



St Paul's Cathedral

Together transforming our City and Diocese

Sung Evening Prayer

The Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

27 September 2026, 4pm

WELCOME

Welcome to St Paul's Cathedral, home church for Anglicans in Melbourne and Victoria. We want to be a place of transformation for our city and church where all people can come to experience and know God's love in Christ Jesus. We are an international community and are delighted that you're here!

THE SERVICE LEADERS

Officiant: The Very Revd Dr Andreas Loewe, Dean of Melbourne

Preacher: The Revd Canon Jane Window, Associate Priest.

Cantor: Canon Philip Nicholls, Director of Music.

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

*Please join in singing the hymns and saying the responses printed in **bold** type.*

THE GREETING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

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

The officiant welcomes the people, and acknowledges the Country on which we meet

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 today.

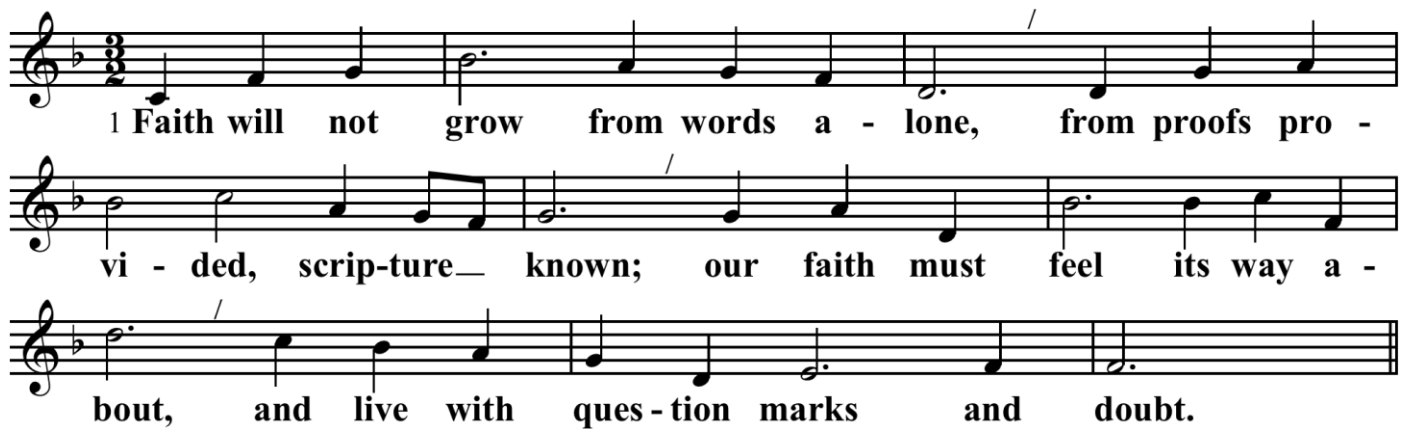
Grace, mercy and peace,

from God the Father, and Jesus Christ our Lord.

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.

THE OFFICE HYMN



2
The pattern Jesus showed, we share:
life comes through death,
hope through despair.
God is made known in brokenness,
and faith feeds on God's emptiness.

3
The church still tells how Jesus came
through death to glorious life again –
the strangest story! Yet, maybe,
our faith will thrive on mystery.

4
Faith takes the little that we know,
and calls for hope, and tells us: Go!
Love and take courage, come what may;
Christ will be with us on the way.

Elizabeth J. Smith (b.1956)
Together in Song 691
Reproduced with permission

THE OPENING PRAYER

The day is now past and the night is at hand.
Let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

Father of lights, receive the prayer and praise we offer you as our evening sacrifice; make us a light for all the world, delivered by your goodness from all the works of darkness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the Bible readings

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 18.5-24

Read by Timothy James

A reading from the Book Exodus.

Jethro, Moses's father-in-law, along with Moses's sons and wife, came into the wilderness where Moses was encamped at the mountain of God. ⁶He sent word to Moses, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you, with your wife and her

two sons.” ⁷So Moses went out to meet his father-in-law; he bowed down and kissed him; each asked after the other’s welfare, and they went into the tent. ⁸Then Moses told his father-in-law all that the Lord had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel’s sake, all the hardship that had found them on the way, and how the Lord had delivered them. ⁹Jethro rejoiced for all the good that the Lord had done to Israel, in delivering them from the Egyptians.

¹⁰Jethro said, “Blessed be the Lord, who has delivered you from the Egyptians and from Pharaoh. ¹¹Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods, because he delivered the people from the Egyptians, when they dealt arrogantly with them.”

¹²And Jethro, Moses’s father-in-law, brought a burnt offering and sacrifices to God, and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses’s father-in-law in the presence of God.

¹³The next day Moses sat as judge for the people, while the people stood around him from morning until evening. ¹⁴When Moses’s father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, “What is this that you are doing for the people? Why do you sit alone, while all the people stand around you from morning until evening?” ¹⁵Moses said to his father-in-law, “Because the people come to me to inquire of God. ¹⁶When they have a dispute, they come to me, and I decide between one person and another, and I make known to them the statutes and instructions of God.” ¹⁷Moses’s father-in-law said to him, “What you are doing is not good. ¹⁸You will surely wear yourself out, both you and these people with you, for the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. ¹⁹Now listen to me. I will give you counsel, and God be with you! You should represent the people before God and bring their cases to God. ²⁰Teach them the statutes and instructions and make known to them the way they are to go and the things they are to do. ²¹You should also look for able men among all the people, men who fear God, are trustworthy, and hate dishonest gain; set them as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens. ²²Let them sit as judges for the people at all times; let them bring every important case to you but decide every minor case themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. ²³If you do this and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people will go to their homes in peace.”

²⁴So Moses listened to his father-in-law and did all that he had said.

Here ends the First Reading.

PSALM 25

Please sing the response after the cantor, then as indicated



O Lord, make me know your ways.
O Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

Response

The Lord is good and upright,
and shows the path to those that stray.
The Lord guides the humble in the right path,
and teaches Gods way to the poor.

Response

The Lord's ways are faithfulness and love
for those who keep God's will.
The Lord's friendship is for those who are faithful,
to them God's love has been revealed.

Response

Music: Christopher Willcock (b.1947)

THE SECOND READING

Romans 15.14-22, 30-33

Read by Canon Professor Kate Drummond AM

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

I myself feel confident about you, my brothers and sisters, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another. ¹⁵Nevertheless, on some points I have written to you rather boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God ¹⁶to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. ¹⁷In Christ Jesus, then, I have reason to boast of my work for God. ¹⁸For I will not be so bold as to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to win obedience from the gentiles, by word and deed, ¹⁹by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit, so that from Jerusalem and as far around as Illyricum I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ. ²⁰Thus I make it my ambition to proclaim the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, so that I do not build on someone else's foundation, ²¹but as it is written,

“Those who have never been told of him shall see,
and those who have never heard of him shall understand.”

²²This is the reason that I have so often been hindered from coming to you.

³⁰I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf, ³¹that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my ministry to Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, ³²so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company. ³³The God of peace be with all of you. Amen.

Here ends the Second Reading.

THE ANTHEM

Words: Evelyn Miller. Music: Andrew Gant (b.1963)

By the grace of the Spirit / we find God in mist of dawn,
in the shadows of the forest, / in the leaping of the fawn.
We discover in hushed moments / God's own pure serenity,
and we sing, Alleluia!

By the grace of the Spirit / we find God in music's air,
as both song and joyous anthem / bind our hearts in concord rare.
In the melodies of grateful praise / we define God's sanctity,
and we sing, Alleluia!

By the grace of the Spirit / we find God in Bethlehem's stall,
in Epiphany, in Passion, / on the cross Christ bore for all.
We acknowledge the Ascension / of the blessed Lamb of God,
and we sing, Alleluia!

By the grace of the Spirit / we exalt the Father's name
when we validate in mission / full redemption through Christ's claim.
May the counsel of the Spirit / guide us in God's holy way
as we sing, Alleluia!

THE HOMILY

The Revd Canon Jane Window, Associate Priest

THE PRAYERS

Let us pray.

Please sit or kneel

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant, O merciful God, that your people may have that mind that was in Christ Jesus, who emptied himself, and took the form of a servant, and in humility became obedient even to death. For you have highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, Jesus Christ, the Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in everlasting glory. **Amen.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings are made according to need.

THE EVENING COLLECT

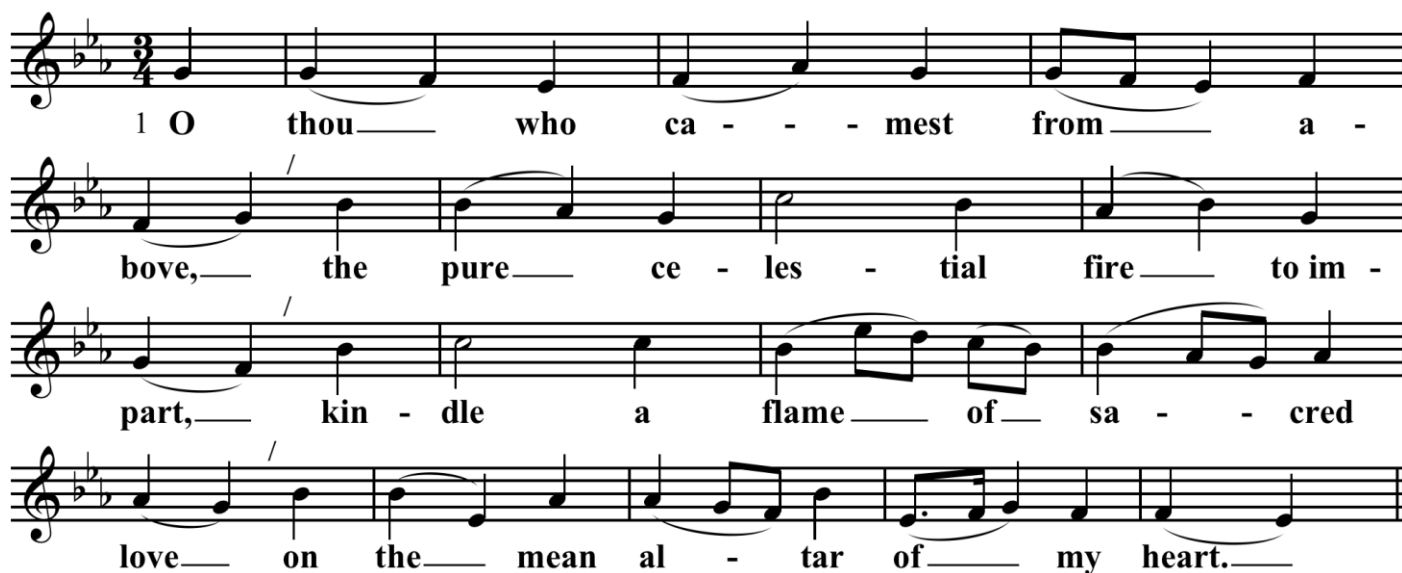
Lighten our darkness, Lord, we pray:
and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night;
for the love of your only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Stand to sing

THE DISMISSAL HYMN

*A collection is received. We rely entirely on your gift. Please be generous.
If the ushers can't reach you, please use the donation towers around the
Cathedral, donate online via our website www.cathedral.org.au/donate
using the QR code, or by EFT BSB: 083-088, Account: 53-728-8315*





2
There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze
and trembling to its source return,
in humble prayer and fervent praise.

3
Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up thy gift in me,

4
ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)
Australian Hymn Book 486i

THE DISMISSAL AND BLESSING

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

Let us praise the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

Consolation on Hereford – June Nixon AM (b. 1942)

Dr Mark Slavec, Cathedral Sub-Organist

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PRAY WITH US

FOR THE WORLD We continue our prayers for justice and peace in places of suffering, especially the ongoing conflicts in Ukraine and Russia, the Middle East, South Sudan and Yemen. We pray for refugees and all affected by war, violence and displacement; for aid agencies responding to humanitarian need; and for wisdom, courage and integrity among the leaders of nations. In our own community, as Victorians gather for the AFL Grand Final, we pray for safe travel and graciousness in competition, giving thanks for the ways sport can bring people together across differences; we also remember those for whom the long weekend will be marked by loneliness, grief, illness or hardship, that they may know the comfort, hope and companionship of Christ.

FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION The Church of Bangladesh (Abp Samuel Sunil Mankhin).

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN ANGLICAN CHURCH The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia: The Most Revd Justin Duckworth; Pihopa o Tairāwhiti and Pihopa o Aotearoa: The Most Revd Don Tamihere; Bishop of Polynesia: The Most Revd Sione Ulu'ilakepa; Clergy, lay ministers and people.

FOR THE DIOCESE OF MELBOURNE Episcopal Area of Geelong - Bishop Nigel Pope; Archdeaconry of Williamstown; Werribee Deanery: St Thomas's Werribee, St Stephen's Karen AAC, Sojourners AAC, Epiphany Hoppers Crossing, Hope & Resurrection Community Church MP, St Eanswythe's Altona/St Clement Laverton, St Mark's Spotswood, Holy Trinity Williamstown, South Sudanese Dinka, Williamstown MP, St Peter's Jieeng AAC, Christ Church Newport, Christ Church Melton, Caroline Springs, Holy Trinity Bacchus Marsh, Emmanuel Karen Lara MP, Holy Trinity Lara; Anglicare Victoria.

FOR OUR CATHEDRAL Our Director of Music, Canon Philip Nicholls; Leading Musician, Miss Emma Warburton; Cathedral Organists, Mr Siegfried Franke, Mrs Roslyn Carolane, Dr Mark Slavec; the Cathedral Choir; the St Paul's Cathedral Music Foundation.

FOR THOSE IN SICKNESS OR NEED Stephen Ames, Rowena Armstrong, Cynthia Balderstone, Chris Carolane, Cecilia Cheng, Margaret Davis, Ken and Robyn Disting, Cecilia Francis, David Forbes, Glen Gersch, Noelene Horton, Greg Hurworth, Gaye Loughrey, Ray McInnes, Esme Mitchell, Selina Ong, Susan Ross, Skipper family, Vinson family, Lesley and Ray Way and all those struggling with mental health challenges, addictions, loneliness, and despair that they would find hope, support, and the healing love of Christ.

FOR THOSE WHOSE YEAR'S MIND OCCURS THIS WEEK

27 Sep Lady Violet Brooks, (Philanthropist, congregation), 1988
Clifford Harris Nash (Priest, Canon) 1958
28 Noel Raymond Whale (Priest, 13th Precentor) 2023

- 30 Joy Napier (Congregation) 2009
 1 Oct David John Penman (Bishop, 10th Archbishop of Melbourne) 1989
 Kathleen Marjorie Hole (Congregation) 1986
 Gilbert Frederick Rusden (Congregation) 1990
 3 Mabel Tse (Congregation) 2025

NOTICES

Welcome to Visitors We welcome all visitors to the Cathedral for our worship services and a particular welcome if you are visiting Melbourne this weekend supporting one of the Grand Final teams.

We are delighted you have joined our service If you have any questions and would like to speak to a staff member, please phone the Cathedral office 9653 4333. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please fill out a Welcome Card available from the back of the Cathedral, so we can keep in touch with you.

Bible Studies This Sunday the 9.15am study group discussed the sermon on Ex 17.1-7 with the preacher Canon Peter MacPherson. At the 11.45am group John Morshead led a study on the parable of the Weeds from Matt 13. Both groups meet in the David Penman Room after morning tea. Visitors and newcomers are very welcome.

Baptism, Confirmation and Reception Preparation classes have begun at 11.45am in the Canon's Vestry and continue weekly until 15 November. The service of Baptism, Confirmation and Reception into the Anglican Church is planned for 4pm on Sunday 22 November. If you are interested in joining a class, please contact Canon Jane Window: jwindow@stpaulscathedral.org.au Mandarin speakers, please email Revd Simon Li sli@stpaulscathedral.org.au, and Farsi speakers, please email Revd Pedram Shirmast pshirmast@stpaulscathedral.org.au

Lunchtime Concert, Wednesday 30 September, 1pm: Brienne Gawler (Oboe) and Nathan Glenn (Piano) Oboist Brienne Gawler and pianist Nathan Glenn return to present another captivating program at St Paul's Cathedral, featuring works by Australian, American, French, and Russian composers. This program includes the evocative music of French oboe sonatas by Saint-Saëns and Poulenc, brand-new arrangements of excerpts from the iconic orchestral works *Scheherazade* and *The Nutcracker*, and the exciting world-premiere performance of *Once Upon A Dream* by Nathan Glenn!

Choir Holidays The Cathedral Choir is on holidays; there is no weekday Choral Evensong until 13 October.

Blessing of the Pets Service — Sunday 4 October, 6pm Bring your domestic animals to the Cathedral! At our 6pm Gather Eucharist on Sunday 4 October, we give thanks for God's good creation and for the animals who share our lives, praying God's blessing on them and on all who care for them. All creatures great and small are welcome—but please keep your animal on a lead or in a suitable carrier.

Walk About on Country, 23–24 November The Anglican Diocese of Bendigo invites you on a two-day Walk About on Country from Wangaratta to Barooga and Barmah. It includes cultural walks, tours and a light show, all designed to deepen understanding of Aboriginal culture, history and spirituality. It costs about \$500–\$600 per person, with meals and travel extra. Expressions of interest close Sunday 27 September. Contact the Rev'd Canon Shannon Smith at shannon.smith@bendigoanglican.org.au or on 0476 067 048.

OUR ADVOCACY FOR JUSTICE

First Nations Justice We want to see a more just settlement for all Indigenous People. Our Governing Body, the Cathedral Chapter, supports the path to reconciliation outlined in the Statement from the Heart through Voice, Treaty, Truth Telling and Makarrata (Justice). We provide resources so that we can educate ourselves and value respectful and informed debate on this important issue.

Refugee Justice We want to see a strong, supportive and diverse society. That's why we campaign for refugees and seek to build greater public awareness about asylum seekers. We provide free cultural and language classes, and work to be a safe place where migrants and refugees can make new friends and rebuild their lives.

Climate Justice We want to see greater and quicker action to mitigate the climate crisis we face. We're an inaugural member of Victoria's Climate Pledge, TAKE2, and work to reach net zero as soon as possible. That's why we use only energy from renewable sources and take continued action to reduce our waste and emissions.

Safe Kids and Families We strongly condemn any form of abuse - in church, at our workplace, or in the home - and are committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable people. Our staff and volunteers complete training and relevant checks. If you have any concerns about child safety, please ring 1800 135 246 (Kooyoora Professional Standards). If you face family violence and need help, please ring 1800 732 732 (1800 RESPECT) or 13 92 76 (13 YARN) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Crisis Support.

READ THE BIBLE WITH US

You may like to use these readings, which the Cathedral Clergy and staff use for daily prayer, as part of your personal devotions throughout the week.

Mon: Ps 71; Colossians 1.1-8

Tues: Ps 69.1-16; Colossians 1.9-20

Wed: Ps 72; Colossians 1.21-29

Thurs: Ps 74; Colossians 2.1-7

Fri: Ps 77; Colossians 2.8-15

Sat: Ps 78.16-38; Colossians 2.16-23

Next Sunday: Exodus 20.1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalm 19; Philippians 3; Matthew 21.33-46

THIS WEEK AT THE CATHEDRAL

Mon 28 September	12.15pm Holy Communion
Tues 29 September	12.15pm Holy Communion <i>St Michael and All Angels</i>
Wed 30 September	12.15pm Holy Communion <i>Saint Jerome</i> 1pm Lunchtime Concert: Brienne Gawler and Nathan Glenn
Thurs 1 October	12.15pm Holy Communion
Fri 2 October	12.15pm Holy Communion
Sat 3 October	12.15pm Holy Communion 1pm Farsi Fellowship کلیسای جامع پولس رسول ملبورن پذیرای فارسی زبانان عزیز می باشد و جلسات پرستشی به زبان فارسی، هر هفته شنبه ها ساعت ۱۲:۱۵ ظهر برگزار می شود.
Sun 4 October	8am Holy Communion (<i>Book of Common Prayer</i>) <i>Preacher: The Very Revd Dr Andreas Loewe, Dean of Melbourne</i> 10am Choral Eucharist <i>Preacher: The Very Revd Dr Andreas Loewe, Dean of Melbourne</i> 1pm Mandarin Service 圣保罗大座堂有一个中文群体在每个星期日下午一点正崇拜 <i>Preacher: The Revd Canon Robert Vun</i> 4pm Choral Evensong <i>Preacher: The Revd Leili Shirmast, Assistant Priest</i> 6pm Gather at St Paul's Sung Eucharist with Blessing of the Pets <i>Preacher: The Revd Leili Shirmast, Assistant Priest</i>

CATHEDRAL OPENING HOURS

Monday to Friday 10am-6pm, Saturday 10am-5pm, Sundays during Services

LIVESTREAMED SERVICES

Sunday 8am & 10am