



Harvest Thanksgiving

October 10, 2021 | 9:00 am

The Rev. Canon Dr. Penny Anderson - Rector

The Rev. Michael Coren - Pastoral Associate

Andy Elmhirst - Director of Music

Welcome to St. Christopher's

Thank you for being with us this morning! Please be assured that our liturgical customs and hygiene practices are continually being adapted for pandemic considerations and to protect the health and safety of all. We hope that this will be a meaningful time of worship for you!

About the Service

Everything you need for the service can be found in this booklet and large print copies are also available. You may take this service bulletin home with you or discard it in the blue box as you exit. It will not be re-used.

Children & Families

The facilitator will seat you with all household members attending with you this morning. Please remain together throughout your time here and do not change or leave your seats once you have been seated. Should you require assistance at any time during the service, please let one of the greeters know and they will be happy to assist.

Washrooms

Our washrooms are available for urgent needs only and the washroom in Grannies Place has been designated for your use this morning. Should you need to use the washroom, we kindly ask that you wipe any touch surfaces with the available disinfectant wipes. The greeter or warden on duty will be available to assist you should you need to leave the service at any time.

Music

Music is an integral part of our service and we hope that it will deepen your worship experience this morning. At this time congregational singing is not permitted so please, just relax and enjoy. We ask that you remain in your seat at the conclusion of the service and follow the guidance of the sidesperson to exit the church.

Audio Loop

If you use a hearing aid with a "T" setting, you can take advantage of our audio loop in the main section (Nave) of the church.

"Collection"

We don't pass the collection plate at St. Christopher's. Instead, if you wish to make a financial contribution to support our ministries, there are donation boxes just inside the door into the worship space.

Communion

All are invited to share in the Holy Eucharist. Please remain seated until you are invited up the centre aisle by the greeter. Leave your mask on as you approach the priest, and follow the 6 ft. markings on the centre aisle as you wait. At this time we are offering communion in one kind, the bread, only. Please hold out your hands and the priest will drop the wafer into your hands (without touching you). Once you have received the wafer, please step to the communion station at the side. Once there, remove one side of your mask, place the wafer in your mouth, replace your mask, sanitize your hands, and return directly to your seat by the side aisle. If you are not comfortable receiving the bread, you can come forward to receive a blessing - just cross your arms over your chest; the priest will pray for God's blessing on you (without touching you). If you require gluten-free bread, please ask the priest.

General COVID-19 Protocols

Mask use is mandatory at all times in the building.

We encourage you to sanitize your hands frequently and there is sanitizer in many places throughout the church.

Please maintain physical distance of a minimum of 6' from those outside of your household group at all times. You will find markings on the floor to assist with this.

The Peace will be shared in place and using non-contact gestures.

Exiting the Building following the Service

Please remain in your seat and follow the guidance of the sidesperson to exit the church. Unfortunately, we are not able to offer coffee and fellowship as we usually would, and you will be asked to exit the building immediately after the service.

You are welcome to join our Zoom Chat Time following this morning's service. The link to connect to the online gathering can be found in your most recent Eblast. Please join us as soon as you return home!

Blessings

None of us comes to church by accident and each of us brings the rest of our lives with us. No matter what joys, burdens or dilemmas you bring with you today, we pray that this time will be a gift to you; that God's grace will touch you with hope and energy to live your life with greater depth, integrity, compassion, and courage.

Sunday, October 10, 2021

9 am Holy Eucharist

Rector:

Canon Penny Anderson

Pastoral Associate:

Rev. Michael Coren

Director of Music:

Andy Elmhirst

Prelude

Little Hunting Song

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Announcements & Welcome

Canon Penny Anderson

Land Acknowledgement

Rev. Michael Coren

We gather for worship on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Métis peoples. This territory is included in the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant. In a spirit of reconciliation we call to mind the 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada Report. The final report of the Commission includes 94 Calls to Action, the second of which calls upon the federal government, in collaboration with the provinces and territories, to prepare and publish annual reports on the number of Indigenous children (First Nations, Inuit, and Métis) who are in care, compared with non-Indigenous children. With respect, may we use our privilege to amplify the voices calling for this action to be implemented.

Opening Hymn: We Plough the Fields and Scatter

CP #258

1. We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by God's almighty hand;
he sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.
Refrain
All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord,
for all his love.

2. He only is the maker
of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower,
he lights the evening star.
The winds and waves obey him;
by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children,
he gives our daily bread.
Refrain

3. We thank thee then, O Father,
for all things bright and good:
the seed time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer
for all thy love imparts,
and, what thou most desirest,
our humble, thankful hearts.
Refrain

The Gathering of the Community

Rev. Michael Coren

Please stand

Presider Life Giver,
you dance with the brightness of flame into our lives,
breathing new life full of compassion and joy.

All **Dance in us today, Life Giver.**

Presider Life Affirmer,
sweep aside our apathy, fear, and distrust;
awaken in us a passion for justice and truth.

All **Awaken us today, Life Affirmer.**

Presider Life Changer,
hold us in your tender care as you transform our hearts
and make us co-creators of your new society.

All **Inspire us today, Life Changer.**

Presider God, three in one, we praise you
for your gifts of new life, passion, and courage
revealed and fulfilled in Jesus.

All **Set us free to receive these gifts anew today.**

Presider Fill us with your fire,
so we can proclaim your love without fear;
until the whole world is inspired by your
life-giving, life-affirming, and life-changing love. **Amen.**

First Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 3-10a

Read by Chris Byrnes

Please be seated

Reader For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain.

At the conclusion of the passage, the reader says,

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel: Mark 10: 17-31

Rev. Michael Coren

Reader May God be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Reader As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother." ' He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Reader

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!’ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, ‘Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.’ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, ‘Then who can be saved?’ Jesus looked at them and said, ‘For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.’

Peter began to say to him, ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you.’ Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.’

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says,

Reader

The Gospel of Christ.

All

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Please be seated

Sermon

Canon Penny Anderson

Silence for Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Please stand

Presider

Let us affirm the faith that draws us here:

All

**We trust in a life-giving God,
who created our world abundant with all that we need;
who made each of us unique and complete.
We trust in Jesus, who lived in community with us,
walking with us as we walk with one another,
showing us God’s love, grace-filled and freely given.**

**Following Christ’s example we come to this table
to live in communion with each of God’s children.**

**We trust in the Spirit, God’s power moving in and through us.
Through the Spirit, we commit to live the gospel
of love, hospitality, and justice in the world.
Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Led by Janet Gadeski

Confession & Absolution

Canon Penny Anderson

Presider My friends, God calls the whole human family
to participate in transforming the world
and blesses us with all that we need for abundant life.

All **And yet, we hoard God's gifts for ourselves,
Like the rich man,
we are reluctant to give up what we consider "ours"
and to set right our relationships with others for fear of the cost.
We create systems that disadvantage and exclude others,
and we exploit creation for our own desires.**

Presider Let us acknowledge the ways that we allow our pride and need
to delay the advent of love and justice for all
and recommit ourselves to the path to transformation
laid out in the promises of our baptism
to seek and serve Christ in all of God's creation.

Silence

All **Receive our regret and apathy today.
Restore in us a sense of your loving purpose
for us and for all of your creation.
Reawaken our longing for that new place,
rooted and centred in your grace,
where peace and justice are fulfilled
and healing and wholeness are possible.**

Presider God is forgiving and faithful,
always inviting us forward,
setting us free from the past.
Receive and embrace the forgiveness of God,
Life Giver, Life Affirmer, and Life Changer.

All **Amen.**

The Peace

The presider addresses the people.

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

The members of the community offer signs of peace to one another from a safe distance.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn: Let All Things Now Living

CP #403

1. Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
Love's banners are o'er us:
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into Light.
2. God's law still enforces
the stars in their courses
and causes the sun in its splendour to shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean in praises combine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

The Prayer over the Gifts

Presider God of constant love,
in the eucharist we are made one with you.
As you are faithful in all things
may we have grace from you
to be faithful to our calling.
In the name of Jesus Christ your Beloved One.

All **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider May God be with you.
All **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the Living God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the God of the universe.
All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth;
you are the source of light and life for all your creation.
You made us in your image,
and call us to new life in Jesus Christ.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices to proclaim the glory of your name as we say,

All **Holy, holy, holy,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in God's name.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Presider O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation,
you call us to your table and share your life with us.

When the world was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child. When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, the psalmist cried out for healing. And full of compassion, you shared your life with the people.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he shared your life with the people.

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Presider Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me.

All Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.
Amen!

Presider Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.
All **Amen!**

Presider Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.
All **Amen!**

Presider O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.
O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one.
O God, you are Fire: transform us and renew us.
O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Lover to the Beloved, the life of the Spirit of our risen Saviour, life in you, now and forever.
All **Amen.**

Presider Let us gather all our prayers into one as we say,

All **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
All **We, being many, are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Invitation

Presider This is the table of the Living God,
ready for those who love God
and those who want to love God more.

So come,
you who have much faith
and you who have little,
you who have been here often
and you who have never been before,
You who have tried to follow Jesus
and you who have failed.

Come, because it is Christ who invites us
to meet him here.

Please be seated.

All are invited to share in the Holy Eucharist. Please remain seated until you are invited up the centre aisle by the greeter. Leave your mask on as you approach the priest, and follow the 6 ft. markings on the centre aisle as you wait. At this time we are offering communion in one kind, the bread, only. Please hold out your hands and the priest will drop the wafer into your hands (without touching you). Once you have received the wafer, please step to the communion station at the side. Once there, remove one side of your mask, place the wafer in your mouth, replace your mask, sanitize your hands, and return directly to your seat by the side aisle. If you are not comfortable receiving the bread, you can come forward to receive a blessing - just cross your arms over your chest; the priest will pray for God's blessing on you (without touching you). If you require gluten-free bread, please ask the priest.

Song During Communion: For the Fruit of All Creation CP #259

1. For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God;
gifts bestowed on every nation,
thanks be to God.
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.
2. In the just reward of labour,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbour,
God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.
3. For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

Prayer after Communion

Presider Faithful God,
in baptism and eucharist we are made one with you.
May we who have shared in holy things
always bear witness to your care for us,
in the name of Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

Doxology

All

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

Blessing

Canon Penny Anderson

Closing Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God

Blue book #399

1. Now thank we all our God,
 with heart and hands and voices,
 who wondrous things hath done,
 in whom this world rejoices;
 who from our mother's arms
 hath blessed us on our way
 with countless gifts of love,
 and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God
 through all our life be near us,
 with ever joyful hearts
 and blessed peace to cheer us,
 and nourish us with grace,
 and guide us when perplexed,
 and free us from all ills
 in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God
 eternal now be given,
 to Spirit and to Word,
 who reign in highest heaven:
 our ever faithful God,
 whom heaven and earth adore;
 for thus it was, is now,
 and shall be evermore.

The Dismissal

Presider
All

Alleluia! Go in peace to seek and serve Christ beyond these walls.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The Happy Farmer

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

Zoom - Church & Chat at 11 am

You are invited to join an informal service of the word followed by social time this morning at 11 am. You will find the link to join the Zoom gathering in the Email Blast.

Thank You!

Thank you to this morning's choristers for animating our worship music.



We are a dynamic, inclusive, diverse community
rooted in the life-giving, life-affirming, life-changing love of God
reaching beyond ourselves
caring for creation
making a difference with others.