



# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OTTAWA

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

## WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST

CLARE OF ASSISI

August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Noon

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### 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

*Song of Solomon 2:10-13*

A reading from the Song of Solomon.

My beloved speaks and says to me: 'Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtle-dove is heard in our land. The fig

tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 63:1-8**

O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you;  
**my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,  
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.**

Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,  
**that I might behold your power and your glory.**

For your loving-kindness is better than life itself;  
**my lips shall give you praise.**

So will I bless you as long as I live  
**and lift up my hands in your name.**

My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness,  
**and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,**

When I remember you upon my bed,  
**and meditate on you in the night watches.**

For you have been my helper,  
**and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.**

My soul clings to you;  
**your right hand holds me fast.**

### **Gospel**

*Luke 12:32-37*

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

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

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

'Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert

when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them.

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, may their souls rest in peace.

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. The common cup has been deemed safe, but if you are uncomfortable taking the cup, receiving in one kind is full communion. Intinction (dipping the wafer in the wine) is strictly prohibited. Please proceed to the clergy, remove your mask, receive communion, and replace your mask before returning to your seat.*

## 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.**

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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.

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## CLARE OF ASSISI

Today we honour the memory of Clare, a thirteenth-century abbess who spent all her life in the Italian town of Assisi. At the age of eighteen, a woman of beauty and wealth, she heard Francis of Assisi preach about the poverty of Christ. She was so deeply stirred that she renounced her former life, threw away all her brocades and silks, and put on the rough garment of a nun. Clare hoped to imitate Francis in a life of wandering, but neither Francis nor the authorities of the Church were ready to allow women such evangelical freedom. She eventually took over a small enclosure next to the church of San Damiano in Assisi and there gathered a community of women who wished to devote themselves to Christ-like poverty. Under Clare's direction they became "the Order of the Poor Ladies of San Damiano," and sought to live up to their name by refusing anything that would bind them to the economic order of thirteenth-century Italy, even when rich people tried to give them land or the proceeds of a business. They accepted only alms and small donations for immediate needs, just like the poorest people out in the world. They also did what they could to help beggars and poverty-

stricken families who came to the gate of their enclosure. Clare herself lived what she taught, claiming no privileges for herself as she devoted her days and nights to prayer and contemplation, to the spiritual needs of her sisters, and to the practical necessities of her fellow citizens. Despite increasing ill health, and though she never went outside her convent's walls in thirty years, she remained a source of strength for all sorts and conditions of people right up to her death on this date in the year 1253.

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## **CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL DIRECTORY**

*Anishinabe aking ate awaso kikinawadjichigan ~ A place of prayer on Algonquin territory  
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Cathedral of the Canadian Forces Anglican Military Ordinariate*

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