TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SUNDAY, AUGUST 31ST, 2025

Take my yoke upon you, and larn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Matthew 11:29

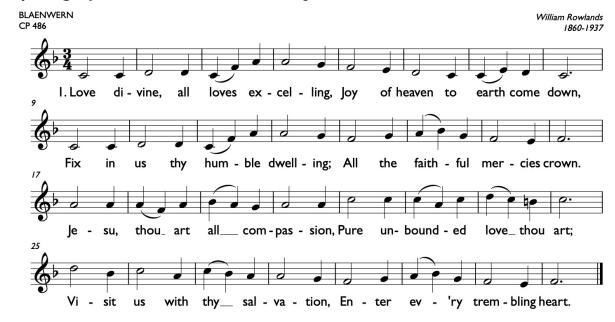




SUNG EUCHARIST (Book of Alternative Services)

Please stand when clergy enter.

Opening Hymn Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



- Come, Almighty deliver; let us all thy grace receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
- 3 Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee, changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Presider The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the

Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People And also with you.

2.

Presider In this time and place, we gather on the ancestral beaver hunting grounds of the Algonquin, Haudenosaunee and Attawandaran peoples; the traditional lands of the Anishnaabe Peoples, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, and the Lenni-Lanape Peoples; and the current communities of the Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, Oneida Nation of the Thames, and Munsee-Delaware Nation.

People From many places and peoples we come to this time of prayer.

Presider We uphold our common stewardship of creation and our common birthplace of

God's earth.

People We respect our place on this land and move forward in love and peace.

Presider Almighty God,

People to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets

are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify

your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Act of Praise

I Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise; Of Heav'nly joy and earthly peace we sing. We worship You, to You our hearts we raise, Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,
 Re-ceive our prayer, grant us your peace within.

Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord, At God's right hand in majesty most high: Who with the Spirit worshiped and adored, With all the heav'nly host we glorify.

The Collect of the Day

Presider Let us pray. (silence)

Author and Giver of all good things, graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Reader: Allan Nagata

People Amen.

"Children's Corner" - Children are welcome to join Heather in the Assembly Room.

Congregation be seated for the Proclamation of the Word.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

(Silence is observed between the readings and the homily for reflection.)

A Reading from the Book of Jeremiah:

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit. Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water. (Jeremiah 2:4-13)

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 81:1, 10-16



A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews:

Reader: Brody Weekes

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16)

Reader The word of the Lord. People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn



Holy Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14

Reader The Lord be with you. People And also with you.

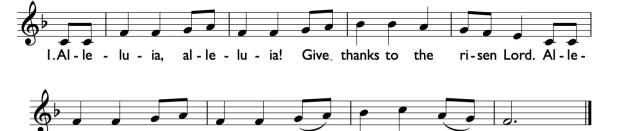
Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

People Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



Give thanks to

Homily The Venerable Sam Thomas

Please be seated

name.

The Nicene Creed Please stand

Presider Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Led by Hazil Malone

Leader Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near. I invite you to take a comfortable posture: standing or sitting for the Prayers of the People.

(A brief silence.)

For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God.

People Your mercy is great.

Leader For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labour in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God.

People Your mercy is great.

Leader For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, and nations, we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labour Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labour often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God.

People Your mercy is great.

Leader For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence especially Ann & Ellis, Marg, George, Trudy, Sharon, Carol, Harvey & Family, Leigh, Sue, Roland, Patricia, Kevin. Hear us, O God.

People Your mercy is great.

Leader For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us. Hear us, O God.

People Your mercy is great.

Leader For all the saints who from their labours rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us O Lord.

People Your mercy is great.

Leader Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Presider Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Presider Most merciful God,

All we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Presider Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

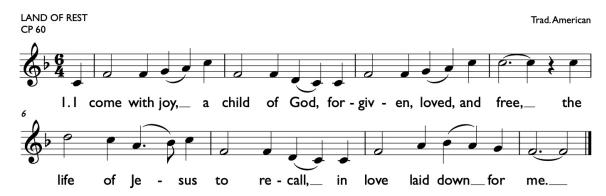
People Amen.

The Peace Please stand

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory Hymn I Come With Joy



(continued)

- 2 I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ's communion bread.
- The spirit of the risen Christ, unseen but ever near, is in such friendship better known, alive among us here.
- As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.

 The love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends.
- Together met, together bound, by all that God has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider Merciful God, receive all we offer you this day. Give us grace to love one another that your love may be made perfect in us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider May God be with you.
People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them up.

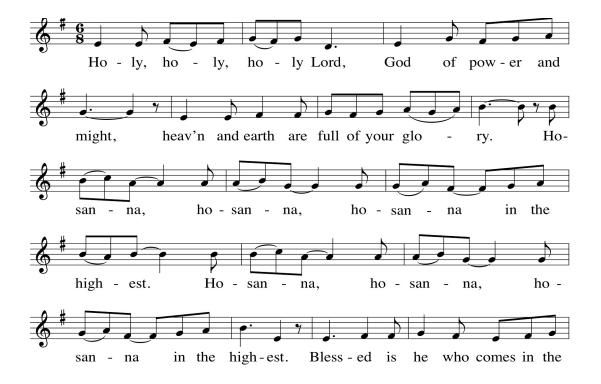
Presider Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

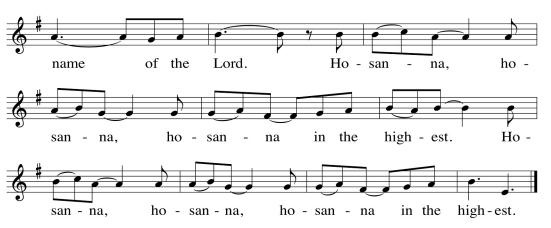
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider It is right in all times and in all places to thank and praise you Creator of all. We praise you here where the Thames River blends and flows, where city and farm, wilderness and industry are side by side. We praise you at a time when the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of cedars and listened to ravens.

Together with archangels and ancestors, eagle and bear, salmon and sheep, pine and trillium, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honour song of Your praise:





Music: Mass of the Angels and Saints, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc.

Presider We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of farmers and seeds, labour and wages, yeast and bread.

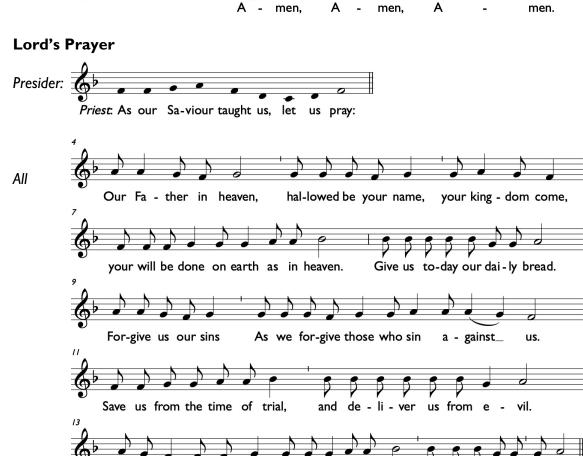
On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me.

Again after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me.

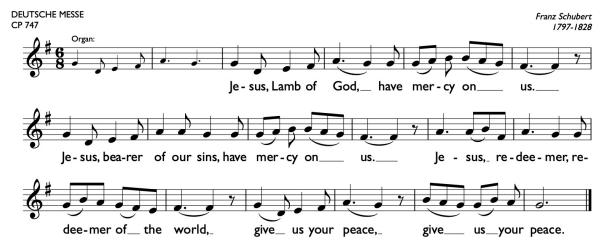
Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup. Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community.

Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation. Bring us with all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come. All honour and glory are yours, Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever.





Agnus Dei from the Deutsche Messe



The Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

All Thanks be to God.

Gluten-free communion wafers are available. Please indicate your wish to the administrant at Communion.

Communion Anthem Vergnügte Ruh (Contented Rest)

Ist Movement from Cantata BWV 170: Vergnügte Ruh, beliebte Seelenlust (Delightful rest, beloved pleasure of the soul)

German text

Vergnügte Ruh, beliebte Seelenlust!
Dich kann man nicht bei Höllensünden,
Wohl aber Himmelseintracht finden;
Du stärkst allein die schwache Brust,
Vergnügte Ruh, beliebte Seelenlust!
Drum sollen lauter Tugendgaben
In meinem Herzen Wohnung haben.

English translation

Contented rest, beloved delight of the soul,
One can find you not in hell's sins
But rather in heaven's concord;
You alone strengthen the weak breast:
Contented rest, beloved delight of the soul.
And so nothing but virtue's gifts shall

Have a home in my heart.

Prayer after Communion (silence is kept)

Please stand

For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are yours, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May your holy food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Doxology

Presider Glory to God,

All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask

or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the

Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Closing Announcements and Blessing

Post Communion Hymn There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



(continued)

- 2 For the love of God is broader
 Than the measure of our minds;
 And the heart of the Eternal
 Is most wonderfully kind.
 But we make God's love too narrow
 By false limits of our own;
 And we magnify God's strictness
 With a zeal God will not own.
- There is plentiful redemption
 In the blood that has been shed;
 There is joy for all the members
 In the sorrows of the Head.
 There is grace enough for thousands
 Of new worlds as great as this;
 There is room for fresh creations
 In that upper home of bliss.
- 4 If our love were but more simple, We should take God at God's word; And our lives would be all gladness In the joy of Christ, our Lord.

Dismissal

The Deacon dismisses the congregation in these or similar words:

Deacon Go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Prelude and Fugue in C Major BWV 545

J. S. Bach

Notes for the Postlude:

Bach wrote his famous 48 Preludes and Fugues for keyboard in his famous 'Well Tempered Clavier' books. We heard a number of these at the start of the year when worshiping in the Cronyn Hall.

Bach also wrote a number of Preludes and Fugues for organ. Many were written to demonstrate the full power and range of an organ. The Preludes were often improvisational and meant to showcase the player's virtuosity and the organ's various sounds, while the Fugues were intellectual masterpieces designed to show the instrument's ability to handle complex, interwoven musical lines.

The C Major Prelude and Fugue begins with descending flourishes in the pedal part, descending to the lowest note on the organ: this across held chords of the right hand, a textural inversion of what we would expect in a prelude.

The fugue uses a very simple rising 4 notes to start the subject, giving way to a faster rhythm which helps drive the rest of the fugue. This is a very joyous piece, but all the more impressive when we consider Bach would likely have improvised a fugue like this before writing it down.

Coffee Hour After the service please join us for coffee and cold drinks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Know Your Cathedral Tours

Sunday Tour

Please join Carol, today's host, at the bottom of the chancel steps at 11:30 a.m. featuring St. Aidan's Chapel.

Diocese of Huron Chain of Prayer – Today we pray for the Parishes of Trinity Church, Wiarton; Church of St. Edmund, Tobermory, St. Andrew's Memorial, Howdenvale; and St. Margaret's Chapel, Cape Chin.

Mid-Week Holy Eucharist will resume on Wednesday, September 3 at noon and the bible study, eucharist and soup will begin on September 10th.

Memorial Flowers – This is a wonderful way to beautify our Church, while remembering our loved ones. There are available Sundays for all Altars, especially during the summer months. For more information please contact Carrie Fieldhouse at 519-434-3225, ext. 201 st.pauls@stpaulscathedral.on.ca.

New to the Cathedral? Please fill out a welcome card, available at the Dreams & Visions display.



Once again, we have been selected to host Doors Open which will be held on September 20th and 21st, 2025. This year's theme is **Sights, Sounds, & Stories that Make Our City**. Heritage buildings are encouraged to show how their spaces have been repurposed. We will be open from 10am to 2pm on Saturday and 11:30am to 4pm on Sunday. If you would like to participate in some way, please contact Deacon Pat Henderson who is looking for volunteers. Thank you.

Ever wondered what makes the organ the "King of Instruments?"

During Doors Open, September 21 & 22 @ Ipm, join Director of Music, Laurence Williams, for an interactive journey behind the scenes of our magnificent organ. This isn't just a concert-it's a chance to demystify the organ and learn about its hidden powers.

- Discover the secrets of the pipes and stops.
- Find out why an organist needs multiple keyboards, pedals and special shoes from a ballet shop.
- Experience the incredible range of sounds, from a whisper to a roar.

All of this will be woven into a performance of some of the most beautiful and exciting organ music ever written. It's a fun and fascinating event for all ages - lasting just under an hour.

Presenting the Tuesday Concert Series at St. Paul's.

We are delighted to announce the return of our popular concert series, now on **Tuesdays** at 12:15 PM. (Moved back from Thursday by popular demand).

This season begins on October 7th with an extraordinary performance by Michael Bloss, one of Canada's finest organists. Ahead of his upcoming recording, Mr. Bloss will perform the stirring, romantic music of French composer César Franck.

This series offers a weekly dose of musical inspiration, featuring a diverse lineup of organists, instrumentalists, and vocalists. The series concludes on **November 25**th.

As a gesture of our gratitude for your support, a complimentary lunch will be provided. Feel free to enjoy your meal with us or take it with you.

Experience the majesty of live music and enjoy a free lunch every Tuesday!

Today's Liturgical Leaders

Presider and Preacher – The Venerable Sam Thomas

Gospeller – The Reverend Pat Henderson

Organist & Director of Music – Laurence Williams

Associate Organist – Olakunle Aoko

Servers - Stephanie Allen, Victor Onebunne

Lay Administrants – Bette Ferguson, Gord Rolleston

Greeters - Lois Gosney, Marsha Lemon

Live Stream – Jade Vajna

Bell Ringer – **Jean Willadsen**

Welcome Ministers - Doreen Hodgkinson, Doreen Kyomugisha

Children's Ministry – **Heather Clark**

Warden – Jim Ferguson

The Right Reverend Todd Townshend

Bishop of Huron

The Very Reverend Dr. Kevin George

Dean of Huron & Rector of St. Paul's Cathedral

The Venerable Sam Thomas

Senior Associate Priest/Director of Pastoral Care

The Reverend Dr. Dawn Davis

Director of Faith Formation

The Reverend Pat Henderson

Deacon

The Reverend Canon Marian Haggerty

Honorary Assistant Emeritus

The Most Reverend Linda Nicholls

Honorary Assistant

The Reverend Dr. Joshua Samuel

Resident Theologian

Laurence Williams

Organist & Director of Music

Gord Rolleston

Church Warden

Jim Ferguson

Church Warden

Doreen Kyomugisha

Deputy Church Warden

Heather Clark

Children's Ministry

Carrie Fieldhouse

Parish Coordinator



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This event, and membership in the new choir, are completely free.

- Who: Children aged 6-13, led by Music Director and Educator, Laurence Williams
- What: A unique and fun afternoon of singing, learning and listening in the beautifully refurbished nave of St. Paul's Cathedral.
- When: Sunday, September 7th 2025, 2pm 5pm
- Where: St. Paul's Cathedral, 472 Richmond St. London, ON

No experience or religious background is necessary—just a love to try singing!

For more information, see our website at

https://www.stpaulscathedral.on.ca/collections/music.

To sign up, scan the QR code



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