

SUNDAY LAY LED LITURGY: OCT 4TH 2026



Welcome.

Themes for today's Liturgy:

The Gospel of Creation: God's First Sacred Book

Liturgy of the Word in Scripture: Are we good tenants?

Autumn Transition Meditation.

Hymn: Ag Críost an Síol (737)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1ST Reading : Isaiah 5: 1-7

Let me sing to my friend, the song of his love for his vineyard.

My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it.

In the middle he built a tower, he built a press there too.

He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,

I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done?

I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug, overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it.

Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed,

Integrity, but only a cry of distress.

Hymn: I am the Vine by John Michael Talbot

Refrain: I am the vine, you are the branches, live in me and you will never die. I am the vine, and my Father is the keeper, come to me, let the Spirit bring you life.

Like a tree planted by the living water, to stretch its roots into the living stream, you will show no distress in the heat of the drought, But still bear fruit and live. **Refrain.**

Come to me all you who are laden, my yoke is easy, my burden light. I will raise you up on the wings of an eagle, and to God's love will fly. **Refrain**

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:6-9

There is no need to worry: but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and the peace of God, which is much greater than we can understand will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

Alleluia, Alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, “ Listen to another parable: ‘ There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard: he fenced around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ He said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other’ This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.’ So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to these tenants? They answered, “ He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.” Jesus said to them, “ Have you never read the scriptures:” It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord’s doing and it is wonderful to see?” I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.”

Lectio

Creed: We are not alone, we live in God’s world.

We believe in God who has created and is creating.

Who has come in Jesus, to reconcile and make new.

Who works in us and in others by the Spirit. We trust in God.

We are called to be Church: to celebrate God’s presence,

To live with respect for all creation. To love and serve others.

In life, in death, in life beyond death God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

(Pause)

Intercessory Prayers

Our Father.

Sign of Peace.

A PRAYER FOR AUTUMN LEAVES.

God of the seasons, there is a time for everything, there is a time for dying and for rising. We need courage to enter into this transformational process.

God of autumns, the trees are saying goodbye to their green, letting go of what has been. We too have our moments of surrender, with their insecurity and risk. Help us to let go when we need to let go.

God of fallen leaves lying in coloured patterns on the ground, our lives have their own patterns. As we see the patterns of our own growth, may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives. We always need to recognize your power-filled presence. May we gain strength to do this.

God of geese going south for another season, your wisdom enables us to know what needs to be left behind and what needs to be carried into the future, We yearn for insight and vision.

God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us. For this we are grateful.

PAUSE

Notices

Final Blessing: Ever-loving God, Source of all life, we thank you for this time together. We ask your blessing on the week ahead. May we, in turn be a source of blessing to all living beings that we encounter. Amen

Hymn: Canticle of the Sun (693) Marty Haugen