

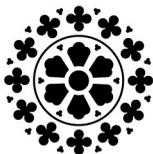


CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, VICTORIA, BC

Choral Eucharist

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR A

Sunday, March 15, 2026 11.00 a.m.



CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL
A CATHEDRAL FOR THE CITY



Welcome to the **Cathedral Church** of the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia. Here we respectfully acknowledge that we gather to worship on the ancestral lands of the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, with whom we are in relationship to seek reconciliation.

As an Anglican centre for spirituality, learning, culture, heritage and community, this cathedral upholds a daily rhythm of worship in the heart of Victoria. From daily spoken and sung services to the weekly celebration of the Eucharist and Choral Evensong, we mark the important events of the Christian calendar and in the life of our diocese and the wider community.

Christ Church Cathedral is a fully inclusive community where all are invited to hear God's Word and partake of God's bread, regardless of upbringing or creed. Please join as fully as you wish in every action of our worship, including communion. This is God's house and all are welcome.

The Season of Lent and the Posture of Prayer

Lent, a 40-day season of preparation for the Easter feast, is historically a time when adults are prepared for baptism at the Great Vigil of Easter, and when those separated from the community by sins are restored among the faithful. While traditional disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the focus of the season, Sundays are in, rather than of, Lent. They offer a hint—more accurately, a foretaste, of Easter with gospel accounts of healing, and the sweetness of our sharing in the Eucharistic meal.

Throughout the Lenten season, we pay renewed attention to the body as a pathway to deeper relationship with God and participation in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. It is customary to kneel or stand at times of confession, the prayers of the people, and at the solemn prayer over the people. Traditionally, the church sits at the first and second readings, and during the homily or sermon. As your strength and health permits, you are encouraged enter into the customs of the season, with a sense of gentle reverence rather than austere demand.

If you would like to sign up for our E-news, or would like more information about the Cathedral, please visit our website www.christchurchcathedral.bc.ca.

You can also use the QR code to make a donation, use our Welcome Card or to download the service leaflets and more.



Presider: The Reverend Ross Bliss
Musical Setting: Messe à Notre Dame

Soeur St. Jean

This service is being broadcast live on the Internet. By attending this morning, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.

*Today's service ("the liturgy") is the work of the whole People of God, and all are encouraged to speak the responses in **bold** and sing the hymns, found in the blue Common Praise hymnal. Copies of the hymnals can be found in the book racks in the pews. If you are unable to locate a copy, please ask the sidespeople for assistance.*

The Gathering

Prelude: Psalm 23

Emma Lou Diemer (d. 2024)

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome

The Very Reverend Jonathan Thomas

The congregation stands as the chancel party enters and the choir sings the Lenten Prose

Lenten Prose

Refrain (cantor first time, then sung by all)



Hear us, O Lord, have mer-cy up-on us: for we have sin ed a - gainst thee.

To thee, Redeemer, on thy throne of glory;
lift we our weeping eyes in holy pleadings;
listen, O Jesu, to our supplications.

Refrain

O thou chief cornerstone, right hand of the Father;
way of salvation, gate of life celestial;
cleanse thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

Refrain

God, we implore thee, in thy glory seated;
bow down and hearken to thy weeping children;
pity and pardon all our grievous trespasses.

Refrain

Sins oft committed, now we lay before thee;
with true contrition, now no more we veil them;
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution.

Refrain

Dominical Greeting

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

Seasonal Greeting

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **God's mercy endures for ever.**

Invitation to Confession

Presider Dear Friends in Christ, as we prepare for the Paschal Feast, continuing in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers, let us make ready our hearts to renew the covenant of our baptism, and kneel before our Creator and Redeemer.

All kneel or remain standing. Silence is shared.

Confession

Presider Holy and immortal God,
People **you formed us from the dust in your image, and redeemed us from sin and death by the cross of our Saviour.**

Through the washing of baptism you raised us up with him to share in the new covenant with all your holy people. But we have squandered the inheritance of your saints, and have wandered far in a land that is waste. Therefore we turn to you in penitence and humility. In your great mercy, forgive us and restore us, that we may rejoice in your presence, and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

Absolution

The Presider pronounces God's forgiveness:

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 people stand

Kyrie eleison

sung by the choir in Greek

Kyrie eleison. Lord have mercy.
Christe eleison. Christ have mercy.
Kyrie eleison. Lord have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Presider Let us hold this moment open to God's grace.

Almighty God, through the waters of baptism your Son has made us children of light. May we ever walk in his light and show forth your glory in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

1 Samuel 16.1-13 / *the people sit*

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

Response to the Reading: Psalm 23

remain seated / sung by the choir



THE LORD is my shep-herd;
therefore can I lack nothing.

**He makes me lie down in green pas-tures
and leads me be-side still waters.**

He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, * I will fear no
ev-il;
for you are with me; * your rod and your staff, they comfort ^ me.**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trou-ble ^ me;
you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.



Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Second Reading

Ephesians 5.8-14

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

Sequence Hymn #352—Amazing Grace

Tune: New Britain / *the people stand*

The people turn toward the Gospel as it is processed down the centre aisle.

The Holy Gospel: John 9.1-41

Deacon The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Gospel is proclaimed in the midst of the people, concluding:

Deacon The Gospel of Christ.
People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

The Very Reverend Jonathan Thomas

The Apostles' Creed

the people stand

Presider Let us confess the faith of our baptism as we say:
All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

the people remain standing or may kneel

Leader Anointed of God.
People **Have mercy on us.**

The Presider concludes:

Presider Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The people stand

The Exchange of the Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

The people greet one another with a gesture of Christ's peace, then take their seats for the announcements.

Announcements

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Sentence

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (*Matthew 6.21*)

The people's gifts of bread, wine and money are offered at the altar. All are invited to give by placing money in the offering basket as it circulates, visiting a Tap machine located at the Quadra St. and Burdett Ave doors, or scanning the QR code found in this leaflet.

Hymn #61—As We Gather at Your Table

Tune: Ecce, Deus / *the people stand*

Prayer over the Gifts

Deacon God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; because you bid your faithful people to cleanse their hearts and to prepare with joy for the paschal feast; that reborn through the waters of baptism and renewed in the eucharistic mystery, we may be more fervent in prayer and more generous in the works of love. Therefore we raise our voices to you in praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Choir *Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.*

*Pleni sunt coeli et terra
gloria tua.*

Hosanna in excelsis.

*Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.*

Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts.

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.

Presider We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me." When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Presider Christ is the bread of life.
All **When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,
until you come in glory.**

Presider Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with [...and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
All **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,**

and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Fraction Sentence

Bread is broken. Silence may be kept.

Presider We break this bread,
People **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

The Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

All are invited to receive communion around the altar rails. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you prefer not to receive the Bread or Wine, simply cross your arms and a blessing will be offered. Communion ministers will come to the pews to serve any who cannot access the altar rails.

Agnus Dei

Choir

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Agnus Dei,
qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

Anthem

Lift thine eyes to the mountains, whence cometh help.
Thy help cometh from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.
He hath said, thy foot shall not be moved; thy keeper will never slumber.

Text: William Bartholomew (d. 1867) adapted from Psalm 121.1
Music: Felix Mendelssohn (d.1847)

Prayer after Communion

Silence is shared. Following the presider, the people stand.

Presider Let us pray.

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage; may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Sending Forth of the Community

Hymn #397—Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness Tune: Nettleton / *remain standing*

Solemn Prayer over the People

Dean Let us bow before the Lord.

The people may bow their heads, or kneel.

Look down in mercy, Lord, on your people who kneel before you; and grant that those whom you have nourished by your Word and Sacraments may bring forth fruit worthy of repentance; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary: Attende Domine

Jeanne Demessieux (d. 1968)

Thank you for being part of this morning's service. Please join us in the Chapter Room for coffee hour.



Readings for Next Sunday, 22 March.

Ezekiel 37.1-14., Psalm 130., Romans 8.5-11., John 11.1-45

Sources

The Book of Alternative Services (1985); A Prayer Book for Australia (1995) alt.; Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006); Eucharistic Prayer E, Common Worship (2000), Proper Prefaces for Lent from The Book of Alternative Services (1985); The Book of Occasional Services (2018).

Monthly Outreach

The Hulitan Family and Community Services Society, new to our outreach, is commended for the passion and care they bring to the people they serve. Hulitan preserves, unifies and advocates for Indigenous families by supporting healing and fostering resilience through culturally rooted programs and services. The Society "empowers Indigenous families and future generations walking alongside them and using the cultural principles of Respect, Honour, Connectedness, Humility and integrity." More information available www.hulitan.ca

Assisting with Today's Liturgy

<i>Sidespersons</i>	Elaine Ellison, Gwyneth Evans, Ian Robertson, Dorothy Robertson
<i>Verger</i>	Bob Fearnley
<i>Servers</i>	Karl-Lukas Steiniger, Pamela Robertson, Cyrus Chan
<i>Musicians</i>	The Christ Church Cathedral Guild of Bell Ringers The Cathedral Choir Mark McDonald, <i>Assistant Director of Music</i> Donald Hunt, <i>Director of Music</i>
<i>Readers</i>	Karl-Lukas Steiniger, Janis Wheatley
<i>Deacon</i>	The Reverend Anna E. Rossi
<i>Prayers of the People</i>	Ian MacDonald
<i>Eucharistic Ministers</i>	Jen Purkis, Ian Robertson, Ian MacDonald, Daniel Dempsey
<i>Camera and Tech Team</i>	The Cathedral Technical Team
<i>Chancel Guild</i>	Sue Black, <i>president</i>