



# HOLY EUCHARIST

September 12, 2021

9:30 am

St. John's Anglican Church  
West Toronto

# **We gather as community**

## **A SACRED SPACE**

People worshiping at home may wish to create a sacred space by lighting a candle.

## **PARTICIPANTS IN THE LITURGY**

|                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Presider:              | The Rev. Alexandra Stone  |
| Preacher:              | The Rev. David Hoopes OHC |
| Cantor:                | Genesis Bovas             |
| First Reader:          | Greg Los                  |
| Second Reader:         | May Webster               |
| Gospeller:             | The Rev. David Hoopes OHC |
| Prayers of the People: | John Spragge              |
| Music Director:        | Dan Gooch                 |
| Technical Support:     | Alan Harnum               |

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT\***

Creator, you made all people of every land. It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect to those who first occupied this land we are upon. We give thanks to the Wendat, the Anishinaabe, the Mississauga of the Credit and the Haudenosaunee, the first people of this land.

We offer our respect to those ancestors who may be interred on this land. We are also thankful for the gifts of the People of the land. Creator let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced.

With thankful and respectful hearts, we pray in Your name, Your son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. **Amen**

## **PRELUDE**

## HYMN

### **God, We Love This Congregation!** HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7 D

*God, we love this congregation!  
On this day, we're glad to see  
friends and neighbours, gathered, praying,  
as a church community.*

*Young and old, we join in worship —  
some in-person, some online.*

*We are drawn by faith and friendship  
to this blessed place and time.*

*In this year with all its trials,  
there are things that we have missed.  
Still, in Christ, you've walked beside us;  
by your Spirit, we've been blessed.  
Love's our history, love's our vision,  
Love's the work we're called to do.  
Bless us as our congregation  
moves together, serving you.*

## OPENING PRAYERS

Presider: The grace of Jesus the Christ, and the love of God and the companionship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

Presider: Almighty God,

**All: you call your Church to witness**

**that in Christ we are reconciled to you.**

**Help us so to proclaim the good news of your love,**

**that all who hear it may turn to you;**

**through Jesus the Christ,**

**who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**one God, now and for ever.**

**Amen**

## PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Readings are referenced on the final page.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the Hebrew Testament and the Book of Proverbs.

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner, she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."

## PAUSE

Reader Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PSALM

The psalm is printed in your bulletin, let us read it alternatively at full verse.

Heaven is declaring God's glory; the sky is proclaiming his handiwork.

**One day gushes the news to the next, and one night informs another what needs to be known.**

Of course, there's no speech, no words—their voices can't be heard—but their sound extends throughout the world; their words reach the ends of the earth.

**God has made a tent in heaven for the sun.**

The sun is like a groom coming out of his honeymoon suite; like a warrior, it thrills at running its course.

**It rises in one end of the sky; its circuit is complete at the other. Nothing escapes its heat.**

God's Instruction is perfect, reviving one's very being.

**God's laws are faithful, making naive people wise.**

God's regulations are right, gladdening the heart.

**God's commands are pure, giving light to the eyes.**

Honouring God is correct, lasting forever.

**God's judgments are true. All of these are righteous!**

They are more desirable than gold—than tons of pure gold!

**They are sweeter than honey—even dripping off the honeycomb!**

No doubt about it: your servant is enlightened by them; there is great reward in keeping them.

**But can anyone know what they've accidentally done wrong?**

Clear me of any unknown sin and save your servant from wilful sins.

**Do not let them rule me.**

Then I will be completely blameless; I will be innocent of great wrongdoing.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing to you, O God, my rock and my redeemer.**

Reader: Glory to God, Source of all being, Eternal Word  
and Holy Spirit

**All: As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever.  
Amen**

## SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of James.

Only a few of you, my siblings, should be teachers. You should realize that those of us who are teachers will be called to a stricter account. After all, each of us falls from time to time. However, those who never say anything wrong are truly close to perfection, because they can then control every part of themselves. Once we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we control the rest of their bodies. The same with ships—no matter how large they are, and even if they are driven by fierce winds, they are directed by a very small rudder to wherever the captain wants to go. The tongue is like that. It is a small part of the body, yet it makes great boasts. See how tiny the spark is that sets a huge forest ablaze! The tongue is such a flame.

Among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a whole wicked world in itself.

It infects the entire body. Its flames encircle our course from birth, and its fire is kindled by hell. All kinds of animals—birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea—can be tamed by us, but no one can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. We use it to say, “Praised be our God and Creator”; then we use it to curse each other—we who are created in the image of God. Blessing and curse come out of the same mouth. This should not be, my siblings! Does a spring emit both pure water and brackish water? My siblings, can a fig tree produce olives, or can a grapevine produce figs?

No—and neither can a fountain produce both salt water and fresh water.

### PAUSE

Reader: Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

All: **Thanks be to God**

**GRADUAL  
HYMN**

***Let My Life be Prayer***

*REFRAIN*

*Let my life be prayer*

*Let my life be prayer*

*Let my life be prayer, surely you will see me through.*

*From the moment that I wake up, til I go to sleep at night,*

*I offer up my work and words, bring them to the light.*

*Let me feel the power, through which we all unite,*

*Let my life be prayer                      Refrain*

*Take this song that I am singing, we offer it to you, w*

*The thoughts that I am thinking, may they express anew,*

*You're the inspiration, for everything we do, so*

*Let my life be prayer                      Refrain*

*I don't need to worry, though I know that cares will come,*

*I don't need to hurry, when I know thy will be done,*

*I just need to trust you and then in faith walk on*

*Let my life be prayer                      Refrain*

*My time upon this planet, is surely but a span*

*Things are bound to happen that we cannot understand*

*So in joy and sorrow, we take your outstretched hand*

*And let our lives be prayer.                      Refrain*

*Surely you will see me (several times until we are done)  
through.*

**THE GOSPEL**

Gospeller: May God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Gospeller: The Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Mark

**All: Glory to you, Jesus the Christ.**

Then Jesus and the disciples set out for the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way, Jesus asked the disciples this question: "Who do people say that I am?" They replied,

“Some say John the Baptizer; others, Elijah; still others, one of the prophets.”

“And you,” he went on to ask, “who do you say that I am?”

Peter answered, “You are the Messiah!”

But Jesus gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. Then Jesus began to teach them that the Promised One had to suffer much, be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and religious scholars, be put to death, and rise again three days later. Jesus said these things quite openly. Peter then took him aside and began to take issue with him. At this, Jesus turned around and, eyeing the disciples, reprimanded Peter: “Get out of my sight, you Satan! You are judging by human standards rather than by God’s!” Jesus summoned the crowd and the disciples and said, “If you wish to come after me, you must deny your very self, take up your cross and follow in my footsteps. If you would save your life, you’ll lose it, but if you lose your life for my sake, you’ll save it. What would you gain if you were to win the whole world but lose your self in the process? What can you offer in exchange for your soul? Whoever in this faithless and corrupt generation is ashamed of me and my words will find, in turn, that the Promised One and the holy angels will be ashamed of that person, when all stand before our God in glory.”

## **PAUSE**

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ

**All: Praise to you Jesus the Christ**

## **SERMON**

## **MUSICAL REFLECTION**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: IONA ABBEY WORSHIP BOOK**

Presider: Please join me in affirming our faith together.

**All: 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 ourselves on the line; to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation; to stand with those on the edge; to choose life and be used by the spirit for God's new community of hope. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Intercessor: Gracious God

**All: Hear our prayer**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

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

*Silence is kept*

Presider: 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 neighbor as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus the Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we might delight in your will and walk in your ways. Amen.**

Presider: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus the Christ. **Amen**

## **THE PEACE**

Presider: May the peace of Jesus the Christ be always with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*We take a moment to share the peace*

# The Celebration of the Eucharist

## OFFERTORY

### HYMN 307      *When Long Before Time*      THE SINGER AND THE SONG

*When long before time and the worlds were begun,  
when there was no earth and no sky and no sun,  
and all was deep silence and night reigned supreme,  
and even our Maker had only a dream...*

*...the silence was broken when God sang the Song,  
and light pierced the darkness and rhythm began,  
and with its first birthcries creation was born,  
and creaturely voices sang praise to the morn.*

*The sounds of the creatures were one with their Lord's,  
their harmonies sweet and befitting the Word;  
the Singer was pleased as the earth sang the song;  
the choir of the creatures reechoed it long.*

*Though, down through the ages, the Song disappeared,  
its harmonies broken and almost unheard,  
the Singer comes to us to sing it again:  
our God is with us in the world now as then*

*The Light has returned as it came once before;  
the Song of the Lord is our own song once more;  
so let us all sing with one heart and one voice  
the song of the Singer in whom we rejoice.*

*To you, God the Singer, our voices we raise;  
to you, Song Incarnate, we give all our praise;  
to you, Holy Spirit, our life and our breath,  
be glory forever, through life and through death.*

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:

Presider:            Covenant God

**All:                    as a sign of devotion to you and your vision for the  
world, we bring these gifts. May they bring light to those  
who have lost their way, hope to the despairing, and**

**freedom for those held in bondage. In Christ's name we pray. Amen**

**EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**     *Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer #1*

Presider:     May God be with you.

**All:            And also with you.**

Presider:     Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider:     Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

**All:            It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider:     Holy God, Lover of creation, we give you thanks and praise for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of your Spirit in our hearts. When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us. Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micha, through prophets, sages, and saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new creation. Joining in the song of the universe we proclaim your glory singing:

**All:            Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider:     Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open a path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you. Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was near. His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered together those who loved him. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, 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. Whenever you

drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.” And now we gather at this table in response to his commandment, to share the bread and cup of Christ’s undying love, and to proclaim our faith.

**All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Presider: Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we bring you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name forever.

**All: Amen.**

Presider: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your realm 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 reign, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

Presider: Creator of all, you gave us golden field of wheat, whose many grains we have gathered and made into this one bread.

**All: So may your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your realm.**

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

***O Jesus I have Promised***

**WOLVERCOTE**

*O Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end;  
be thou forever near me,  
my Master and my Friend.*

*I shall not fear the battle  
if thou art by my side,  
not wander from the pathway  
if thou wilt be my guide.*

*O let me feel thee near me:  
the world is ever near;  
I see the sights that dazzle,  
the tempting sounds I hear;  
my foes are ever near me,  
around me and within;  
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer  
and shield my soul from sin.*

*O Jesus, thou hast promised  
to all who follow thee,  
that where thou art in glory  
there shall thy servant be;  
and, Jesus, I have promised  
to serve thee to the end!  
O give me grace to follow,  
my Master and my Friend.*

*O let me see thy footmarks  
and in them plant mine own:  
my hope to follow duly  
is in thy strength alone.  
O guide me, call me, draw me,  
uphold me to the end;  
and then in heaven receive me,  
my Saviour and my Friend.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Presider:** Almighty God

**All:** **once again you have given us what we need: sacrament,  
one another, hope for a better day. With renewed energy,**

**we offer ourselves to be sent out in your name; hopeful, grateful, useful, leaders of liberation, proclaimers of your love. Amen**

**Presider:** 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, forever and ever. Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

### **CELEBRATIONS, NEEDS, REFLECTIONS**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low.  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known.  
Creator, Word and Spirit one.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **HYMN 450**

### **YOU CALL US LORD TO BE**

### **RHOSYMEDRE**

*You call us Lord to be  
A people set apart  
To feel with thoughtful mind  
And think with tender heart  
  
You call us Lord to care  
For self and neighbour too  
To take the risk and dare  
And show what love can do  
  
You call us Lord to be  
Good stewards of the earth  
To tend it as a place  
Of blessedness and worth  
  
You call us Lord to serve  
To die that we may live  
To know we best receive  
When joyfully we give*

*Thus chosen now O Lord  
We ask for faith in your un-  
failing grace to make us  
Equal to the Task*

**DISMISSAL**

Deacon: Let us go and live the good news of God's infinite love

**Congregation: Thanks be to God**

**POSTLUDE**

## Building up for God!

The mission of St. John's Church is to build a community of caring believers committed to Christ, to work for justice and service to all in need. We gather to praise God, and to give and receive support to meet the challenges of our daily lives and ministries. We call on everyone to come and join us.

We are an accessible, accepting, diverse community. We are young and old, able-bodied, and disabled, employed and unemployed. We are married, single, divorced, straight, and LGBTQ2S+. We are from all over the world, yet we could live next door. You will find open minds and open hearts at St. John's.

### Ministry Team:

Fr. David Bryan Hoopes, OHC, *Interim Priest-in-Charge*  
The Rev. Evelyn Butler, *Deacon*  
The Rev. Bob Shantz, *Honorary Assistant*  
The Rev. Margaret Rodrigues, *Honorary Assistant*  
Genesis Bovas, *Director Family and Youth Ministry*

### Management Team:

Phillip Conliffe, *Administrator*  
Cheryl Atkins, *People's Warden*  
John Spragge, *Deputy People's Warden*  
Greg Los, *Rector's Warden*  
Andrea Ruddy, *Deputy Rector's Warden*

**Cover Image:** *Tree of Life* © Jozef Klopicka | Dreamstime.com

\* *The Land Acknowledgement is taken from A Liturgy for The National Indigenous Day of Prayer*  
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### Hymns:

*Hymn We Love this Congregation, Text: Copyright © 2021 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved; Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824 ("Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee").*  
*Hymn Let my Life be Prayer; Ken Whitley used with permission.*  
*Common Praise: Hymn 307, Text: Peter Davison; Tune: Peter Davison, George Black;*  
*Hymn 438, Text: John Ernest Bode; Tune; William Harold Ferguson;*  
*Hymn 450 Text: Jane Manton Marshal; Text: John David Edwards*

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**Today's Readings:** Readings *Proverbs 1:20-33, NSRV; Psalm 19, CEB; James 3:1-12, Inclusive Bible; Mark 8:27-38, Inclusive Bible*