



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OTTAWA

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

WEDNESDAY EUCHARIST

August 25th, 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

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.

You remember our labour and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was towards you believers. As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his

children, urging and encouraging you and pleading that you should lead a life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."

The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses of the Negev.

Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Gospel

Matthew 23:27-32

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.

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which on the outside look beautiful, but inside they are full of the bones of the dead and of all kinds of filth. So you also on the outside look righteous to others, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and decorate the graves of the righteous, and you say, 'If we had lived in the days of our ancestors, we would not have taken part with them in shedding the blood of the prophets.' Thus you testify against yourselves that you are descendants of those who murdered the prophets. Fill up, then, the measure of your ancestors.

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.

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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