

*The Cathedral Church of All Saints
Halifax, Nova Scotia*



Liturgy for 9:15

Please save me for next week

Welcome!

We enter now the holy season of Lent. A time of 40 days to reflect on, and renew ourselves in, our journey of faith. We follow, through these days, the path that Jesus took from the wilderness to the cross. I am delighted that you have chosen to join us for this service of worship today. No matter who you are, or where you may be on life's journey, you are welcome here.

We at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 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.

With blessings,



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

The Holy Eucharist ~ an Iona Community Liturgy*

Welcome/Announcements

Territorial Acknowledgement

Leader: As we gather today, we acknowledge, with gratitude, that we do so on the traditional and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People. This territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship" which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) People first signed with the British Crown in 1725. The treaties did not deal with surrender of lands and resources but in fact recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet) title and established the rules for what was to be an ongoing relationship between nations.

People: We give thanks for this land and all those who have been stewards of it; for their stories and for their lives – past, present, and future. We commit ourselves to prayerfully seek reconciliation, justice, and healing that we might listen and learn to be faithful stewards of this good land and live in right relationship.

(Land Acknowledgement adapted from The Emmaus Community, Victoria, B.C.)

Opening Hymn {see insert}

The Gathering of the Community

The presiding celebrant greets the community

Leader: Driven by the Spirit Jesus went out to inhabit a liminal* place.

All: For forty days and nights, homeless and weary, famished and footsore, he wandered and watched and wrestled, companioned and comforted by animals and angels, he traversed and was tested and tempered ...

Leader: And then, knowing who he was, seeing where he must go, understanding what he should do -

All: then Jesus, filled with the Spirit, returned from the uncharted place to do the work of the Kingdom.

The Collect of the Day {see insert}

The Proclamation of the Word {see insert}

Reader: Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.

All: **Our hearts and minds are open.**

Reader A reading from:

At the conclusion of the reading:

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: {see insert}

Gospel Refrain

The Gospel Proclamation

All stand for the Gospel.

Deacon The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the Deacon says,

The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily

A silence for reflection may follow.

Affirmation of Belief (from the Iona Community) +

All **We believe that God is present
in the darkness before dawn;**

in the waiting and uncertainty
where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms,
and the sun rises over barbed wire.

We believe in a with-us God
Who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.

We affirm a faith
That takes us beyond the safe place
into action, into vulnerability.
and into the streets.

We commit ourselves to work for change
and put us on the line;
to bear responsibility,
to take risks,
to live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge;
to choose life
and to be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope.

All: This we believe and to this we are committed,
for the love of God, in the way of Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The Prayers of the People {crafted by the reader}

Confession and Absolution

Leader Jesus, by your example you challenge us
to make this season a journey of discovery;
As we leave comforting landmarks behind
to inhabit and explore our own uncharted places,
help us to discern who we are
and embrace what we might become.

Leader God of the liminal places, you draw us into the quietness of the desert so that we can encounter ourselves ...

People **But we confess that all too often
cling to false images
rather than face the necessity of change. *silence/kyrie***

Leader You call us into the emptiness of the desert so that we can
confront our desires ...

People **But we confess that all too often we continue to choose our
own comfort rather than serving the needs of others.
*silence/kyrie***

Leader You drive us into the dangers of the desert so that we can
engage with your Kingdom ...

People **But we confess that all too often we prefer the smooth roads
of safety over the perilous pathways of justice. *silence/kyrie***

People **Forgive us, O God,
wherever we have chosen to be, or do,
or dare, less than you have asked of us;
and as we walk on in the desert with you
help us watch and wrestle with these things
so that we might choose differently in future.**

Leader: For all to whom regret is real,
who seek renewal,
God forgives you,
Christ renews you,
and the Holy Spirit enables you to grow in love.

People: **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand, as able, and the presiding celebrant addresses the people.

Leader: May the peace of God,
the comforting peace of familiar presence,
the untamed peace of wilderness places,

the challenging peace of watching and wrestling,
surround and shape your journey onwards.

Leader: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Preparation Hymn {see insert}

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Presider: Like a tent in the wilderness
the table of God stands open and ready
as a place of sanctuary and safety, of hospitality and healing.
So come,
all you who are tired and travel-stained,
footsore and famished;
come with your fellow travellers and find companionship and comfort;
for here, Jesus –
who knows what it is to wander, watch and wrestle in desert places –
waits to meet us and welcome us in, offering us rest and restoration,
solace and strength, for the journey still to come.

The Prayer over the Gifts

All **God our provider,
you have not fed us with bread alone,
but with words of grace and life.
Bless us and these your gifts,
which we receive from your bounty,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006)

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you**

Presider: Lift up your hearts

People: **We lift them up to God.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to God.

People: It is right to give both thanks and praise.

Presider: Before going out
into the wilderness of the Garden,
Jesus sat down to eat and drink with his friends.
To show them the challenge of the way ahead,
and offer them gifts for that journey,
he took bread – sustaining and wholesome –
and poured wine – earthy and warming –
sharing these as signs of his continuing presence with them
throughout time to come.
And now, remembering that moment,
and recognizing that its promise is also for us,
in this time and place,
we too break bread

(the bread may be broken)

and pour wine to share with one another

(the wine may be poured)

And in that action,
we recognize, and affirm with joy,
that Christ is present with us now,
and throughout time to come;
and we join our voices with those of all creation
in the unending song of praise:

Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)

Kate Heichler, 2000

All:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might. Hea - ven and earth are
full of your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed, bless - ed, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord; Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

God of the liminal places,
send down upon us now,
and on these gifts of bread and wine,
that same Spirit who drove Jesus into the desert,
that they may become the body and blood of our Lord,
and that we too may be tempered and strengthened by your Presence
and refreshed, renewed, and empowered through your love,
now and forever.

People **Amen.**

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

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 presider breaks the consecrated bread for distribution and invites the people to share in communion and may say,

Presider: The tent side is open, the table is set,
and God waits for us to come in from the desert for a
while and be refreshed and renewed.

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion



We invite you to gather around the altar and worship space to receive the bread and wine. Please take a cup from the table to receive the wine of the Eucharist, you may leave the cup in the tray as you return to your seat. You are also welcome to join the circle for a prayer of blessing should you choose not to receive. We are happy to come to you at your seat should you desire.

Hymn during Communion {see insert}

Prayer after Communion

Presider: God has called us to journey for a season through the wilderness places;

All: And so, as Jesus did before us,
we will set out once more
to wander in an uncomfortable landscape
and wrestle with its challenges,
that through the tempering action of the Spirit,
we may emerge ready to do the work of the Kingdom.

The Blessing:

Presider: Now go in peace,
do what God wills,
follow where Christ calls,
pray for the gifts of the Spirit;
and the blessing of God the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer
rest on, and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn {see insert}

The Sending *by the Deacon (in these or other words)*

Go forth in the name of Christ.

All Thanks be to God.



*What is meant by **liminal space**? Liminal space is the uncertain transition between where you've been and where you're going physically, emotionally, spiritually, or metaphorically. To be in a liminal space means to be on the precipice of something new but not quite there yet. The word "liminal" comes from the Latin word "limen," which means threshold.

***Liturgical Resources:** WALKING THE WILDERNESS

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