



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
Vancouver, BC · *Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds*



SUNDAYS
@ 4
Evening Prayer

Broadway Vespers for Freedom Sunday

The First Sunday in Lent
Christ Church Cathedral—Sundays@4
February 22, 2026, 4:00 PM

*You are invited to join in the prayers and singing of the congregational hymns and refrains,
as we make our offering of prayer and worship.*

***Indications for standing and sitting are suggested:
we invite you to adopt a pose according to your comfort and custom.***

Freedom Sunday: In 2019 the General Synod designated the Sunday closest to National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (February 22) as "Freedom Sunday." This occasion offers Canadian Anglicans an opportunity to learn about human trafficking and slavery in Canada today.

Gathering Song How Big Are Your Arms, O God?
The cantors sing the verses. We all join in the refrain.

Text and music: Carol Meier (2017)

*How big are Your arms, O God? How wide is Your welcome here?
How far will Your grace reach out to embrace the stranger both far and near?
Could You be found in these, the immigrant, refugee?
Could we welcome in as neighbour and kin those yearning to be made free? **REFRAIN***

Refrain

Your love reaches beyond our walls, how vast, how wide, how deep, how high! Your love empowers, compels, and calls. Like You, may we love all.

*Your love, it knows no bounds, no gender, no race, no creed.
Much stronger than hate, Your love is the gate; this world and your kingdom meet. **REFRAIN***

*Help us to live in love with all who would disagree;
to lay down our pride, all fear, cast aside. May love be our unity. **REFRAIN***

*We are Your arms, O God; yes, we are Your welcome wide.
We go in Your name; Your love, we proclaim, Let all find a place inside! **REFRAIN***

The Dean/Officiant The Cathedral sits on the ancestral lands of the of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tseil-Waututh nations. This land was and continues to be of great importance to the Coast Salish Peoples. Consistent with our values of community, inclusion and respecting the dignity of every human being, we have a responsibility to acknowledge, honour and make visible the Cathedral's relationship to Native peoples.

All **From many places and peoples we come to this house of prayer.**

Song Colors of the Wind (*Pocahontas*) Music: Alan Menken
Sung by Ian Backstrom Lyrics: Stephen Schwartz

Officiant Fear not, for I have redeemed you.
All **I have called you by name; you are mine.**

Officiant Fear not, for I have redeemed you.
All **I have called you by name; you are mine.**

Officiant When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.
All **When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned.**

Officiant I have called you by name; you are mine.
Glory to God, Source of all Being, Eternal Word, and Holy Spirit.
All **Fear not, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are mine.**

Officiant Lord of the lost,
we pray today for all those who are victims of human trafficking:
people lured from their homes and families;
people deceived while trying to find a better life;
people who are desperate to trust anyone.
Help us to be more vigilant and watchful;
to be aware of those who may need our help,
and those who do not know where help may lie.

All **Amen.**

The Service of Light [*Standing*]

Officiant Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

All **A light no darkness can extinguish.**

Candles and lamps are lit during the singing of the song.

Song Can You Feel the Love Tonight (*The Lion King*)
Sung by Joanne Acasio

Music: Elton John
Lyrics: Tim Rice

Thanksgiving [*Standing*]

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Officiant Blessed are you, O Lord our God, the shepherd of Israel,
their pillar of cloud by day, their pillar of fire by night.
In these forty days you lead us into the desert of repentance
that in this pilgrimage of prayer
we might learn to be your people once more.
In fasting and service you bring us back to your heart.
You open our eyes to your presence in the world
and you free our hands to lead others
to the radiant splendour of your mercy.
Be with us in these journey days
for without you we are lost and will perish.
To you alone be dominion and glory,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

[*All sit.*]

Psalm 63, verses 1-8

The cantors sing the verses; we all sing the refrain.

My soul thirsts for God, the liv - ing God. My
Yo ten-go sed de Dios, del vi - vo Dios. Yo

soul thirsts for God, the liv - ing God.
ten-go sed de Dios, del vi - vo Dios.

Text: Psalm 63; tr. by María Eugenia Cornou, b.1969, and Carlos Lemagne, b.1996, © 2019, GIA Publications, Inc.
Tune: Daniel Richardson and Angel Napieralski, © 2010, admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources

1 O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you,
my flesh faints for you, as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.

2 Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place,
that I might behold your power and your glory.

3 For your loving-kindness is better than life itself; my lips shall give you praise. **REFRAIN**

4 So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

5 My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

6 when I remember you upon my bed, and meditate on you in the night watches. **REFRAIN**

7 For you have been my helper, and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.

8 My soul clings to you; your mighty hand holds me fast. **REFRAIN**

Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. A-men. **REFRAIN**

Reading Daniel 9: 3-10

Song If You Knew My Story (*Bright Star*)

Sung by Ian Backstrom

Words and Music by Edie Brickell and Steve Martin

Reading

Hebrews 2: 10-18

[Standing]

Canticle

Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

SNC 187

Text and music John L. Bell, after Matthew 5: 3-10

The congregation repeats the phrase below while the cantors sing the verses.



A - men, a-men, it shall be so! A - men, a-men, a - men.

Blest are the poor in spirit, the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Blest are the sorrowful, they shall be comforted.

Blest are the gentle, the earth shall be their own.

Blest are the hungry for justice, they shall be satisfied.

Blest are the merciful, they shall find mercy shown.

Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see their God.

Blest are the earth's peacemakers, each one shall be God's child.

Blest are those victimized for doing good, the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Affirmation of Faith *[Standing]*

Officiant

Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All

Christ died for our sins

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he was buried;

he was raised to life on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures;

afterwards he appeared to his followers,

and to all the apostles:

this we have received,

and this we believe.

Amen.

[All sit.]

Song Too Beautiful for Words (*The Color Purple*)
Sung by Joanne Acasio Words and Music by Brenda Russell, Allee Willis
and Stephen Bray

Intercessions

Officiant In peace, let us pray to you, Lord God.
[*A period of silent contemplation is kept*]

Heavenly Father,
who sees the unseen and notices the unnoticed,
help each of us to hear the Hidden Voices
of those who pray for release from slavery and exploitation,
so that we may give ourselves more fully to the service of your saving love,
and be strengthened together as agents of your healing and hope,
through Jesus Christ,
who himself came to serve as a slave,
so as to bring freedom and grace to all.

All **Amen** *Written by The Rt Revd Dr Alastair Redfern, Chair of The Clewer Initiative.*

Officiant Loving God,
We call to you with hearts in pain for all in our world
who suffer the horrors of modern slavery;
for all who dream of a better life in another place
only to be trapped, tricked and traded;
for all those who labour, forced and unseen, to make our everyday possessions;
for all who agonise for loved ones lost into this trade in humans.
Your Son came to bring good news to the poor and freedom for the oppressed –
may we too be voices against oppression, channels of good news;
may our eyes be opened wide to all who suffer in our midst but out of sight.
All this we pray to you, loving God, for whom no one is invisible.

All **Amen** *Written by the Revd Rachel Carnegie, Executive Director of the Anglican Alliance*

Officiant
All

May your holy people triumph over evil and grow in grace.
Shepherd of souls, tend your flock.

Officiant
All

May you guide the leaders of the nations in the ways of mercy and truth.
Shepherd of souls, tend your flock.

Officiant
All

May the needy not be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
Shepherd of souls, tend your flock.

Officiant
All

May the sick in body, mind, and spirit know your power to heal.
Shepherd of souls, tend your flock.

Officiant
All

May the poor in spirit inherit the kingdom of heaven and see you face to face.
Shepherd of souls, tend your flock.

Officiant

God of wilderness and water,
your Son was baptized and tempted as we are.
Guide us through this season,
so that we may not avoid struggle,
but open ourselves to blessing,
through the cleansing depths of repentance
and the heaven-rending words of the Spirit..

All

Amen.

[Standing]

Officiant

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

The Lord's Prayer - musical setting by Mark A. Miller (b. 1958).

Text adaptation by Mark A. Miller and Laurie Zelman.

Our God_____ in heav-en,_____ ho - ly is your name,___ your
reign come,___ your will done,___ on earth as in heav-en._____
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread, and
help us for - give, as we have been for - giv - en._____
In the time of tri - al,_____ lead us in - to light,_____ for yours is_____ the
king-dom,___ and the pow-er,_____ and the glo-ry,_____ for ev - er.
Our God_____ in heav - en,_____

ho - ly is your name, ho - ly is your name._____

Dismissal [*Standing*]

Officiant

Let us bless the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Officiant

May God our Redeemer show us compassion and love.

All

Amen.

Song

You'll Never Walk Alone (*Carousel*)

Sung by Ian Backstrom

Music: Richard Rogers

Text: Oscar Hammerstein II

Sundays@4

Sundays@4 features a different music-centered worship each Sunday at 4 p.m. based on the service of Evening Prayer, following the Revised Common Lectionary.

Please join us in-person for Sundays@4. These services are not livestreamed.

Sunday March 1, 2026

with music from the Taizé Community (France)

Sunday March 8, 2026: Choral Evensong

with the Cathedral Choir, featuring music by women composers for International Women's Day

Sunday March 15, 2026: Broadway Vespers

Solo and ensemble songs from Broadway musicals resonating with the readings, prayers, and themes of the day.

Sunday March 22, 2026: Organ Vespers

Sung Evening Prayer with solo organ music inspired by the readings and themes of the day.

Sunday March 29, 2026: Palm Sunday

with music from the setting "Holden Evening Prayer" by Marty Haugen

Participants

Clergy The Rev. Kevin de la Mare
Reader Bernard Cuffling
Music Dr. Neil Cockburn (*Organist & Director of Music*)
 Joanne Acasio, Ian Backstrom, (*Vocals*)

Thank you for your prayerful stewardship of the ministries of the Cathedral. Your generous gift of any amount matters, because your stewardship empowers our mission to advance the Good News of God's infinite love and mercy through our worship, ministries, formation, and service. **You may make a gift of cash or check in the offering plate on the way out. You may also use one of the methods below.**

 <p style="text-align: center;">E-transfer your donation to ar@thecathedral.ca. Please provide your name and address in the Memo Field for tax receipt purposes.</p>	 <p>SCAN TO DONATE Make a gift through our secure website at www.thecathedral.ca/give, accessible via the QR code above.</p>	 <p>Tip Tap donations are non-receiptable.</p>
 <p>An envelope is enclosed for your convenience to give cash or cheque. If you cannot find it, ask a greeter for one. Please also provide your name and address for tax receipt purposes.</p>		

This worship takes place on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlilwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) nations, in the heart of Vancouver. All music is printed with permission: License #705, LicenSing – Copyright Cleared Music for Churches. OneLicense.net #A-729001. All rights reserved.