



Christ Church
Cathedral
Ottawa

Second Sunday in Lent

Sunday | March 1st | 2026

10.30 am | Choral Eucharist | BAS

Missa puellarum | Josef Rheinberger

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 | *Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir (BWV 687) | J.S. Bach*

Introit | *Lent Prose | Tone V*

Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us, for we have sinned against thee. O thou chief cornerstone, right hand of the Father; way of salvation, gate of life celestial; cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement. God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated bow down and hearken to thy weeping children; pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

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.

A Penitential Order

Sentence | *John 3:14-15*

The Son of man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures for ever.

Invitation to Confession

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

Silence.

Kyrie Eleison

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison. | Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.**

Prayer for the Bishop-Elect

Almighty God, in your divine providence you have appointed various orders in your Church. Give grace to your servant *N.*, who has been called to the office and ministry of Bishop for your people in our Diocese; fill them with the truth of your doctrine and holiness of life, that they may faithfully serve you, to the glory of your name and for the benefit of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross, give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading | *Genesis 12:1-4a*

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm | 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. The Lord will not let your foot be moved and the One who watches over you will not fall asleep. Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord, the Lord, watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your side, so that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve you from all evil and shall keep you safe. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore.

Second Reading | Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual | *Cujus animam gementem* | Giovanni Pergolesi

Cujus animam gementem contristatam et dolentem pertransivit gladius. | Through her weeping soul a sword has passed.

Holy Gospel | *John 3:1-17*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 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 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 Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Hymn 180 | *Giver of the perfect gift*

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.

Gracious and holy God, we pray for your blessing to rest upon Shane, our Primate, Anne, our Metropolitan, our diocese and cathedral. Let your presence be made known in all that we do and all that we say. In this holy season of Lent, draw us more deeply into prayer, into humility, and into love, that your joy and compassion may flow through us and touch all whom we meet.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Creator and Redeemer God, drive away the shadows of despair that linger over our politics and public life. Revive in us the longing for justice and truth; restore our courage to seek what is good and right. Establish your just and gentle reign throughout the world—especially in places torn by violence and war, where peace feels distant and where so many have lost homes, loved ones, and hope itself. Make us instruments of your peace and servants of reconciliation.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Compassionate and healing God, stretch out your tender hand upon all who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. We remember before you those known to us who suffer in pain, those burdened by anxiety or grief, and those whose hearts are broken by personal or family struggles. Surround them with your mercy, uphold them with your strength, and grant them the comfort of your presence.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of all consolation, be near to those who mourn. Give courage and quiet faith to the bereaved, that, casting their cares upon you, they may find strength for each new day and hope in the promise of resurrection life.

Silence.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Faithful and everlasting God, renew us through this Lenten journey. Cleanse our hearts, strengthen our fellowship, and send us into the world as witnesses to the Gospel of your Son. May we walk the way of the cross with humility and love, bringing healing where there is hurt, welcome where there is loneliness, and reconciliation to this wounded world.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, receive these prayers, spoken and unspoken, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Offertory Hymn 617 | *Jesus, the very thought of thee*



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The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer Over the Gifts

God of wisdom, may the light of the eternal Word, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, guide us to your glory. We ask this in his name. **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 indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator of all things, ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in every generation, and your word endures for ever.

Therefore with angels and archangels, with the fellowship of saints and the company of heaven, we glorify your holy name, evermore praising you: *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.*

We praise you, merciful God, not as we ought, but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son, in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, reaching out to the lost.

Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever. In his offering of himself, he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, 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."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice, and rejoicing in his victory. Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love, and strengthened in our will to serve others; and make of our lives, we pray, a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever. **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

We break this bread,

Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

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 | *Stabat Mater dolorosa* | Giovanni Pergolesi

Stabat Mater dolorosa juxta crucem lacrimosa dum pendebat Filius. | *The grieving Mother stood weeping beside the cross where her Son was hanging.*

The Sending of the Community

Prayer after Communion

Creator of heaven and earth, we thank you for these holy mysteries, which bring us now a share in the life to come, through Jesus Christ our 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

May the God of mercy transform you by grace, and the blessing of God the Creator, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go forth in the name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 347 | *The God of Abraham praise*

Postlude | *Passacaglia in d (BuxWV 161)* | *Dieterich Buxtehude*

Celebrant | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff

Preacher | The Reverend Katherine Walker

Readers | Myles McGarry | David Morgan

Intercessor | John Serrati

Duty Warden | Shawn Scromeda

Organist | Nick Veltmeyer

Director | James Calkin

Sung by | The Cathedral Girls Choir

Liturgy: *The Book of Alternative Services* ©1985; *Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer #3* © 2001; *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 | March 8th

Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

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 | The Reverend Joan Riding | The Reverend Victoria Scott |
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)
