

Welcome to the Cathedral Church of All Saints

Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

Anglican Church of Canada



December 7, 2025

10 am

Welcome!

I am delighted to have you with us today for this service of worship. Please, stay awhile. Get to know us better. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

We at All Saints Cathedral Church, are a diverse lot, from many Christian backgrounds, non-Christian backgrounds, and no faith backgrounds. We come for Christian community, to find God in relationships with neighbours and new friends. We come for lessons from the incredible life of Jesus Christ. We come for spiritual rest, time to think, pray, and center on God, for comfort in hard times, and gratitude in good times. We come to serve God, each other, and the world. We're not perfect. We trust in God's gentle grace and unconditional love. We seek meaning for the life God has gifted us.

You are invited to God's table to receive communion (gluten free wafers are available). We welcome you, no matter who you are, or what you look like, or what labels the world puts on you. We welcome you if, like us, you struggle with flaws and imperfection but have a loving spirit and strive to let the light of Jesus shine within you and then to share it with others. We dare to welcome all because God, and not any human authority, extends this gracious invitation. If you wish not to receive Holy Communion you may still come forward for a blessing, simply fold your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. You are also welcomed to remain seated during this time.

In this leaflet, you will find most everything you need to follow along throughout the service. Whether you have been attending the Cathedral Church your whole life or this is your first time here, you are invited to participate in the service as fully as you feel comfortable doing and are able to.

Peace and Joy,



Very Rev. Paul Smith, Rector,
and Dean of the Cathedral Church of All Saints

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 7, 2025

Celebrant: The Very Reverend Paul Smith

Preacher: The Reverend Dr. Kate Heichler

The Holy Eucharist

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Although we have come together in this Cathedral Church of All Saints in Halifax, Nova Scotia, we each stand in place on solid ground that is the ancestral territory of peoples who were here long before the Europeans crossed the ocean. We gather at this Cathedral which is located on the unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We also recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies, and contributions have enriched this part of Mi'kma'ki for over 400 years.

Introit The Third & Fourth Great O Antiphons (*Sung by the choir*)

Plainsong

O Radix Jesse O Root of Jesse, which standest for an ensign of the people, at whom kings shall shut their mouths, to whom the Gentiles shall seek: Come and deliver us, and tarry not.

O Clavis David O Key of David, and Sceptre of the house of Israel; that openest and no man shutteth: and shuttest, and no man openeth: Come and bring the prisoner out of the prison house, and him that sitteth in darkness, and the shadow of death.

Opening Hymn

103

On Jordan's Bank

WINCHESTER NEW

LIGHTING OF THE 2ND ADVENT CANDLE

PEACE

Reader: The Prophet Isaiah lived nearly 700 years before Jesus was born. He spoke out boldly against social injustice and the cruelty of those in positions of power and authority.

Reader: He dreamed of a day when a new ruler would come. “The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD”.

Reader: Today we light a candle to shine for Peace. Its small flame joins with the light of Hope [*2 candles are lit*] to brighten the darkness that shrouds our world.

Reader: Let us make room in our lives and in our hearts for the birth of the one John the Baptist assures us is coming.

People: A wise woman once said; “The fragrance always remains in the hand that gives the rose.”* May our hands be used as instruments of peace in serving our God as we serve one another
* [*Heda Bejar*]

Hymn 89 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv.3 &4)

VENI EMMANUEL

3 O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law,
in cloud and majesty and awe.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!*

4 O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,
from every foe deliver them
that trust your mighty power to save,
and give them victory o'er the grave.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!*

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

The presiding celebrant greets the community

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People And also with you.

The following prayer may be said.

Celebrant Almighty God,
All 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 holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Trisagion from *Popule Meus (Sung by the choir)* T. L. de Victoria (c.1548-1611)

Hagios o Theos	Sanctus Deus	<i>Holy God</i>
Hagios ischyros	Sanctus fortis	<i>Holy and mighty</i>
Hagios athanatos	Sanctus et immortalis,	<i>Holy and immortal</i>
eleison imas	miserere nobis	<i>have mercy upon us</i>

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.
All **God of justice,
clear our lives of hatred and despair
and sow in us seeds of joy and peace;
so that shoots of hope may spring forth in us
as we await the coming of the Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit,
lives and reigns, one God,
now and for ever. Amen.**

FWM Proposed Collects (2004) alt.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Reader A reading from **Isaiah [11:1-10]**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nurs-

ing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72: 1-7, 18, 19 *Deus, iudicium. (Sung by all)*

Tone VIII.2



Cantor 1 GIVE THE king your justice, O **God** :

All and your righteousness **to** the King's son.

All 2 That he may rule your people **right**-teous^ly :
and the **poor** with jū-s-tice.

Cantor 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the **peo**-ple :
and the little **hills** bring right-teous^ness.

All 4 He shall defend the needy among the **peo**-ple :
he shall rescue the poor and crush **the** op-prēssor.

Cantor 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon en-**dure** :
from one generation **to** an-ō-ther

All 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mōwn **field** :
like showers that **wa**-ter the earth.

Cantor 7 In his time shall the righteous **flōur**-ish :
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon **shall** be no
more.

All 18 Blessèd be the Lord, the God of **Is**-ra^el :
who alone **does** won-drous deeds.

Cantor 19 And blessèd be his glorious name for **ēv**-er :

All and may all the earth be filled with his glory. **A-men. A-men.**

Gospel Processional vv. 1-3

Responses before the Gospel

Deacon People

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Deacon

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People

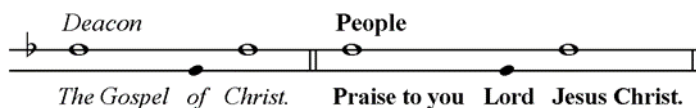
Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel

All stand for the Gospel.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." - Matthew [3:1-12]

Responses after the Gospel



Gospel Recessional v. 4

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

The celebrant may invite the people, to join in the recitation of the creed.

Celebrant 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.

The Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
God welcomes sinners
and invites us to this table.
Let us confess our sins,
confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
All **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.**

Celebrant 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 Peace

All stand, and the presiding celebrant addresses the people.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

100

PSALM 42

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*Today we gratefully acknowledge the bulletin and the Wine and Hosts are offered
in loving memory of Ellen & David Ryding from their daughter Helen*

The Prayer over the Gifts

When the gifts have been prepared,

Celebrant

Thank you, loving God, for forgiveness.

All

God our strength,

we are nothing without you.





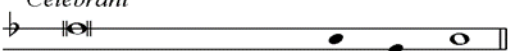

Receive all we offer you this day

as you sustain us with your mercy;

in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 2

<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
	
<i>The Lord be with you.</i>	<i>And also with you.</i>
<i>Celebrant</i>	<i>People</i>
	
<i>Lift up your hearts.</i>	<i>We lift them to the Lord.</i>
<i>Celebrant</i>	
	
<i>Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.</i>	
<i>People</i>	
	
<i>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</i>	

Celebrant

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.

He is your living Word,
through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.

He lived and died as one of us,
 to reconcile us to you,
 the God and Father of all.
 In fulfilment of your will
 he stretched out his hands in suffering,
 to bring release to those who place their hope in you;
 and so he won for you a holy people.

He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
 and to give up his life on the cross,
 that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,
 and banish the darkness of sin and despair.

By his resurrection
 he brings us into the light of your presence.
 Now with all creation we raise our voices
 to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus

(Sung by all)

Advent Sanctus ('Nun komm der Heiden Heiland')

Trad. Lutheran; adapt. P. Halley

(Organ) *All*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

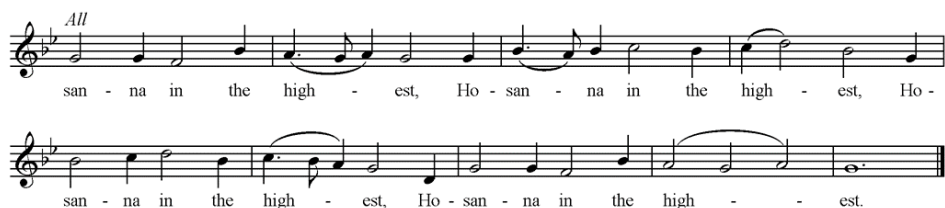
Women

Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Men

Bles - sed is he who comes in the

Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 name of the Lord. Bles - sed is the Lord. Ho -



Celebrant

Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, "Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you."
In the same way he took the cup,
saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you.
When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one
all who share in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever.

All



Celebrant

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us,
we are bold to pray,

All

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 those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread for distribution

Celebrant

God of promise,

you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All

Happy are those who are called to the supper of the
Lamb.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion (*which may be prayed by those at home*) *

Celebrant

Dear friends, I invite you in this moment,

wherever you may be, to receive Christ, in communion

with the saints, and the gathering of God's people,

unseen and yet present with us now.

May this prayer be of be of comfort to you:

Lord, you stand at the door of my heart and knock.

You wait for me and only I can let you in.

I believe and trust in you and ask you now to fill
me with your presence.

Feed me with your body and unite me in your blood,
that I may be your blessing to a world in need. **Amen**

The Communion

The celebrant invites the people to share in communion and may say,

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei The Short Communion Service A. Batten (c.1591-c.1637)

**ALL are invited to come forward to receive both Bread and Wine.*

Gluten-free bread is available from those administering.

Wine is offered in individual cups.

Communion Motet This Is the Record of John O. Gibbons (1583-1625)

This is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not; and said plainly, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What art thou then? Art thou Elias? And he said, I am not. Art thou the prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him, What art thou? That we may give an answer unto them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? And he said, I am the voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord. (John 1:19-23)

Communion Hymn

115

Awake, O Sleeper, rise from Death

MARSH CHAPEL

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray

All **Faithful God,**

**we thank you for feeding us with this
heavenly banquet.**

**Help us always to hear the prophet's call
to turn our hearts to you;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Then the following doxology may be said.

Celebrant Glory to God,

All **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,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Hark, a Herald Voice Is Sounding

108

MERTON

Advent Repensory

I look from afar: And lo, I see the power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth.

Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that is come to reign over thy people Israel?

High and low, rich and poor, one with another, go ye out to meet him and say: Hear, O thou shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep. Tell us, art thou he that should come?

Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel.

Words: 1st Responsory; Advent Sunday at Matins

Music: G. P. da Palestrina (c.1525-94)

Dismissal *By the Deacon*

Postlude Prelude in F Minor

J. S. Bach (BWV 534)

The Postlude - You are invited to be seated during the postlude to pray or simply to enjoy the music. Alternatively, you may depart in peace following the Deacon's Dismissal.

****As part of our Covid Protocols we dispensed with the practice of passing collection plates throughout the congregations. You will find offering plates at the front and side entrance of the Cathedral. We also have installed touchless "Tap" devices at the main entrance, or you may make electronic donations using the digital QR code below.**



Thank you for your support of our Cathedral's ministries.

Sundays at Four

Please join us this afternoon for Evensong sung by the Cathedral Choir. All are welcome!

New to the Cathedral?

We'd love to get to know you and help you feel at home! Please fill out one of our **New Member Cards** — you'll find them at either entrance, or simply ask one of our Greeters, who will be happy to help. There's even an option to subscribe to our **biweekly e-news, *Cathedral Happenings!*** Its as easy as sending an email to hello@anglicancathedralhalifax.ca. A great way to stay connected and learn more about Cathedral life

Chebucto Region Advent Gathering

Monday, December 8 • 6:30–8:30 pm

Join Anglicans from across the Halifax area for an evening of food, fellowship, fun — and shared visioning as we enter the Advent season together. We're delighted to host this regional gathering here at the Cathedral. Come, connect, and help us extend a warm welcome to friends from neighbouring churches.

Contact Us:

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