



Christ Church
Cathedral
Ottawa

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday | September 27th | 2026

10.30 am | Holy Baptism | Choral Eucharist | BAS

Messe pour deux voix égales | Cécile Chaminade

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
past and present members of Cathedral Women

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 | *Lied* | *Louis Vierne*

Announcements

Hymn 388 | *Glorious things of thee are spoken*

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.

There is one body and one Spirit.

There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

one God and Creator of all.

Collect of the Day

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered by your Holy Spirit into one, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name; 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 17:1-7*

A reading from the book of Exodus.

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"

So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm | 78:1-4, 12-16

Hear my teaching, O my people; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will declare the mysteries of ancient times. That which we have heard and known, and what our ancestors have told us, we will not hide from their children. We will recount to generations to come the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the Lord, who has done wonderful works. God worked marvels in the sight of their ancestors, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan, splitting open the sea and letting them pass through, making the waters stand up like walls; leading them with a cloud by day, and all the night through with the glow of fire; splitting hard rocks in the wilderness, and giving them drink as from the great deep; bringing streams out of the cliff, and the waters gushing out like rivers.

Second Reading | Philippians 2:1-13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual | *How can I keep from singing?* | arr. John Scott

My life goes on in endless song, above earth's lamentation, I hear the real though far-off hymn that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear its music ringing, it sounds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing? What though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it liveth, and though the darkness round me close, songs in the night it giveth. No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging, since love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing? When tyrants tremble in their fear and hear their death knell ringing, when friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing? In prison cell and dungeon vile, our thoughts to thee are winging, when friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?

Holy Gospel | *Matthew 21:23-32*

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.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. Which of the

two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Hymn 514 | *Jesus, joy of our desiring*

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates

The candidates for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

The adult is presented by her sponsors.

I present Xiwen to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Do you desire to be baptized?

I do.

The children are presented by their parents and sponsors.

We present Elena Chizitelum, Arthur Avery Serrano, and Everly Paige to receive the sacrament of baptism.

Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community?

I will, with God's help.

Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour?

I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

I do.

Do you promise to obey him as your Lord?

I do.

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

We will.

Let us now pray for these persons who are to receive the sacrament of new birth.

Litany of the Saints | *Becker* | *Adapted to reflect the names of congregations in our Diocese*

*Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.***

*Mary the Virgin, **pray for us.** Bartholomew and Michael, **pray for us.** Columba and Julian, **pray for us.** Clare and John the Baptist, **pray for us.** Bernard and Patrick, **pray for us.** Barnabas and Helen, **pray for us.** Bede and Stephen, **pray for us.** Alban and Thomas, **pray for us.** **All you holy men and women, pray for us.***

*Paul and Lawrence, **pray for us.** Margaret and Aidan, **pray for us.** Anthony and Clement, **pray for us.** Mary Magdalene, **pray for us.** James and George, **pray for us.** John, Apostle and Evangelist, **pray for us.** Matthew and Mark, **pray for us.** Luke and All Saints, **pray for us.** **All you holy men and women, pray for us.***

*Lord, be merciful, **save your people.** From all evil, **save your people.** From every sin, **save your people.** From everlasting death, **save your people.** By your incarnation, **save your people.** By your death and resurrection, **save your people.** By your gift of the spirit, **save your people.** Have mercy on us sinners, **save your people.** **Christ, hear us. Lord Jesus, hear our prayers.***

*Lord, give your Spirit, **hear our prayer.** To these chosen, **hear our prayer.** By the grace of baptism, **hear our prayer.** O Jesus, Son of the living God, **hear our prayer.** Send your Spirit, **hear our prayer.** In its fullness, **hear our prayer.** On these your servants, **hear our prayer.** Who believe and profess you, **hear our prayer. Christ, hear us. Lord Jesus, hear our prayers.***

*Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.** Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy. Amen.***

Thanksgiving over the Water

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Creator, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.

Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who are here cleansed from sin and born again, may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptismal Covenant

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

I will, with God's help.

The Baptism

Xiwen | Elena Chizitelum | Arthur Avery Serrano | Everly Paige, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

I sign you with the cross, and mark you as Christ's own for ever.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

The Giving of the Light

Receive the light of Christ, to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn 372 | *Praise to the holiest in the height*



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

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ we behold your glory. Receive the offering of your people gathered before you, and open our hearts and mouths to praise your great salvation, the same 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 | *O Salutaris* | Auguste Durand

*O salutaris hostia, quae coeli pandis ostium. Bella premunt hostilia. Da robur, fer auxilium. |
O saving Victim open wide the gate of heaven to all below. Our foes press on from every side;
Thine aid supply, Thy strength bestow.*

The Sending of the Community

Prayer after Communion

God in heaven, strengthen the unity of your Church, so that we who have been fed with holy things may fulfil your will in the world. We ask this in the name of 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.**

Commissioning of Girls Choir Leadership Team

Dean

To achieve our goal of promoting excellence in sacred music, some Cathedral choristers are called to positions of leadership, working with their director to ensure high standards of musical discipline.

Director of Music

Dean Bretzlaff, I present to you from the Girls Choir, Julia Stymeist and Mian Lo to be commissioned as Head Choristers; Jeannette Ezechiel to be commissioned as Prefect; and Natalya Girouard to be commissioned as Chaplain's Chorister.

Dean

Julia, Mian, Jeannette, and Natalya, do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself to the responsibility entrusted to you as a leader in the Cathedral Girls Choir?

Chorister

I do, and I will faithfully uphold this ministry to which I have been called.

Dean

May God, who has given you gifts of music and leadership, bless you and give you the grace and determination to carry out the ministry to which you have been called, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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 425 | *Joyful, joyful we adore thee*

Postlude | *Offertoire sur les Grands jeux* | François Couperin

Celebrant | The Very Reverend Beth Bretzlaff
Preacher | The Reverend Canon Doug Richards
Readers | Trudy Seliger | Zixuan Zhao
Duty Warden | Jane Morris

Organist | Nick Veltmeyer
Director | James Calkin
Sung by | Girls Choir

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 | October 4th

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9; Psalm 19; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

Blessing of the Animals | October 4th at 4 pm

Bring your dog, snake, goldfish, parrot, cat, guinea pig, duck, hedgehog, or favourite stuffed animal for a blessing! The Cathedral Boys and Girls Choirs will sing and lull all into joy. For the comfort and the safety of all present, humans and animals, please bring your pets on a leash or otherwise secure in a carrier or cage. Following the service, there will be an opportunity for you to have a photo taken with your animal and the clergy in the Cathedral for a cost of \$20 per photo (cash or tap, no tax receipt). The digital photo will be emailed to you.

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)
