



Christ Church
Cathedral
Ottawa

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost | Cross of Nails Sunday (tr)

Sunday | September 20th | 2026

10.30 am | Sung Eucharist | BAS

Communion Service in F | Harold Darke

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ewen Marjerrison

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 Community of the Cross of Nails (CCN)

The CCN began with an act of reaching out after Coventry was bombed during World War II. When morning came and it was revealed that much of the city including Coventry Cathedral was in ruins, Provost Richard Howard, rather than seeking revenge, chose a message of peace, famously chalking the words "Father Forgive" on the charred walls. These words were later incorporated in the Litany of Reconciliation by Canon Joseph Poole. In the time between, nails from the ruined cathedral were formed into crosses and sent to cities and churches in Germany with messages of hope to work towards a new world after the war.

Since then, hundreds of crosses of nails have gone to CCN partner churches, charities and organisations around the world as they have committed to working for justice, peace and reconciliation. Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa became a partner and was presented with a Cross of Nails in 2017 for our work in reconciliation with indigenous peoples. The cross may be found on the pillar in the Chapel of Reconciliation.

From this Sunday through until Remembrance Sunday, we say together the Litany of Reconciliation in our liturgy, which has been modernized in North America to use the phrase "Creator forgive". This is to remind us why the CCN matters, to reflect on how the reconciling story of Coventry still inspires us in our stories of reconciliation, and to encourage us to find where our stories connect.

For more information about the Community of the Cross of Nails, please visit: <https://www.crossofnails-na.org/>. And if you are interested in our participation, please speak with the Dean.



The Gathering of the Community

Prelude | *Adagio (Symphonie 2) | C.M. Widor*

Announcements

Hymn 381 | *Praise my soul the King of heaven*

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 have created the heavens and the earth, and ourselves in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading | *Exodus 16:2-15*

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him - what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm | *105:1-6, 37-45*

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the divine name; make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples. Sing to the Lord, sing praises, and speak of all the marvellous works of the

Lord. Glory in the holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Search for the strength of the Lord; continually seek the face of God. Remember the marvels the Lord has done, the wonders and the judgements of the mouth of the Lord, O offspring of Abraham the servant of God, O children of Jacob the chosen of the Lord. You led out your people with silver and gold; in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled. Egypt was glad of their going, because they were afraid of them. You spread out a cloud for a covering and a fire to give light in the night season. They asked, and quails appeared, and you satisfied them with bread from heaven. You opened the rock, and water flowed, so the river ran in the dry places. For you, O God, remembered your holy word and Abraham your servant. So you led forth your people with gladness, your chosen with shouts of joy. You gave your people the lands of the nations, and they took the fruit of others' toil, that they might keep your statutes and observe your laws. Hallelujah!

Second Reading | *Philippians 1:21-30*

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well - since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual | *Prayer of St Francis* | *John Sanders*

Lord make me an instrument of your peace, where there is hatred let me sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. And where there is sadness, joy.

Holy Gospel | *Matthew 20:1-16*

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.

Jesus said, "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Hymn 398 | *Let us with a gladsome mind*

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.

Coventry Litany of Reconciliation

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,
Creator, forgive.

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,
Creator, forgive.

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,
Creator, forgive.

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,
Creator, forgive.

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,
Creator, forgive.

The lust which dishonours the bodies of human beings,
Creator, forgive.

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,
Creator, forgive.

Silence.

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. **Amen.**

The Peace

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

Offertory Hymn 435 | *Take my life, and let it be*



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

God of power, the glory of your works fills us with wonder and awe. Accept our offering this day, and help us to live in peace and harmony with all your creation, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 right to give you thanks and praise, O Lord, our God, sustainer of the universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home; by your will they were created and have their being.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill; you made us the stewards of creation.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

But we turn against you and betray your trust; and we turn against one another. Again and again, you call us to return. Through the prophets and sages, you reveal your righteous law. In the fullness of time you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. By his death he opened to us the way of freedom and peace.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn: *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.*

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, 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."

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth and make it your new creation. Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all.

Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please pray using these words, or whichever version or language is closest to your 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 | Ave Verum | Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria Virgine, vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine cuius latus perforatum fluxit aqua et sanguine: esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine. | Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, having truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for mankind, from whose pierced side water and blood flowed: Be for us a sweet foretaste in the trial of death!

The Sending of the Community

Prayer after Communion

Ruler of the universe, all creation yearns for its fulfilment in your Son. May we who have shared in holy things grow into maturity in him. This we ask in the name of the same 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 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 467 | *Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go*

Postlude | *Scherzo "La Chasse"* | C.M. Widor

Celebrant | The Reverend Katherine Walker
Preacher | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff
Readers | Richard Fajarczyk | Barbara Morris
Intercessor | Ted Livingstone
Duty Warden | Stephen Giles

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

Liturgy: *The Book of Alternative Services* ©1985, *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. *Litany of Reconciliation* ©1958, Coventry Cathedral, rev 2023.

Readings Next Sunday | September 27th

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

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)
