



CHORAL EVENSONG EVE OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sunday, September 13, 2026 at 4.00 pm

Welcome to the Cathedral Church of the Anglican Diocese of British Columbia.

*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.*

This service is being broadcast live on the internet.

By attending, you acknowledge and consent to the fact that video images of you may appear there.

The Invitatory and Psalter

PRELUDE *Andante sostenuto (excerpt), Organ Sonata No. 6*

Felix Mendelssohn (d. 1847)

The people stand as the procession enters.

OPENING SENTENCE

PRECES AND RESPONSES

Philip Radcliffe (d. 1986)

Sung in alternating voice between officiant and choir.

O Lord, open thou our lips.

And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, and is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord.

The Lord's name be praised.

HYMN 386

Rockingham

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the cross of Christ, my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;

did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748). Music: Melody Psalmody in Miniature, Second Supplement, 1780?
harm. Edward Miller (1731-1807).

PSALM 46

God is our hope and strength :
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore will we not fear though the earth be moved :
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea;
Though the waters thereof rage and swell :
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.
The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God :
the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.
God is in the midst of her therefore shall she not be removed :
God shall help her and that right early.
The heathen make much ado and the kingdoms are moved :
but God hath shewed his voice and the earth shall melt away.
The Lord of hosts is with us :
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
O come hither and behold the works of the Lord :
what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.
He maketh wars to cease in all the world :
he breaketh the bow and knappeth the spear in sunder
and burneth the chariots in the fire.
Be still then and know that I am God :
I will be exalted among the heathen
and I will be exalted in the earth.
The Lord of hosts is with us :
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

PSALM 87

Her foundations are upon the holy hills :
the Lord loveth the gates of Sion more than all the
dwellings of Jacob.
Very excellent things are spoken of thee thou city of God.
I will think upon Rahab and Babylon :
with them that know me.
Behold ye the Philistines also :
and they of Tyre with the Morians lo there was he born.
And of Sion it shall be reported that he was born in her :
and the most High shall stablish her.

The Lord shall rehearse it when he writeth up the people :
that he was born there.

The singers also and trumpeters shall he rehearse :
All my fresh springs shall be in thee.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Readings

THE FIRST READING

1 Kings 8.22-30

A reading from the first Book of Kings

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel, and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, ‘O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, “There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.” Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you promised to your servant my father David.

‘But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Have regard to your servant’s prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today; that your eyes may be open night and day towards this house, the place of which you said, “My name shall be there”, that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays towards this place. Hear the plea of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray towards this place; O hear in heaven your dwelling-place; heed and forgive.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE MAGNIFICAT (LUKE 1.45–55)

William Byrd (d. 1623)
Fauxbordons

The people stand, as the choir sings the canticle.

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 2.11-22

A reading from the letter to the Ephesians

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (LUKE 2.29-32)

Byrd

The people stand, as the choir sings the canticle.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people, to be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,

the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

THE LESSER LITANY AND LORD'S PRAYER

Sung in alternating voice between officiant and choir.

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

All may stand or kneel.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The choir continues

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 them that trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

Philip Radcliffe (d. 1986)

Sung in alternating voice between officiant and choir.

O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS

The officiant chants three collects, beginning with

Almighty God, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross that he might draw the whole world unto himself: Mercifully grant that we, who glory in the mystery of our redemption, may have grace to take up our cross and follow him; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

The people sit.

THE ANTHEM

John IV of Portugal (d. 1656)

Crux fidelis
inter omnes arbor una nobilis:
nulla silva talem profert fronde, flore, germine.

Dulce lignum, dulces clavos,
dulce pondus sustinet. Amen.

Faithful cross above all other
one and only noble tree
none in foliage, none in blossom,
none in fruit thy peer may be.
Sweetest wood and sweetest iron,
sweetest weight is hung on thee. Amen

THE SERMON

The Reverend Anna E. Rossi

HYMN 565

Cwm Rhondda

When Guide me, O thou great Jehovah
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee.

Text: William Williams (1717-1791); tr. Peter Williams (1723-1796), alt. Music: John Hughes (1873-1932) ©. Reprinted by permission of Ms. C. A. Webb.

CLOSING PRAYERS

The people stand. Prayers are offered, concluding with

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt hear their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Amen.

The people stand.

THE BLESSING

VOLUNTARY *Andante sostenuto (excerpt), Organ Sonata No. 6*

Felix Mendelssohn (d. 1847)



SERVING IN TODAY'S LITURGY

Officiant	The Reverend Anna E. Rossi, <i>Vicar</i>
Readers	Jen Purkis, Cyrus Chan
Verger	Cyrus Chan
Musicians	The Cathedral Schola Mark McDonald, <i>Assistant Director of Music</i> Donald Hunt, <i>Director of Music</i>
Sidespeople	Maureen Applewhaite, Jen Purkis <i>The Cathedral Technical Team</i>

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WORSHIP WITH US

WEEKDAYS

Morning Prayer (Lady Chapel)

8:45am | Weekdays, except Wednesdays

School Chapel (Nave)

9:40am | Wednesdays during term

Midweek Eucharist (St Christopher Chapel)

12:15pm | Wednesdays, except holidays

Choral Evensong (Nave)

5:00pm | Wednesdays during term

Evening Prayer (Lady Chapel)

5:00pm | Weekdays, except Wednesdays

SUNDAYS

BCP Holy Eucharist

8:00am | Lady Chapel

Holy Eucharist

9:15am | Nave

Choral Eucharist

11:00am | Nave and Livestream

Choral Evensong

4:00pm | Nave and Livestream

Periodically, there is a combined Eucharist at 10:30am. Updates posted to cathedral website.

SUPPORT OUR MONTHLY OUTREACH *The Friends of Bowker Creek Society*

The Friends of Bowker Creek Society envisions a healthy Bowker Creek watershed that connects people to nature, where fish, wildlife, biodiversity and communities thrive. One of the purposes of the Society is to protect Bowker Creek and its watershed environment for the benefit of the public by conserving, supporting, restoring, and enhancing its ecosystems and biodiversity on a long-term basis, including assisting stressed or endangered forms of life (plant and animal life). For more information visit www.bowkercreek.org

HAPPENING THIS WEEK *All are most warmly welcome*

Walking Group | Weds Sept 16 and Sat Sept 19, 10:00am

The current schedule can be found on the cathedral website

Lunchtime Organ Music with Tina Christiansen |

Fri Sept 18, 12:30pm

An organ recital with Danish organist Tina Christiansen. By donation.

Franciscan and Creation Spirituality | Sat Sept 19, 1:00pm

A five-part Creationtide series presented by The Rev'd Canon Bill Tarter, CFC

Musical dates for your calendar | Fall 2026

To celebrate the completion of restoration work on our magnificent cathedral organ, we invite you to join us for a joyful program of concerts, events and services this fall. This includes performances from world-renowned musicians, a fascinating talk from Juget-Sinclair organ builders, and Choral Evensong where we will rededicate the organ and offer a world premiere of a newly commissioned work.



Please visit the Cathedral website for more information.