

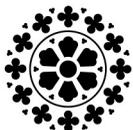


CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, VICTORIA, BC

Holy Eucharist

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR A

Sunday, March 15, 2026 9.15 a.m.



CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL
A CATHEDRAL FOR THE CITY



ANGLICAN DIOCESE
OF ISLANDS AND INLETS
RENEWED HEARTS, RENEWED SPIRITS, RENEWED PEOPLE

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 formed for baptism at the Great Vigil of Easter, and when those separated by sins are restored to the community. While traditional disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the focus of the season, Sundays are in, rather than of, Lent. Sundays 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 Adela Torchia

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. If you are unable to locate a copy, please ask the sidespeople for assistance.

The Gathering of the Community

Land Acknowledgement & Welcome

The Very Reverend Jonathan Thomas

Kyrie eleison

Leader: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i son. All: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i son.

Leader: Chri - ste, Chri - ste e - le - i son. All: Chri - ste, Chri - ste e - le - i son.

Leader: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i son. All: Ky-ri - e, Ky-ri - e e - le - i son.

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

Hymn #352—Amazing Grace

Tune: New Britain

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
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

(Common Praise #519) / *remain seated*

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want:
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
even for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling place shall be.

Text: Ps. 23; para. Scottish Psalter, 1650.

Music: Melody Jessie Seymour Irvine (1836-1887); harm. Thomas C. L. Pritchard (1885-1960).

Harm. © Oxford University Press.

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

Gospel Acclamation

All stand and join in singing the Gospel Acclamation.



One I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
 those who follow me will have the light of life.

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 kneel

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

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 God 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.

All

Leader: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly - Lord, *All:* Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly - Lord,
Leader: God of pow-er and might, Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
All: God of pow-er and might,
All: Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. *Leader:* Ho - san - na in the high est.
All: Ho san - na in the high-est. *Leader:* Bles-sed is he who comes in the name,
All: Bles-sed is he who comes in the name, *Leader:* comes in the name of the

Lord. Leader: Ho - san - na in the high - est.

All: comes in the name of the Lord. All: Ho-

Leader: Ho - san - na in the

san - na in the high - est.

high - est. All:

Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed 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 power, and the glo - ry are yours,



now and for ev - er. A - men.

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.

During the distribution of communion, prayers for healing with the laying-on-of-hands and anointing may be sought in the Lady Chapel, to the left of the high altar. Prayers may be requested for yourself or for others, and the content of prayers is held in confidence.

Prayers 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 Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The Dismissal

Deacon Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

Readings for Next Sunday (22 March)

Ezekiel 37.1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8.6-11; 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>	Brenda Mowbray, Susan McKelvie, Gwyneth Evans
<i>Verger</i>	Bob Fearnley
<i>Server</i>	Drew Brazier
<i>Musicians</i>	The Christ Church Cathedral Guild of Bell Ringers The Parish Choir Donald Hunt, <i>Director of Music</i>
<i>Readers</i>	Sheila Martindale, Ted McLeod
<i>Deacon</i>	The Reverend Bill Tarter, CFC
<i>Prayers of the People</i>	Stephen Calderwood
<i>Eucharistic Minister</i>	Brenda Mowbray
<i>Healing Ministry</i>	Bronwynn Jones, Susan MacRae
<i>Chancel Guild</i>	Sue Black, <i>president</i>