



Christ Church
Cathedral
Ottawa

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday | September 13th | 2026

10.30 am | Sung Eucharist | BAS

Missa Brevis | Grayston Ives

The flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Ross and Charlene Sibbit

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 | *Le banquet céleste* | Olivier Messiaen

Announcements

Hymn 347 | *The God of Abraham Praise*

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.

Almighty God,

to you all hearts are open, all desires known and from you no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest,

and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, you call your Church to witness that in Christ we are reconciled to you. Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may turn to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading | *Exodus 14:19-31*

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm | 114

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech, Judah became the sanctuary of the Lord and Israel the dominion of God. The sea beheld it and fled; Jordan turned and went back. The mountains skipped like rams, and the

little hills like young sheep. What ailed you, O sea, that you fled? O Jordan, that you turned back? You mountains, that you skipped like rams? You little hills like young sheep? Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob, who turned the hard rock into a pool of water and flint-stone into a flowing spring.

Second Reading | *Romans 14:1-12*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual | *Set me as a seal* | *William Walton*

Set me as a seal upon thy heart, as a seal upon thine arm: for love is strong as death: Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the flood drown it.

Holy Gospel | *Matthew 18:21-35*

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.

Then Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Hymn 606 | *There's a wideness in God's mercy*

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.

Maker and Lover of all, in your kindness you have bound us to one another and called us to serve the earth and its people. We pray for Archbishop Shane, Archbishop Anne, Bishop Kathryn, our diocese and cathedral. Grant us the gifts of deep faith, open hospitality and fresh imagination, so that we may shape your future with joy.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Grateful for the life within us, we pray for those whose lives are diminished by illness, depression, grief, or rejection. Grant them the healing, affirmation, and care that restores. We also remember those we have loved and see no longer and we pray that they may rest in peace.

Silence.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Conscious of the peace in this place, we pray for those who live without peace because of war, violence, hunger, or despair. Help us to hear the voices of victims, respond with compassion and justice, and be instruments of your healing, peace and reconciliation.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Surrounded by the rolling beauty of the Ottawa Valley, we pray for the earth and especially where it is harmed by human carelessness and greed. We remember those who suffer from climate disasters around the world. Teach us to cherish your creation as you do.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Knowing that you hear us when we pray, we now offer in silence all those people and situations on our hearts this day.

Silence.

We entrust all our cares to you, gracious God, trusting in your compassionate love.
Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; welcoming sinners and inviting 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 487 | *Where charity and love prevail*



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

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer Over the Gifts

Holy God, accept all we offer you this day. May we who are reconciled at this table bring wholeness to our broken world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise, God our Creator. Your infinite love created a universe of wonder. At the dawn of time your Word summoned light and bade it blaze forth in the darkness.

From your breath sprang the dance of the stars in the night sky. You laid the foundations of the earth, spread out the seas, and stretched out the heavens like a tent above our heads. You brought forth life in marvellous variety: mosses, grasses and trees, insects and animals that move with grace and beauty, birds that ride the winds, and the shimmering creatures of the waters.

All creation bears witness to you: your glory shines forth in the night sky; your wisdom is seen in the cunning miracle of a living cell; your care is found in the generous bounty of the earth; your joy flashes forth in a hawk on the wing; your beauty meets us in the birth of each new day. All things praise you in their own way, and we join in that chorus: *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.*

For such praise you created us, youngest of all your creatures: alongside all of creation you formed us of the earth, along with all life we are quickened by your breath, but of all creation you made us to bear your image in loving care for all creation. You call us to lift the voices of all creatures to praise you through language, music, and art.

But we have failed you, failed your creation, and failed our own nature. We have forgotten our connection with the earth and all life. We imagine ourselves masters of our own destiny. We have betrayed our duty to care for creation, and exploit it ruthlessly in our shortsighted greed.

To recall us to our true nature, you sent your Son Jesus. In him divinity entered into creation, sharing our human flesh, showing us our true calling as servants and priests of creation. When Jesus was led by our selfishness, fear, and lust for power to cruel suffering and death, he did not abandon us.

Gathering his disciples on the night before his death, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and shared it, saying: "This is my body, given for you. Take and eat" – that I may dwell in you, that you may become my body, bringing nourishment and life to all.

After supper he took the cup of wine, blessed it and shared it with them, saying: "This is my blood, shed for you. Drink this" – that you might have a part in my death, dying to selfishness, violence, and sin, and raised to the redeemed life of your kindom.

Remembering his sharing of our flesh, his embrace of life and acceptance of death, his glorious resurrection as the first born of your new Creation, we offer ourselves, our lives and labour, and our aspirations to you, O God. May we be transformed into the Body of Christ, that we might fulfil our purpose of caring for Creation, and give praise to you our Creator.

Pour out on us anew your Holy Spirit, the breath of life, who nourishes and sustains all things living, who sighs for redemption in all Creation and in the depths of our hearts.

Sanctify to us this meal of the Kindom. Renew our hearts, renew our lives, renew the face of the earth. Gather all nations and all creatures together into your peaceable kindom, where together, in infinite diversity, we may sing with joy your praise, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, now and evermore. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

All are welcome to pray in the language of their heart:

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 for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Creator of all, you gave us golden fields of wheat, whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

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 | *O sacrum convivium* | Olivier Messeian

O sacrum convivium, In quo Christus sumitur, Recolitur memoria passionis eius; Mens impletur gratia, Et futurae gloriae, nobis pignus datur. Alleluia. | O sacred banquet, in which Christ is received, the memory of his Passion is renewed, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given us. Alleluia.

The Sending of the Community

Prayer after Communion

God of peace, in this eucharist we have been reconciled to you and to our neighbours. May we who have been nourished by holy things always have the courage to forgive. We ask this in the name of Jesus 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

May the love of the Creator, the tenderness of the Son, and the presence of the Holy Spirit, bless you this day and all your days. **Amen.**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 564 | *Lead us, heavenly father, lead us*

Postlude | *Fanfare* | *Kenneth Leighton*

Celebrant | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff
Preacher | The Reverend Canon Doug Richards
Readers | Ann Chaplin | Daniel Jerusolimiec
Intercessor | Bem Denga
Duty Warden | Godfrey Mabaleka

Organist | James Calkin
Director | Andrew McAnerney
Sung by | Lay Clerks

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Readings Next Sunday | September 20th

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost | Cross of Nails Sunday

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

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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Bishop of Ottawa | The Right Reverend Kathryn Otley

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

Church Wardens | Katherine Spencer-Ross | Stephen Giles

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