

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH
Diocese of Ottawa



HOLY CROSS DAY
September 14, 2025, at 10:15 a.m.

You are welcome to participate in smudging as you enter the church to worship. Smudging is a sign of purification and peace offered to anyone who would like to participate. When the weather is too difficult to offer smudging outdoors and at any time that you are in the church building, liquid smudge is now offered (the medicines are steeped in distilled water and sprayed as a mist). Dry smudge is always available with the sacred medicines – tobacco, sage, sweetgrass, and cedar – as you enter the church. Rub the medicines in your hands and place them in the shell bowl; after use these will be respectfully burned. St John's is grateful to Indigenous members of our community for offering smudging.

PRELUDE Prière du Christ montant vers son Père - Oliver Messiaen

"Père, j'ai manifesté ton nom aux hommes... Voila que je ne suis plus dans le monde; mais eux sont dans le monde, et moi je vais à toi."

"Father, I have made your name known... Now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you."

HYMN 300 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation [Westminster Abbey]

WELCOME

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

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

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

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Silence is kept.

Almighty God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world to himself, may we who rejoice in the mystery of our redemption, have grace to take up our cross and follow him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

Numbers 21:4B-9

The people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses,

"Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food."

Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us."

So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Mais le peuple perdit courage en chemin. Le peuple se mit à critiquer Dieu et Moïse:

« Pourquoi nous avez-vous fait monter d’Egypte? Pour que nous mourions dans le désert! Car il n’y a ici ni pain ni eau et nous sommes dégoûtés de ce pain de misère! »

Alors le SEIGNEUR envoya contre le peuple des serpents brûlants qui le mordirent, et il mourut un grand nombre de gens en Israël. Le peuple vint trouver Moïse en disant: « Nous avons péché en critiquant le SEIGNEUR et en te critiquant; intercède auprès du SEIGNEUR pour qu’il éloigne de nous les serpents! »

Moïse intercéda pour le peuple, et le SEIGNEUR lui dit: « Fais faire un serpent brûlant et fixe-le à une hampe: quiconque aura été mordu et le regardera aura la vie sauve. » Moïse fit un serpent d’airain et le fixa à une hampe et lorsqu’un serpent mordait un homme, celui-ci regardait le serpent d’airain et il avait la vie sauve.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98:1-5



The Lord has made known his vic - to - ry.

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvellous things.
With his right hand and his holy arm
has he won for himself the victory.

The Lord has made known his victory;
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel,
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord,
all you lands;
lift up your voice,
rejoice, and sing.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN 619

Fairest Lord Jesus [Crusaders' Hymn]

THE GOSPEL

John 3:13-17

May God be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, "No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For there is only one who has gone up and come down from the world above—the True Human Being. "Do you not remember when Drawn from the Water (Moses) lifted up a pole with a snake on it in the desert wilderness? This is what will happen to the True Human Being, so people will put their trust in him and have the life of the world to come that never fades away, full of beauty and harmony."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

"The Great Spirit loves all creation so deeply that he gave his Son—the only Son who represents him fully. All who trust in him and his way will not come to a bad end but will share in the life of the world to come that never fades away, filled with beauty and harmony. Creator did not send his Son to condemn this world he created but to bring all creation back into harmony and balance.

Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

ANTHEM

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross - Larry Shackley

THE APOSTLES CREED

Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord, make us whole: peace to all people,



hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Most merciful God,
**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.**

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. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN 628 O Love How Deep, How Broad...[Puer Nobis Nascitur]

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Merciful God, through the death of your beloved Son you transformed an instrument of shame into a sign of hope and glory. Receive all we offer you this day, and renew in us the mystery of his love; through the same Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

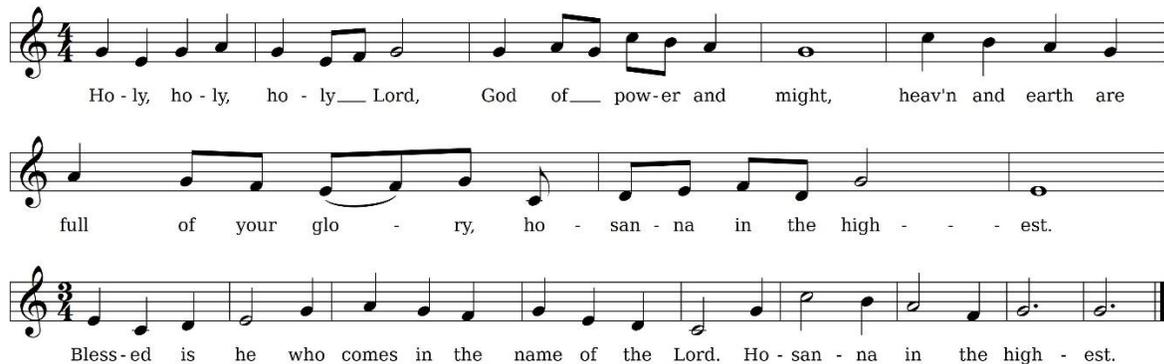
We lift our hearts to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Redeemer. He is your living Word, through whom you have created all things. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh of the Virgin Mary and shared our human nature. He lived and died as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will he stretched out his hands in suffering, to bring release to those who place their hope in you; and so he won for you a holy people. He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows, and to give up his life on the cross, that he might shatter the chains of evil and death, and banish the darkness of sin and despair. By his resurrection he brings us into the light of your presence. Now with all creation we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav'n and earth are
full of your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you."

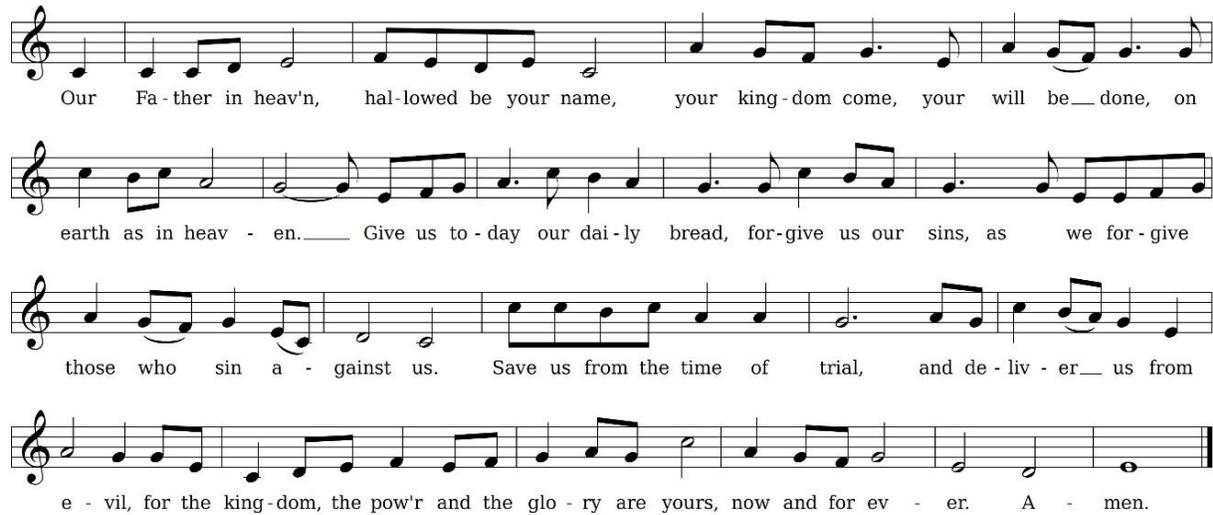
In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me." Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the Holy Church, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:



Our Fa-ther in heav'n, hal-owed be your name, your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread, for-give us our sins, as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial, and de - liv - er us from e - vil, for the king-dom, the pow'r and the glo - ry are yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

God So Loved the World - Bob Chilcott

Please request a gluten-free wafer if required or a blessing if desired.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty God, we give thanks that you have made us partakers of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who took our nature upon him and suffered death upon the cross for our redemption; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & BLESSINGS

DOXOLOGY

Glory to God, **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.**

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN 379

Rejoice, the Lord is King [Darwall]

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Chorale Postlude on "Darwall's 148th" - Donald Hunt

HOSPITALITY

Everyone is invited to stay following the service for refreshments served in the nave.

WORSHIP ROSTER

PREACHER	The Reverend Canon Gary van der Meer
PRESIDER	The Reverend Christina Guest
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Nicolas Busch
SUNDAY HOST	Jeff Biggs
GOSPELLER	Megan Portt
CRUCIFER	Wendy McCutcheon
SERVER	Nkundwe Mwangomba and Maxine Payne
READERS	Mary Frances Bell and Michelle Smulders
CANTOR	Carolyn Streich
INTERCESSOR	Erin Biggs
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Wendy McCutcheon and Marilyn Box
SIDEPERSON	Bea Robertson and Jill Moll
TOWER BELL	Bea Robertson
ALTAR GUILD	Jill Courtemanche and Vicki Milnes
SMUDGING	Kimberly Johnson
HOSPITALITY	Jeff Biggs
AUDIO TECH	Peggy Lister
LOCK UP DUTY	Peggy Lister

WORSHIP SOURCES. Liturgy: *The Book of Alternative Services* c 1985 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada, used with permission. Readings: *New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV) Anglicized Edition* c1989, 1995. Psalm Music: ©2001 Gordon Johnston.; La Traduction oecuménique de la Bible (TOB), à notes essentielles: (French Edition) (pp. 4526-4527). Wildman, Terry M.. First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament (p. 169).

HEARING ENHANCEMENT: St John's now supports hearing devices. Download AudioFetch app. On your device, go to *Settings*, select *Privacy and Security*, select *Location Services* and select *AudioFetch*. Then select *Allow Location Services* and finally select "While Using the App." Turn on wifi and select Audio Fetch Express. Connect your device to your hearing aids. Start the AudioFetch App. You may have to try twice the first time you use it. Set desired volume.

