BATHURST DIOCESE

Sharing Jesus for Life

SYNOD 2026

Closing service of

Praise, Prayer and Proclamation

including

The laying up of Pastoral Staff

by

The Rt Rev'd Mark Calder

Bishop of Bathurst

19 September 2026, 1.30pm

All Saints Cathedral, Bathurst

Please stand as the procession begins.

Our service will be introduced by the Dean, the Very Rev'd James Hodson and then led by the Diocesan Archdeacon, the Venerable Andrew Thornhill.

A word of welcome is followed by a moment of quiet.

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

Jesus Shall Reign Truro

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till sun shall rise and set no more

Blessings abound where'er He reigns
The pris'ner leaps to lose his chains
The weary find eternal rest
And all the sons of want are blessed

People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name

Let every creature rise and bring
Blessing and honour to our King
Angels descend with songs again
And earth repeat the loud amen!

Original Words by Isaac Watts (1719) | Original Music by John Hatton (1793) | New Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Ed Cash © 2017 Getty Music CCLI Licence # 92251

The Dean leads in praise and thanksgiving

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:1–2

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

Almighty God, we thank you that, being justified by faith, we have peace with you and stand in your grace.
May we boast in nothing other than the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Thank you that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us, and that your love has been poured into our hearts by your Holy Spirit.
May we never lose confidence in your love or the joy of our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Only A Holy God

Who else commands all the hosts of heaven
Who else could make every king bow down
Who else can whisper
and darkness trembles
Only a Holy God

What other beauty demands such praises
What other splendour outshines the sun
What other majesty rules with justice
Only a Holy God

Come and behold Him
The One and the Only
Cry out sing holy
Forever a Holy God
Come and worship the Holy God

What other glory consumes like fire
What other power can raise the dead
What other name remains undefeated
Only a Holy God

Who else could rescue me from my failing
Who else would offer His only Son
Who else invites me to call Him Father
Only a Holy God Only my Holy God

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The Archdeacon leads in praise

His mercy is more

What love could remember
no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing
He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea
without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

Praise the Lord His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
new every morn
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

What patience would wait
as we constantly roam
What Father so tender
is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest
the vilest the poor
Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What riches of kindness
He lavished on us
His blood was the payment
His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt
we could never afford
Our sins they are many His mercy is more.

Chorus x2

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Ministry of the Word - *The Archdeacon*

Faithful God, you caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Enable us to read, note, learn and inwardly digest them, so that encouraged and supported by your word, we may embrace and always hold fast the joyful hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

Please be seated

Philippians 2:1-11 – *Read by Susan Calder*

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, **2** then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. **3** Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, **4** not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7 rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Romans 15:1-7 – *Read by Jane Francis*

[1] We who are strong ought to bear with the
failings of the weak and not to please
ourselves. [2] Each of us should please our
neighbours for their good, to build them
up. [3] For even Christ did not please
himself but, as it is written: “The insults of
those who insult you have fallen on
me.” [4] For everything that was written in the
past was written to teach us, so that through
the endurance taught in the Scriptures and
the encouragement they provide we might
have hope.
[5] May the God who gives endurance and
encouragement give you the same attitude
of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus
had, [6] so that with one mind and one voice
you may glorify the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ.
[7] Accept one another, then, just as Christ
accepted you, in order to bring praise to
God.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Please stand

Statement of Faith

We believe in one God,
who made and loves all that is.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was born, lived, died and rose again,
and is coming to call all to account.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who calls, equips and sends out God’s
people,
and brings all things to their true end.

This is our faith, the faith of the Church:

We believe in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Please be seated

Sermon

One mind One voice

Bishop Mark Calder

Anthem - STOPFORD Do not be afraid

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by your name;
you are mine.
When you walk through the waters,
I'll be with you;
you will never sink beneath the waves.
When the fire is burning all around you,
you will never be consumed by the flames.
When the fear of loneliness is looming,
then remember I am at your side.
When you dwell in the exile of a stranger,
remember you are precious in my eyes.
You are mine, O my child,
I am your Father,
and I love you with a perfect love.

Confession of sin - *The Archdeacon*

Christ Jesus humbled himself
and became obedient to death, even death on a cross.

Let us confess that we have not always shared his mind, loved one another as we should, or been one in mind and voice.

Heavenly Father, you have united us to Christ and called us to live with one mind and one voice for your glory.
Yet we confess that we have often been proud rather than humble,
self-seeking rather than self-giving,
and quick to judge rather than ready to accept one another.
Forgive us for the sake of your Son,
who did not please himself but gave himself completely for us.
Through your Word and by your Holy Spirit,
give us the same attitude to one another Christ Jesus had,
that with one mind and one voice
we may glorify you;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear these words of assurance from Scripture:

Therefore, having been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. Romans 5:1

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus… **3** For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering.
Romans 8:1, 3

Please stand

Crusader's hymn

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God and man the Son,
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honour,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

All fairest beauty, heavenly and earthly,
Wondrously, Jesus, is found in Thee;
None can be nearer, fairer or dearer,
Than Thou, my Saviour, art to me.

Beautiful Saviour! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honour, praise, adoration,
Now and forever more be Thine.

Traditional German hymn (Anonymous)
English translation by Joseph A. Seiss (1873)
Traditional Silesian melody (*Crusader's Hymn*)
Public Domain.

Please be seated

Time of prayer

Prayers are led by Lisa Milton and Graham Leatherland

Response to the message

For the diocese facing a new chapter

For a new bishop

That across the diocese, we might continue the work of *Sharing Jesus for Life*

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Time of thanks

Brief remarks

Kath Thornhill *(thanking Susan and the Calder family)*

Archdeacon Tim St Quintin *(thanking Mark on behalf of the diocesan clergy)*

Ray Haigh *(thanking Mark on behalf of the diocesan laity)*

Response

Please stand

On that day

I believe in Christ, risen from the dead
He now reigns victorious,
His kingdom knows no end
Through His resurrection,
death has lost its hold
I know on that final day,
I'll rise as Jesus rose

On that day, we will see You
Shining brighter than the sun
On that day, we will know You
As we lift our voice as one
'Til that day, we will praise You
For Your never-ending grace
And we will keep on singing
on that glorious day

What a blessed hope,
though now tired and worn
We will spend eternity
around our Saviour's throne
Though we grieve our losses,
we grieve not in vain
For we know our crown of glory
waits beyond the grave

On that day, we will see You
Shining brighter than the sun
On that day, we will know You
As we lift our voice as one
'Til that day, we will praise You
For Your never-ending grace
And we will keep on singing
on that glorious day

Hallelujah, what a day it will be!
For at home with You, my joy is complete
As I run into Your arms open wide, I will see
My Father who is waiting for me
Hallelujah what a day it will be!
For at home with You, my joy is complete
As I run into Your arms open wide, I will see
My Father who is waiting for me
My Father who is waiting for me

On that day, we will see You
Shining brighter than the sun
On that day, we will know You
As we lift our voice as one
'Til that day, we will praise You
For Your never-ending grace
And we will keep on singing
on that glorious day

On that day, we will see You
Shining brighter than the sun
On that day, we will know You
As we lift our voice as one
'Til that day, we will praise You
For Your never-ending grace
And we will keep on singing
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Closing prayers – *Bishop Mark*

Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Praise and glory, wisdom and thanks, honour and power and strength, be to our God for ever and ever. Amen.

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; and may the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

Please be seated

During the singing of John Rutter's

The Lord Bless You and Keep You,

Bishop Mark lays up his pastoral staff

You are invited to join us
for refreshments in the hall.

The order of service is from
A Prayer Book for Australia.
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