



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OTTAWA

A diverse and vibrant parish that glorifies God and welcomes all people

WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST

July 21st, 2021

Noon

GATHERING

Opening Responses

Dear friends, we gather this day on the traditional territory of the Algonquin Nation.

May we always dwell on this land with respect and peace.

For the joy of human company, shared stories, friendly laughter and conversations that change us,

thanks be to God.

For a place that spans the ages and is home to all who gather,

thanks be to God.

For the wonder of life, and the decision of God to come among us,

thanks be to God.

Prayer

Gathering God, we give you thanks for the vision, adventure and passion that have brought us together in this place. Help us to be open today – grateful to meet Jesus in each other, happy to do a new thing, thankful for the space to be. Help us to be open to the possibilities it gives us for our life in community beyond this place. **Amen.**

PROCLAIMING

Reading

Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim; and Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, 'If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by

the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.'

Then Moses said to Aaron, 'Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, "Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining." 'And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, "At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning, you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, 'What is it?' For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, 'It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78:18-29

They tested God in their hearts,
demanding food for their craving.

They railed against God and said,
"Can God set a table in the wilderness?"

True, he struck the rock, the waters gushed out, and the gullies overflowed;
but is he able to give bread or to provide meat for his people?"

When the Lord heard this, he was full of wrath;
a fire was kindled against Jacob, and his anger mounted against Israel;

For they had no faith in God,
nor did they put their trust in his saving power.

So he commanded the clouds above
and opened the doors of heaven.

He rained down manna upon them to eat
and gave them grain from heaven.

So mortals ate the bread of angels;

he provided for them food enough.

He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens
and led out the south wind by his might.

He rained down flesh upon them like dust
and winged birds like the sand of the sea.

He let it fall in the midst of their camp
and round about their dwellings.

So they ate and were well filled,
for he gave them what they craved.

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!'

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Affirmation

We believe and trust in God

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, and who works in us and others by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect for creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and hope.

In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayers of Concern

Let us pray.

Maker and Lover of all, in the mystery of your kindness you have bound us to each other, and called us to serve the earth and its people.

So hear us, as in this cathedral we pray for Bishop Shane and for all our diocesan parishes, that they may ever be centres of faith, hospitality and imagination, modelling the future rather than lamenting the past.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Grateful for the life in our bodies, we pray for those whose lives are diminished by ill health, depression, grief or rejection, asking for the healing, the affirming, the listening which will encourage and restore them. And we give thanks for those who have we have loved and see no longer, especially the Reverend Michael Hicks and Archdeacon Ralph Smith.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Conscious of the peace of this place, we pray for those who have no peace because of war or the fear of war, or the threat of violence, or the grip of hunger, or the loss of hope. May the voice of the victims be heard and the work of peacemakers be blessed.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Surrounded by the rolling and tender beauty of the Ottawa Valley, we pray for the earth, especially where it is damaged by human carelessness and threatened by human greed; and ask that we may learn to care for your earth as you do.

God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We commit all our cares and concern to you, God, trusting in your compassionate love.

Amen.

Peace

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

CELEBRATING

Invitation

As we bring God these gifts, be sure that God welcomes all that we can offer, and lovingly invites each one of us to this celebration.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Maker.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, for you made us, and before us, you made the world we inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain, have their origin in you; all that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfilment.

And grateful as we are for the world we know and the universe beyond our knowing, we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus.

For his life which informs our living; for his compassion which changes our hearts; for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities; for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to life breathing forgiveness, we praise you and worship him.

Here too our gratitude rises for the promise of the Holy Spirit, who even yet, even now, confronts us with your claims and attracts us to your goodness.

Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And now, lest we believe that our praise alone fulfills your purpose, we fall silent and remember him who came because words weren't enough.

Setting our wisdom, our will, our words aside, emptying our hearts, and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn for the healing, the holding, the accepting, the forgiving which Christ alone can offer.

Silence.

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread; and when he had blessed it, he broke it and said, 'Take this and eat it. It is my body, given for you.'

Then later, during the meal, he took a cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he said, 'In this cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Take this, all of you, to remember me.'

He who was with God in the beginning, is with us in this bread. He of whom the prophets spoke, now speak to us in this cup.

Merciful God, send now, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle upon this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. And let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

With full hearts, we give you thanks and praise, now and for ever. **Amen.**

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; and 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.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread,

in which Christ comes to us with love from God.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Communion

For a blessing, cross your hands over your chest; for gluten-free, hold out one hand; for a regular wafer, hold out two hands. Keep your mask on, then move two metres to side of the celebrant to remove your mask and receive communion, before returning to your seat via the side aisle.

SENDING

Closing Prayer

In gratitude for this moment, this place, those around us, Christ among us,

we give ourselves to you, our God. Take us out to live as changed people because we have met the risen Christ and cannot be the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So may we live to your glory both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

Blessing

The blessing of God, sure, strong and kindly, be around you and within you, now and all the days and night of your journey home. **Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Following the service, you are welcome to remain in your pew and enjoy some quiet time in the sacred space. When ready to depart, please exit the church directly, as we are not permitted to gather and visit inside. Thank you!

Liturgy: *A Wee Worship Book – Fourth Incarnation* @1999 Wild Goose Resource Group; *Iona Abbey Worship Book* @2016 Wild Goose Publications (permission for use given by the Bishop of Ottawa, September 2020). Readings: *New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV)* Anglicized Edition @1989, 1995 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL DIRECTORY

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