



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL OTTAWA

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

LAURENCE, DEACON AND MARTYR

August 10th, 2022

12.05 pm Iona (Creation) Eucharist

GATHERING

Opening Responses

Dear friends, we gather this day on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.

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

God above us – trees, birds and sunshine, stars and moonlight –

God above us.

God beneath us – earth, rocks and rivers, roots and caverns –

God beneath us.

God around us – seas, winds and cities, animals and people –

God around us.

God within us – hope, tears and laughter, love and wonder –

God within us.

God above us, God beneath us, God around us, God within us,

we celebrate that you made us, you love us, and you call us to work and rest with you.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you called your holy deacon Laurence to minister the riches of Christ, and for the sake of Christ's name gladly to pour forth his life. Grant to us who keep his feast such faithfulness in our service to one another and such joy in bearing witness to you, that the world may be stirred to open its heart and attend to your word of salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

PROCLAIMING

Reading

Colossians 1:24-29

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 69:31-36

This will please the Lord more than an offering of oxen,
more than bullocks with horns and hoofs.

The afflicted shall see and be glad;
you who seek God, your heart shall live.

For the Lord listens to the needy
and does not despise the prisoners.

Let the heavens and the earth praise the Lord,
the seas and all that moves in them;

for God will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah;
they shall live there and have it in possession.

The children of the servants of God will inherit it,
and those who love the name of the Lord will dwell therein.

Gospel

Mark 8:34-38

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for

the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God

who made the sea and the earth, the sun and the sky, who calls us to live responsibly.

We believe in Jesus Christ who became human, who healed the sick, who talked to children, who made friends with sinners. He burned brightly and offended many. His journey was one of life and death and resurrection. His light continues to shine in the darkness.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who inspired the scriptures, and whose breath we breathe.

We believe that God calls us to be a community, committed to one another, offering a welcome to everyone, old and young, rich and poor, strong and weak.

We believe that God calls us to be peacemakers, workers for justice, a light for our world. Amen.

Prayers

Let us pray.

Holy God, who, in Jesus, touched the earth, admiring its beauty and its people, we honor you for the gift of life and all the gifts that life brings us: food, shelter, company, the experiences that make us think, the people that bring out the best in us.

Hear our prayers for the places in this world where beauty has turned to ugliness, food has been replaced by famine, friendship has been forgotten and fear, hostility and hopelessness have the upper hand.

Silence.

God, in your mercy,

bring healing, bring peace.

Hear our prayers for people who cannot pray because of pain, loss or worry; and for those who will not love themselves and so cannot love their neighbour.

Silence.

God, in your mercy,

bring healing, bring peace.

Hear our prayers for ourselves – our private yearnings, our secret hopes, and any doubt, jealousy or anger to which we hold too tightly.

Silence.

God, in your mercy,
bring healing, bring peace.

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

Prayer over the Gifts

Gracious Lord, your blessed martyr Laurence cherished the riches of your Church in the lives of the poor and needy. Regard your own gifts in us, that we may be worthy to share in the one oblation by which your Son redeemed the world from its sorrow. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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 God thanks and praise.

Praise is yours, holy God, praise beyond all telling. All that we are, all that we have, all that we know, and all that is yet to be, comes from your care.

Water and wisdom, light and longing, the stones in the earth and the hope in our hearts are grounded in your graciousness.

The life of the world and all its people, nature and human skill celebrate you as first mover and final destiny.

Therefore, to the unending song of earth, sea and sky, we join our praise. To the anthems of the company of heaven, the angels and archangels, the saints of every age, we join our praise. And as one with your people on earth, north and south, east and west, we join our praise, singing the song of your eternal greatness:

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.

This sacrament we celebrate began on the night of Jesus' arrest, when he and his disciples gathered round a table. During their meal, Jesus took bread, and when he had blessed it, he broke it and said, 'This is my body. It is given for you. Do this to remember me.'

Later, he took a cup of wine, and when he had blessed it, he said, 'This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink it, all of you, to remember me. I shall not share this with you again until I do so in God's coming kingdom.'

As Jesus did, so we do. We break this bread; we share this wine; we believe that he who lived, died and rose again for us will meet us here.

So send now your Spirit among us, and upon this bread and wine, that we may taste and see your goodness, be embraced by your love, and be engaged in your service. With all your creation, 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

Take this bread; share this wine.

In these, Christ comes to us with love from God.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Communion

To receive a blessing, cross your hands over your chest; for a gluten-free wafer, hold out one hand; for a regular wafer, hold out two hands. Please note that intinction (dipping the wafer in the wine) is prohibited.

SENDING

Prayer after Communion

Kindle in your Church, O God, the Spirit whom blessed Laurence served, that we may love what he loved and hasten to follow the example of his faithful daring; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Brother Jesus, we have been guests at your table; come with us wherever we go and be present in all we share.

Summon out in us, whom you have fed, generosity of spirit to ensure that all the hungry are nourished and earth's barren places are fertile with food, faith, hope and love. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

May God the Creator who made heaven and earth, bless you with creativity and wonder. May Jesus who walked through fields and cities, bless you with kind hands and listening ears. May the Holy Spirit who is around and within you, bless you with the courage to be caring and just. And may the strong love of the Trinity bless you today and all your days. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Liturgy: *Iona Abbey Worship Book* @2016 Wild Goose Publications (permission for use given by the Bishop of Ottawa, September 2020). Psalm: *The Psalter of The Book of Alternative Services Emended for Contemporary Liturgical Use* @2016. 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.

LAURENCE, DEACON AND MARTYR

Today we honour Laurence, a deacon of the Roman church who was martyred in the middle of the third century. As a deacon, he assisted the bishop at the eucharist by reading the gospel and administering the cup. Laurence also had charge over the wealth of his church, to see that it was used for the relief of the poor and the needy. On August 6th in the year 258, during renewed persecution of the Church, he was arrested with his bishop and several other deacons. Later that same day, all of them were beheaded, except Laurence. The pagan magistrate knew that Laurence kept his church's money and ordered him to hand it over. The deacon asked for three days' grace, and on August 10th he came to the magistrate and led him out into the courtyard. The yard was filled with beggars, widows, lepers, cripples and the mentally ill. "Here," Laurence said, "this is the Church's wealth!" Enraged by such daring, the magistrate had him executed at once. Early in the fifth century, Augustine of Hippo summarized the meaning of his example in this way: "Laurence ministered the blood of Christ to the faithful, and for the sake of Christ's name he poured out his own."

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL DIRECTORY

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