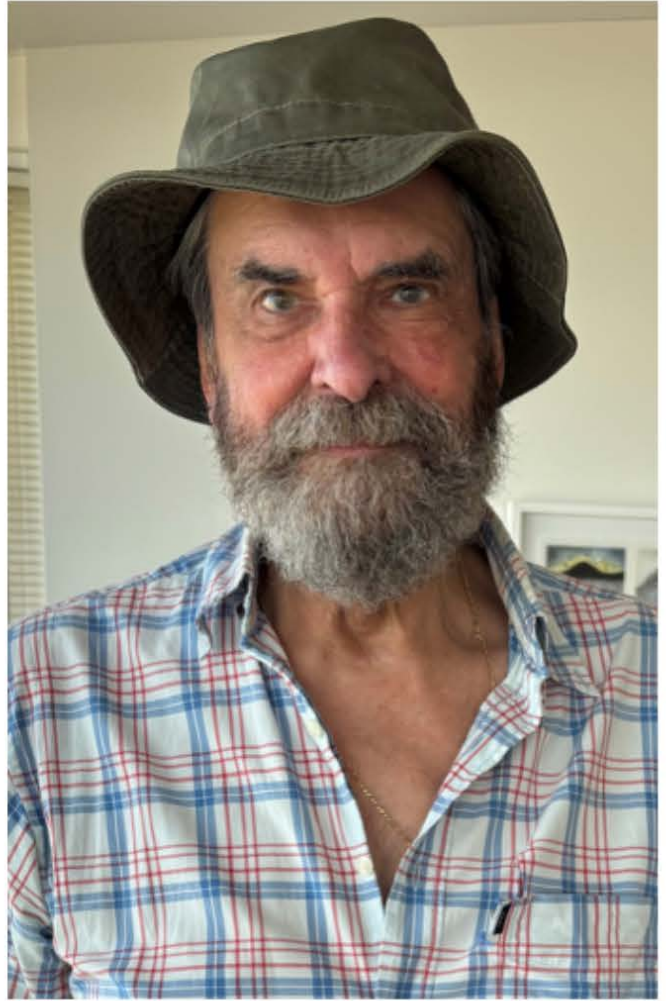
Family and friends of David, and the congregation follow the hearse.

*Please then make your way back to the Nave of the cathedral for afternoon tea
with David's family.*

ABOUT TODAY'S EUCHARISTIC PRAYER *A Prayer Book of Australia's* Thanksgiving 2 was newly drafted by David. Its imagery expresses biblical faith that echoes with Australians: the slowing of the rhythm in 'and the new day dawned' is a good example. In its shape, it reflects the structure of classical eucharistic prayers: as David explained, the old covenant is rehearsed before the *Sanctus*, and the new covenant after it, culminating in the institution of the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of Christ's death, followed by a statement of what we now remember and celebrate. The 'thanksgiving' then turns to supplication, asking the Holy Spirit to be active among us, and that communicants may receive the benefits of communion. We give thanks that the living share with the departed in an enduring bond of worship, and thank David for his drafting of what has become an enduring part of Anglican worship in Australia.



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Please consider making a donation to Médecins Sans Frontières
or the St Paul's Cathedral Music Foundation.*

