



Christ Church
Cathedral
Ottawa

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday | November 30th | 2025

10.30 am | Choral Eucharist | BAS

Communion Service in C | Christopher Robinson

The flowers are given to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for the lives of Valerie Chaplin and John Nelson

Welcome

Children are welcome to fully participate in the service
and activity sheets are available at the entrance to the Cathedral.
Sidespeople can provide headsets for those who need hearing assistance.
Please turn off or set mobile devices to silent mode.

*Our diocese was founded on the homeland of the Anishinaabe Algonquins.
May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.*

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude | *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* | Dieterich Buxtehude

Announcements

Hymn 599 | *Awake! Awake! Fling off the night*

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, so that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading | *Isaiah 2:1-5*

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords

into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm | 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself. To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord. For there are the thrones of judgement, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers. For my kindred and companions' sake, I pray for your prosperity. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good."

Second Reading | Romans 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual | Zion hears the watchmen's voices | J.S. Bach

Zion hears the watchmen's voices With gladness all her heart rejoices, She eager wakes to greet the day. See, her Lord from heaven descending With grace and truth and power unending, Her day-star dawns, with brightest ray. O come, thou blessed one, Lord Jesu, God's own Son, Hosanna! We follow there Thy feast to share, And taste the joys beyond compare.

Holy Gospel | *Matthew 24:36-44*

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.

But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Hymn 476 | *God, you have caused to be written*

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.

Prayers

Let us pray.

God of life and hope, in our weariness you are strength; in our shadows you are dawn. In this season of watching and waiting, help us pray with our hearts and our lives. Into each concern we hold before you, come with your steadfast love.

Emmanuel, God with us,
hear our prayer.

We thank you for moments of joy, for love shared, for friendships and family, and for every glimpse of your presence. Keep us awake to seeing Christ in one another.

Emmanuel, God with us,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the churches of the Anglican Communion and the Anglican Church of Canada; for Shane our Primate and Anne our Metropolitan. Bless all discerning a call to let their name stand for election in our diocese, the members of Synod, and our Diocesan Administrator, Bishop Michael Bird. Renew your Church with hope.

Emmanuel, God with us,
hear our prayer.

We pray for our country and all nations, especially where justice is fragile and peace is threatened. Guide leaders in wisdom, mercy, and courage.

Emmanuel, God with us,
hear our prayer.

We remember places of conflict—especially Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine—and all who suffer from violence or fear. Bring peace, healing, and reconciliation.

Emmanuel, God with us,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are ill, grieving, or anxious.

Silence.

Surround them with your love and strengthen all who care for them. Bless our homes with safety and joy.

Emmanuel, God with us,
hear our prayer.

Eternal God, you hold all souls in life. We give thanks for those who have gone before us and now rest in your light.

Silence.

Keep us in communion with them until all your people are gathered in your kingdom.

Emmanuel, God with us,
hear our prayer.

We offer our prayers to you, one God, source of light and life, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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

Silence.

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory Hymn 108 | *Hark, a herald voice is sounding*



Thank you for donating to the ministry of our Cathedral! You may also make an offering via the collection plate or tip-tap machine in the foyer, by going to <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/5519> or by e-transfer to info@ottawacathedral.ca.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer Over the Gifts

God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

But we turn against you and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again, you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages, you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn: *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.*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father,

who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei

Communion

All are welcome to come to the altar rail. If you wish prayers for healing before receiving Communion, please carry an Order of Service with you; 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 do not dip the bread in the wine.

Motet | *Rejoice greatly* | *Healey Willan*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, thy King cometh unto thee.

The Sending of the Community

Prayer after Communion

God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of God. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life; and the blessing of God, the Creator, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 101 | *Hail to the Lord's anointed*

Postlude | *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme* | *Johann Ludwig Krebs*

Celebrant | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff
Preacher | The Reverend Canon Doug Richards
Readers | Peggy Morgan | Shawn Wenuk
Intercessor | Sally Gomery
Duty Warden | Till Heyde

Organist | Nick Veltmeyer
Director | James Calkin
Sung by | Girls Choir

Collect: *Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004) alt. Liturgy: The Book of Alternative Services* ©1985, *The Psalter of The Book of Alternative Services Emended for Contemporary Liturgical Use* ©2016 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada.

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.

Readings Next Sunday | December 7th

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

Advent | Christmas | New Year's Day | Epiphany

First Sunday of Advent | November 30th

4 pm Advent Lessons and Carols

Wednesday | Thursday | December 3rd | 4th

12.05 pm Iona Creation Eucharist | Iona Contemplative Prayer

Saturday | December 6th

2.30 pm A German Christmas Celebration (ticketed event)

Second Sunday of Advent | December 7th

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Choral Eucharist

4 pm O Antiphons

Wednesday | Thursday | December 10th | 11th

12.05 pm Iona Creation Eucharist | Iona Contemplative Prayer

Saturday | December 13th

10 am to 2 pm | Advent Quiet Day

Third Sunday of Advent | December 14th

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Choral Eucharist

Wednesday | Thursday | December 17th | 18th

12.05 pm Iona Creation Eucharist | Iona Contemplative Prayer

Fourth Sunday of Advent | December 21st

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Choral Eucharist

4 pm | Nine Lessons and Carols

Christmas Eve | Wednesday | December 24th

7 pm Story, Carols, and Choral Eucharist

10 pm Festal Eucharist with Brass

Christmas Day | Thursday | December 25th

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Choral Eucharist with Children's Story

First Sunday after Christmas | December 28th

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Sung Eucharist

The Naming of Jesus | Thursday | January 1st

Noon Choral Eucharist and Festive Reception with The Right Reverend Dr. Shane Parker,
Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada

The Epiphany of the Lord | Sunday | January 4th

8.30 am Holy Eucharist | 10.30 am Sung Eucharist

Wednesday | Thursday | January 7th | 8th

12.05 pm Iona Creation Eucharist | Iona Contemplative Prayer

The Baptism of the Lord | Sunday | January 11th

8.30 am Eucharist | 10.30 am Holy Baptism and Choral Eucharist

Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa

Anishinaabe aking ate awaso kikinawadjichigan | A place of prayer on Algonquin territory

The Anglican Cathedral in the Nation's Capital

Cathedral of the Canadian Forces Anglican Military Ordinariate

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Dean of Ottawa and Rector | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff (ext. 161)

Vicar | The Reverend Canon Douglas Richards (ext. 191)

Deacon Residentiary | The Reverend Dr. Jarrett Carty

Honorary Assistants | LCol (ret'd) The Venerable Michelle Staples | Lt (N) The Reverend Katherine Walker

Lay Readers | Daniel Jerusalemiec | Ted Livingstone

Director of Music and Organist | James Calkin (ext. 201)

Associate Director of Music | Andrew McAnerney (ext. 121)

Music Associate | Nick Veltmeyer

Algonquin Teacher in Residence | Albert Dumont (Oshki Nodin)

Church Wardens | Jane Morris | Katherine Spencer-Ross

Director of Operations and Development | Nicholas Galambos (ext. 171)
