



UNIVERSITY
CHURCH

THE FEAST OF ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST

Choral Eucharist
with University Sermon

Sunday 18 October 2026

10.30am

Please take this booklet away with you

Welcome to the University Church of St Mary the Virgin, Oxford. We are delighted that you have joined us today. This Order of Service will guide you through the Eucharist. Please join in singing the hymns, as well as in saying together the words printed in bold type. Invitations to sit, stand, or kneel are only suggestions; please worship in whatever posture is best for you. If you need holy communion in your seat, please inform a Steward. The service is live-streamed, and the central nave area may be visible on camera. To avoid appearing on camera, please sit in the Gallery.

The Revd Canon Dr William Lamb, is presiding and the Prof Peter Sarris, Senior Professor of Late Antique, Medieval and Byzantine Studies, Trinity College, Cambridge, is preaching the University Sermon.

The Mass Setting is *Short Communion Service in A and E* by T Tertius Noble (1867-1953) sung by the University Church Choir, under the direction of Robert Howarth. The Organist is James Brown.

CHILDREN AT ST MARY'S

We are delighted to have children worshipping with us and you are welcome to breastfeed and bottle-feed in church. A selection of toys and books are available in the Newman Room (behind the glass brick wall) next to the baby change. Saplings takes place on the first and third Sunday of the month in the Old Library during the first 45 minutes of the service for children aged 3-10 years old and their family.

UNIVERSITY SERMONS

The practice of delivering University Sermons in St Mary's dates back to the earliest days of the University. Each year people from many different traditions are invited by the Vice-Chancellor to deliver sermons 'before the University'. The University Procession includes the University Verger and Bedels, as well as the Proctors and the Vice-Chancellor (or their deputies). The University's motto from Psalm 27, *Dominus illuminatio mea* (The Lord is my light), captures something of its purpose: the illumination of the mind in the context of prayer. Today, these sermons provide an opportunity to hear thinkers from a range of disciplines and perspectives, drawing together the life of learning, spiritual discovery and the quest for truth.

INFORMATION ABOUT ST MARY'S

For over 1,000 years, this church has served the city of Oxford as a place of inspiration, worship, and Christian witness. The University of Oxford began within the precincts of this building. Today it is the home of a vibrant and diverse community, and offers a particular welcome to those who feel on the edges of faith or society. We hope that you will enjoy being here with us today and that we will see you again very soon.

If you are new and would like to receive our weekly e-newsletter about events and services at St Mary's, please email the Administrator: admin@universitychurch.ox.ac.uk. Lavatories, including accessible and baby-changing facilities, are situated at the West End of the Nave behind the glass brick screen. Entry is on the North Side.



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ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Antiphon III – ‘I am black and comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem’
- Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

*The congregation remain seated as the choir sing the vestry prayers, concluding:
‘This is none other than the House of God: This is the gate of Heaven’ (Genesis 28.17).*

THE GATHERING

INTROIT HYMN

Please stand



**Lord, you give the great commission:
“Heal the sick and preach the word.”
Lest the church neglect its mission,
and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity:
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.**

**Lord, you call us to your service:
“In my name, baptize and teach.”
That the world may trust your promise,
life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervour, draw us closer in community:
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.**

**Lord, you make the common holy:
“This my body, this my blood.”
Let us all, for earth’s true glory,
daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us share your children’s liberty:
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.**

**Lord, you show us love’s true measure:
“Father, what they do, forgive.”
Yet we hoard as private treasure
all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us to a just society:
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.**

**Lord, you bless with words assuring:
“I am with you to the end.”
Faith and hope and love restoring,
may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity:
With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.**

Words: Jeffery W. Rowthorn (b.1934) A&M 499
Tune: ABBOT’S LEIGH, Cyril Taylor (1907-1991) NEH 185

President In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All Amen.

President The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Words of welcome may be offered

**All 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.**

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

Deacon We run the race set before us,
surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.
Therefore let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which clings
so closely, bringing them to Jesus in penitence and faith.

Please sit or kneel

**All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant
that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

President Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Please stand

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Sung by the Choir

Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace,
good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee,
we worship Thee, we glorify Thee,
we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory:
O Lord God, heavenly King; God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father:
That takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away
the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord;
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art the most high in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

THE COLLECT

President Let us pray

Silence is kept

President Almighty God,
you called Luke the physician, whose praise is in the gospel,
to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:
by the grace of the Spirit
and through the wholesome medicine of the gospel,
give your Church the same love and power to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

Please sit

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING

2 Timothy 4.5-17

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy.

As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully. As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will

give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

Do your best to come to me soon, for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry. I have sent Tychicus to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will pay him back for his deeds. You also must beware of him, for he strongly opposed our message. At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

Reader For the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GRADUAL HYMN



**Saint Luke, belov'd physician, with honour now recall,
who served his Master's mission, who ministered to Paul;
whose skill to distant ages bequeathed a gift unpriced,
a gospel in whose pages we see the face of Christ.**

**He tells for us the stories of Jesus here on earth,
the unsung pains and glories that marked the Church's birth;
the Spirit's power in preaching, the contrite sinner freed,
the grace and mercy reaching our deepest human need.**

**For all who work our healing we lift our hearts in prayer,
the love of God revealing in science, skill and care:
his gifts be still imparted to those who make us whole,
like Luke the tender-hearted, physician of the soul.**

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)
Tune: AURELIA, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876) NEH 167

Please turn to face the Gospel

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Deacon Alleluia, alleluia.

I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last.

All Alleluia.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 10.1-9

Deacon Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you."

Deacon This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

UNIVERSITY SERMON

Prof Peter Sarris

Please sit

THE NICENE CREED

Please stand

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance
with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped
and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.**

Please sit or kneel

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

President Encouraged by our fellowship with all the saints,
let us make our prayers to the Father
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

All Lord, in your mercy. Lord, hear us.
Hear our prayer. *or* **Lord, graciously hear us.**

All Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

THE PEACE

Please stand

President We are fellow-citizens with the saints
and of the household of God,
through Christ our Lord, who came and preached peace
to those who were far off and those who were near.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All **and also with you.**

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace by saying 'Peace be with you!'

OFFERTORY HYMN

*During the hymn the altar is prepared and a cash collection is taken towards
the work of the church. To donate electronically, please see page 15.*



**By all thy saints still striving,
For all thy saints at rest,
To thee O blessed Jesus,
All praises be addressed.
Thou, Lord didst win the battle
That they might conquerors be;
Their crowns of living glory
Are lit with rays from thee.**

**Apostles, prophets, martyrs,
and all the sacred throng
Who wear the spotless raiment,
Who raise the ceaseless song.
For these, passed on before us,
Saviour we thee adore,
And walking in their footsteps,
Would serve the more and more.**

**For Luke, belov'd physician
All praise: whose Gospel shows
The healer of the nations,
the one who shares our woes.
Your wine and oil, O Saviour,
Upon our spirits pour,
And with true balm of Gilead
Anoint us evermore.**

**As grain and grape united,
Upon the altar shown,
Draw saints on earth all closer
To Saints around Thy throne.
We lift our hearts in worship,
And with one voice we cry,
'O holy, holy, holy,
Almighty God on high'.**

**Then praise we God the Father,
And praise we God the Son,
And God the Holy Spirit,
Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
And honour, power, and glory
Ascribe to God alone.**

Words: Mariarch Hymns 2025 v.1,2,4. Adapt. Verse 19 by J.D Goodwin (b.1944), v.25 anon
Tune: ST THEODULPH, M. Teschner, c.1613, adpt J. S. Bach (1685-1750) NEH 509

Please remain standing

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

President Father, accept all we bring before you this day.
Guide us with your love and feed us at your table
as you nourish the faith of the Church
by the preaching of your apostles.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

President The Lord be with you.

All and also with you.

President Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

President It is indeed right and good
that we should give you thanks, praise and glory,
almighty and everlasting God,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
For after his resurrection he sent out his apostles and evangelists
to preach the gospel to all nations
and lead us in the way of truth.
Himself the chief cornerstone,
he founded his Church upon the apostles
firmly to stand for ever as a sign of your holiness upon earth
and a living witness to all of the way that leads to heaven.
And so with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven
we lift our voices and join in their unending hymn of praise:

Sung by the Choir

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

President Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine may be to us
the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;
who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and
gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you
thanks; he gave it to them, saying:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Deacon Great is the mystery of faith.

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

President And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.
Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one
in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Luke,
and all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Please sit or kneel

THE LORD'S PRAYER

President Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The President breaks the consecrated bread, saying:

President We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All **Though we are many we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

GIVING OF COMMUNION

President God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

All **Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

AGNUS DEI

Sung by the Choir

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

All who seek to follow Christ are invited to receive Holy Communion. When directed by the stewards, please go forward. The priest will place the sacrament into your hands with the words 'the Body of Christ'. You should consume the Host immediately and then you will be offered the Chalice with the words 'the Blood of Christ'. To each you respond 'Amen'. Please do not intinct (dip) the Host in the Chalice. If you need to receive a gluten-free wafer (20 parts per million gluten), please tell the priest at the Nave Altar. To receive a prayer of blessing, please fold your arms across your chest.

ANTHEM

Peace be to this House – Thomas Howarth (b. 2011)

Peace be to this House from God
Peace be to this House from His Son, who is Our Peace
Peace be to this House from the Holy Spirit, the Comforter

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

President Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

**All 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 light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole
earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Please stand

POST-COMMUNION HYMN



**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, awake!
God's saving news to all the nations take:
proclaim Christ Jesus, Saviour, Lord, and King,
that all the world His worthy praise may sing.**

**Go forth and tell! God's love embraces all;
He will in grace respond to all who call:
how shall they call if they have never heard
the gracious invitation of His word?**

**Go forth and tell! the doors are open wide:
share God's good gifts — let no one be denied;
live out your life as Christ your Lord shall choose,
your ransomed powers for His sole glory use.**

**Go forth and tell! O Church of God, arise!
Go in the strength which Christ your Lord supplies;
go till all nations His great name adore
and serve Him, Lord and King for evermore.**

Words: James Edward Seddon (1915-1983) v.1,2,4,5 NEH634b
Tune: YANWORTH, John Barnard (b.1948) A&M 477

THE DISMISSAL

NOTICES

Please sit

THE BLESSING

Please stand

President God, who has prepared for you a city with eternal foundations,
bring you, with all the saints,
to the eternal and triumphant joy of that city;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

‘Ich danke dir, lieber Herr’
- Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

**Please join us for refreshments in
the De Brome Chapel after the service**

Announcements

SECOND COFFEE | Today | 12noon | Weston Library

A chance for students and young adults to meet each other, share perspectives & drink more coffee! After the 10.30am service we walk to the Weston Library Cafe.

POETRY GROUP | 21 Oct | 5.00pm | De Brome Chapel

Poetry Group is a forum for a diverse group of poets to read and write together in a relaxed, supportive and creative environment. Open to all.

‘FACING THE TRUTH’ SAFEGUARDING EVENT | 21 Oct | 6.00pm | Nave

Abuse and institutional failings have caused profound harm to survivors and damaged trust in the Church. This thought-provoking evening with The Revd Dr Beth Keith, Prof Helen King, Andrew Graystone, and the Oxford Survivor Group will consider how churches can face difficult truths, support survivors’ recovery, and begin the long process of rebuilding trust and integrity.

TALK: ‘O RADIANT DAWN’ | 22 Oct | 7.30pm | Old Library

Exploring the extraordinary texts and rituals of Advent, this talk by Dr Cosima Gillhammer, author of ‘Light on Darkness: The Untold Story of the Liturgy’, reveals a world of prophecy, longing, darkness, approaching light, and traces the influence of this liturgy through music, art, and literature, from William Byrd to J.R.R. Tolkien.

HALF TERM CRAFTS FOR FAMILIES | 28 Oct | 10.00am | Chancel

Join us 10:00-11:30 in the chancel for special half term crafts. Ideal for ages 3-10.

TALK: ‘GOD WITH US’ | 29 Oct | 7.30pm | Old Library

Christmas is so familiar that its richness and deeper meanings can easily become obscured. This talk by Dr Cosima Gillhammer focuses on the liturgy exploring how its texts and rituals illuminate the mystery of the Nativity and how this medieval liturgical tradition has shaped centuries of Western art, music, literature, & culture.

BIBLE STUDY | Tuesdays | 12.45pm | Old Library

This term the theme will be ‘Apocalypse: reading the book of Revelation’ as we explore this strange and visionary text together with sensitivity and imagination.

COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS | Wednesdays | 11.15am | De Brome Chapel

Join is for coffee, conversation and, of course, doughnuts! All are welcome.

THURSDAY LUNCHTIME RECITAL SERIES | Thursdays | 1.00pm | Nave

Enjoy a free recital every Thursday in church during the lunch hour, given by musicians from the Royal Academy of Music among other acclaimed artists.

CHARITABLE GIFTS AND DONATIONS



The University Church donates 10% of the cash and direct debits given by worshippers at this service to charity. If you are unable to make a cash donation, please consider using the contactless card machines by the door. Alternatively, you can donate online by using the QR code. Thank you for your generosity.

This Week

Sunday	8.30	Holy Eucharist	<i>Chancel</i>
	10.30	Choral Eucharist	<i>Nave</i>
	12.00	Second Coffee	<i>Weston Café</i>
	15.30	Choral Evensong	<i>Chancel</i>
Monday <i>Henry Martyn, 1812</i>	9.00	Morning Prayer	<i>Chancel</i>
	12.15	Eucharist	<i>Chancel</i>
Tuesday	9.00	Morning Prayer	<i>Chancel</i>
	12.15	Eucharist	<i>Chancel</i>
	12.45	Bible Study	<i>Old Library</i>
Wednesday	9.00	Morning Prayer	<i>Chancel</i>
	11.15	Coffee and Doughnuts	<i>De Brome</i>
	12.15	Eucharist	<i>Chancel</i>
	12.30	Chaplains' Welcome Lunch	<i>Old Library</i>
	18.00	Safeguarding Event	<i>Nave</i>
Thursday	9.00	Morning Prayer	<i>Chancel</i>
	12.15	Eucharist	<i>Chancel</i>
	13.00	Lunchtime Recital (Free)	<i>Nave</i>
Friday	9.00	Morning Prayer	<i>Chancel</i>
	12.15	Eucharist	<i>Chancel</i>
	17.00	Wedding Rehearsal	<i>Nave</i>
Saturday	12.00	Wedding	<i>Nave</i>

Next Sunday

Sunday 25 October Dedication Festival

8.30	Holy Eucharist <i>Preacher: The Revd Canon Dr Alvyn Pettersen</i>	<i>Chancel</i>
10.30	Choral Eucharist <i>Preacher: The Revd Richard Jenkins</i>	<i>Nave</i>
12.15	Holy Baptism	<i>Chancel</i>
15.30	Choral Evensong	<i>Chancel</i>

UNIVERSITY
CHURCH

High Street
Oxford OX1 4BJ
01865 279110

admin@universitychurch.ox.ac.uk
www.universitychurch.ox.ac.uk