

The Cathedral Church of All Saints

Halifax, Nova Scotia



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2026



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,

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

The Holy Eucharist

Prelude Music ~ Caitlin Strong *Violin Sonata in D major -
I. Preludio - Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)*

Welcome and 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 : # 355 vv 1-4 & 7 *All Creatures of our God
and King* *Tune: LAST UNS ERFREUEN*

The Gathering of the Community

The presiding celebrant greets the community

Celebrant *The heavens declare the glory of God.*

People: *The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.*

The plants and trees show God's presence.

Let us join with creation in praising God.

God of all creation, who moves and inspires us through every time and season,

we bless you and praise you for the gift of life in your good, created world.

Grant to us grace and humility to so order our lives that we may honour you among all peoples and nations,

create wholesome and right companionship with our fellow living creatures, and work for the healing of this world that you created.

Teach us to see and hear your power in the winds and waves, mountains and valleys so that we may glorify your goodness to us and live rightly in your creation.

We pray to you through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Spirit, Three in One, One in Three, now and forever. Amen.

Gloria *(Said)*

**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.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Creator God,**
you have wonderfully fashioned the heavens and the earth
and us in your own image.
Teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your breath in all creatures
that we may be of service in the healing of the earth,
through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit,
through whom you breathe all creation into being. Amen
(Alternative collects, liturgy task force, ACC)

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading

Reader A reading from the Book of Ezekiel (47:1-12)

Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple; there, water was flowing from below the threshold of the temple towards the east (for the temple faced east); and the water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the temple, south of the altar. Then he brought me out by way of the north gate, and led me round on the outside to the outer gate that faces towards the east; and the water was coming out on the south side. Going on eastwards with a cord in his hand, the man measured one thousand cubits, and then led me through the water; and it was ankle-deep. Again he measured one thousand, and led me through the water; and it was knee-deep. Again he measured one thousand, and led me through the water; and it was up to the waist. Again he measured one thousand, and it was a river that I could not cross, for the water had risen; it was deep enough to swim in, a river that could not be crossed. He said to me, 'Mortal, have you seen this?' Then he led me back along the bank of the river. As I came back, I saw on the bank of the river a great many trees on one side and on the other. He said to me, 'This water flows towards the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah; and when it enters the sea, the sea of stagnant waters, the water will become fresh. Wherever

the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish, once these waters reach there. It will become fresh; and everything will live where the river goes. People will stand fishing beside the sea from En-gedi to En-eglaim; it will be a place for the spreading of nets; its fish will be of a great many kinds, like the fish of the Great Sea. But its swamps and marshes will not become fresh; they are to be left for salt. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.'

Reader For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm Psalm 33:1-9 (Read responsively)

1 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous;
it is good for the just to sing praises.

**2 Praise the Lord with the harp;
play to him upon the psaltery and lyre.**

3 Sing for him a new song;
sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

**4 For the word of the Lord is right,
and all his works are sure.**

5 He loves righteousness and justice;
the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.

**6 By the word of the Lord were the heavens made,
by the breath of his mouth all the heavenly hosts.**

7 He gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin and
stores up the depths of the sea.

**8 Let all the earth fear the Lord;
let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of him.**

9 For he spoke, and it came to pass;
he commanded, and it stood fast.

Gradual Hymn # 310 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*
vv 1-2 before the Gospel, **vv 3-4** following MIT FREUDEN ZART

The Gospel Reading

All stand, as able, 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
John (1:1-5)

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says,

The Gospel of Christ.

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

Hymn # 310 vv 3-4

Homily

A silence for reflection may follow.

Creedal Statement

Celebrant Let us share in an affirmation of faith, as we say,

**We believe in God, who creates all things,
who embraces all things, who celebrates all things,
who is present in every part of the fabric of creation.**

**We believe in God as the source of all life,
who baptizes this planet with living water.**

We believe in Jesus Christ, seen in the suffering one,

**the poor one, the malnourished one, the climate refugee –
who loves and cares for this world and suffers with it.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, the seed of life,
who came to reconcile and renew this world and everything in it.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the breath of God, who moves with
God and who moves among us and with us today.**

We believe in everlasting life with God.

**We believe in the hope that one day God will put an end
to death and destructive forces.**

(adapted from: Lutheran Theological College, South India)

The Prayers of the People *(crafted by the reader)*

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Maker of all, we cry to you,

All Loving Creator, open our ears to hear
the suffering of creation
and the cries of those we have displaced
whose resources we have taken.
Suffering Saviour, we cry to you,
open our eyes to the path of restoration and healing.
Spirit of Transformation, we cry to you,
give us the courage to right the wrongs of injustice,
and live into a story of abundance and plenty for all,
the story of your forgiveness and healing.

Celebrant God's mercy flows like living water. The love of God,
incarnate in Jesus who spoke to troubled waters, forgives us and
calms our hearts so that justice may flow to all the dry places in our
lives. In the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, may this
grace free us to follow and proclaim the good news of the healing of
all creation.

People Amen.

The Peace

The presiding celebrant addresses the people.

Hear God's promise of a redeemed creation:
the wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
and a little child shall lead them.
They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain.
The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Preparation Hymn # 414 *God of the Sparrow*



*The wine, hosts, and bulletin today
are in Loving Memory of Christine (Lord) Firmin, in the
service of others, who died before her time,
by Bill and Stella Lord and Kate Therien*

The Prayer over the Gifts

When the altar has been prepared,

All **Eternal Creator, Holy Wisdom,**
all creation yearns in hope to be set free.
Receive all we offer you this day
and through this Eucharist
lead us to be servants of your justice and truth
in the name of Jesus.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer 4*

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Creator of all.

People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant

We give you thanks and praise, God our Creator.
Your infinite love created a universe of wonder.
At the dawn of time your Word summoned light
and bade it blaze forth in the darkness..
From your breath sprang the dance of the stars
in the night sky.
You laid the foundations of the earth, spread out the seas,
and stretched out the heavens like a tent above our heads.
You brought forth life in marvellous variety:
mosses, grasses and trees
insects and animals that move with grace and beauty,
birds that ride the winds, and the shimmering creatures of
the waters.
All creation bears witness to you: your glory shines forth in
the night sky; your wisdom is seen in the cunning miracle of a
living cell; your care is found in the generous bounty of the
earth; your joy flashes forth in a hawk on the wing;
your beauty meets us in the birth of each new day.
All things praise you in their own way,
and we join in that chorus as we sing:

The Sanctus (Land of Rest)

Ho - ly ho - ly, ho - ly Lo - rd God of po - wer and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry; Ho - sann - na in the high - est.
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.

Celebrant For such praise you created us,
youngest of all your creatures:
alongside all of creation you formed us of the earth,
along with all life we are quickened by your breath,
but of all creation you made us to bear your image
in loving care for all creation.
You call us to lift the voices of all creatures
to praise you through language, music, and art.
But we have failed you, failed your creation,
and failed our own nature.
We have forgotten our connection with the earth and all life.
We imagine ourselves masters of our own destiny.
We have betrayed our duty to care for creation,
and exploit it ruthlessly in our shortsighted greed.

To recall us to our true nature, you sent your Son Jesus.
In him divinity entered into creation, sharing our human
flesh, showing us our true calling as servants and priests of
creation.

When Jesus was led by our selfishness, fear, and lust for
power to cruel suffering and death, he did not abandon us.
Gathering his disciples on the night before his death,
Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and shared it, saying:
“This is my body, given for you.
Take and eat” – that I may dwell in you,
that you may become my body,
bringing nourishment and life to all.

After supper he took the cup of wine,
blessed it and shared it with them, saying:
“This is my blood, shed for you.
Drink this” – that you might have a part in my death,
dying to selfishness, violence, and sin,
and raised to the redeemed life of the kingdom.

Remembering his sharing of our flesh,
his embrace of life and acceptance of death,

his glorious resurrection as the first born of your new Creation, we offer ourselves, our lives and labour and aspirations to you, O God.

May we be transformed into the Body of Christ, that we might fulfil our purpose of caring for Creation, and giving praise to you our Creator.

Pour out on us anew your Holy Spirit, the breath of life, who nourishes and sustains all things living, who sighs for redemption in all Creation and in the depths of our hearts. Sanctify to us this meal of the Kingdom. Renew our hearts, renew our lives, renew the face of the earth.

Gather all nations and all creatures together into your peaceable kingdom, where together, in infinite diversity, we may sing with joy your praise, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, now and evermore. **Amen.**

Celebrant 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 celebrant breaks the consecrated bread for distribution

Celebrant Here is bread and wine –
touched and transformed by the Spirit.
Come, eat and drink, and be healed and strengthened
for this time being and for time to come.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.
People Thanks be to God.

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*(which may be prayed by those at home) **

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you now in the sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart.

Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus
and let me never be separated from you.

May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. **Amen**

**Based on a prayer by St. Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787) used at the 2020 Easter pandemic celebration at The Episcopal Cathedral Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul (Washington National Cathedral)*

Communion Hymn # 59 *Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him*

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant *Let us pray.*

All **Creator of all,**
in the death and resurrection of Jesus
you have reconciled all things in heaven and on earth.
May this bread and wine open our eyes
to your love and justice woven through all of creation.
We ask this through Jesus, your creating Word.
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

Celebrant May the God who sprung water from a rock, quenching the thirst of those who wandered in fear, spare us from the drought of a senseless life. May the God who flows from the wells of salvation, and who is Living Water to the foreigner, the stranger, and the unknown, keep us in peace. May the God who rolls on like a river, changing the course of the world with streams of righteousness, empower us to work for transformation. And may the blessing of our merciful God, Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, keep us and preserve us in eternal life. *(Episcopal Church of Brazil)*

People Amen.

Closing Hymn # 412 *O God Beyond All Face and Form*
Tune: MELITA

Dismissal *by the Deacon*

Postlude *Liebestraum no. 3* - Franz Liszt (1811-1886)

Thank you for joining us today. Following the service please stay for refreshments and conversation at the entrance area of the Cathedral.



Liturgical resource from the **Feast of The Creator**, Authorized for Trial Use, by the Council of General Synod, Canada, June 2026

* **Eucharistic Prayer 4** - written for the Wilmot Parish community of Nova Scotia by The Rev. Paul Jennings, and adapted for use by the National Church. All other liturgical texts, unless otherwise noted, were written in community by the members of the Feast of Creation Liturgical Task Group.

If you are new to the Cathedral, or would like to know more about us, or connect for news and updates on our activities and ministries, please take a moment to fill in a Welcome Card, available at the greeter's tables at our entrances.

* 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.



Cookies for Incoming College Students –

This September we will once again greet new students at Dalhousie and St. Mary's Universities with a home-baked cookie and note of welcome. It's not too early to start baking and freezing cookies! If you make a batch, please bring it on a Sunday and we'll store them in the freezer. Tuck a list of ingredients inside – and let's keep them nut- and peanut-free; some gluten-free would be helpful as well.

Thank you!



Welcome Back Sunday Join us

September 13th for our final combined service of the summer season. A Barbeque Luncheon will be held following the service in the Great Hall. On

September 20th we return to our schedule of a **9:15 am**

Contemporary Service with Sunday School, and **11 am** Choral Eucharist.



SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to pray and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to contemplate and care for, the *Oikos* (house or home) of God. The Season's "Celebration" begins on September 1, the day that several Christian denominations celebrate as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and others celebrate as the Feast of Creation. It ends on October 4, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, who is beloved by many Christian denominations. This year, we will unite around the theme "Living Water", with the symbol "Immersion in Living Water" inspired by the text of Ezekiel 47:1-12. This is a special season where we celebrate God as Creator, and acknowledge Creation as the divine continuing act that summons us as collaborators to love and care for the gift of all that is created. As followers of Christ from around the globe, we share a common call to care for Creation. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth. We rejoice in this opportunity to safeguard our common home and all beings who share it with us. *(from the Ecumenical Season of Creation Steering Committee)*



CREATION EXTRAVAGANZA WITH PET BLESSING AND MUCH MORE! -

Saturday, October 3, from 11 am

All Saints Cathedral is hosting a celebration to close the Season of Creation and honour St. Francis of Assisi.

11 am - Pet Blessing in Victoria Park

12 pm - Activities at the Cathedral, including **children's fun**, **Embodied Prayer Practices**, and **lunch**

1 pm - Planting pollinator seeds in our new garden out front

2 pm - Creation Songs & Stories - exuberant worship in the Cathedral

[Please share the news!](#)