



Anglican Diocese of Ottawa Episcopal Electoral Synod 2026

Lenten Ember Day Eucharist

Saturday | February 28th | 9 am

Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa

*Our diocese was founded on the homeland of the Anishinaabe Algonquins.
May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.*

Welcome to Christ Church Cathedral

Sidespeople can provide headsets for those who need hearing assistance and can ensure that communion is brought to you in the pew if required.

Please turn off or set mobile devices to silent mode.

Prayer for the Election

Gracious and loving God, we pray that you will call among us as our bishop a person of prayer, a faithful disciple, a compassionate pastor, and a chief shepherd of your own choosing, who will guide the people of our diocese as we share the transforming gospel of Jesus Christ.

Bless those who will elect Ottawa's new bishop with gifts of discernment and understanding, so that they will have the wisdom to recognize whom you are sending.

In this time of transition, keep us all steadfast in faith and united in love, trusting in the promises of your kingdom. Fill our hearts and minds with your grace and favour, that our words and actions embody the gospel we proclaim.

This we ask through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Uphold in Prayer

The nominees for the Eleventh Bishop of the Diocese of Ottawa:

The Venerable Brian Kauk
The Venerable Kathryn Otley
The Venerable Monique Stone

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude | *Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele (BWV 654)* | J.S. Bach

Hymn 300 | *Christ is made the sure foundation*

Greeting

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

And also with you.

The Archbishop addresses the congregation.

Almighty God,

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.

Collect

Almighty God, by your grace alone we are accepted and called to your service. Strengthen us by your Holy Spirit and make us worthy of your calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading | *Isaiah 44:1-8*

A reading from the book of Isaiah.

But now hear, O Jacob my servant, Israel whom I have chosen! Thus says the Lord who made you, who formed you in the womb and will help you: Do not fear, O Jacob my servant, Jeshurun whom I have chosen. For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring. They shall spring up like a green

tamarisk, like willows by flowing streams. This one will say, 'I am the Lord's', another will be called by the name of Jacob, yet another will write on the hand, 'The Lord's', and adopt the name of Israel. Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm | 87

On the holy mountain
stands the city God has founded;

the Lord loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Glorious things are spoken of you,
O city of our God.

I count Egypt and Babylon among those who know me;
behold Philistia, Tyre, and Ethiopia: in Zion were they born.

Of Zion it shall be said, "Everyone was born in there,
and the Most High shall sustain it."

The Lord will record as the peoples are enrolled,
"These also were born there."

The singers and the dancers will say,
"All my fresh springs are in you."

Second Reading | *1 Peter 2:4-10*

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be

a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: 'See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner', and 'A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn 569 | *Come, my way, my truth, my life*

Holy Gospel | *John 17:6-19*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word,

and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers of the People

Let us pray.

Creator God, who brought light out of darkness, at the beginning of this new day we pray for your Spirit's presence as we elect a new bishop.

We pray for our diocese, for our parish ministries, our community ministries, and for Ascension House. Gracious God, you give us gifts that we may work together in the service of your Son: may the bishop we elect be a shepherd who will feed your flock, guard the faith, unity and discipline of your Church, and build up the Body of Christ.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Nous prions pour tous les membres de notre diocèse, qui cherchent dans nos paroisses soutien dans leur foi, sacrements, accompagnement pastoral, et contribution. Dieu inébranlable, tu nous fais don d'une communauté chrétienne: que l'évêque que nous élisons témoigne de sagesse pour approfondir notre compréhension et utilise son autorité pour mettre en valeur les dons des autres.

We pray for all the people of our diocese, who look to our parishes to be nurtured in faith, to receive the sacraments and pastoral care, to belong, and to contribute. Steadfast God, you give us the gift of Christian community: may the bishop we elect be a wise teacher who increases our understanding and uses their authority to lift up the gifts of others.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for all the participants in each of our community ministries, who look to our Church for acceptance and support. Merciful God, you call us to be icons of your love in this world: may the bishop we elect show mercy to all who live precariously and defend those who are marginalized.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for all the clergy of our diocese, who are called to share in the ministry of our bishop and to serve the Church from both sides of the Kitchi-Sibì to the mighty St. Lawrence; from the Lower Ottawa Valley to the Canadian Shield. Faithful God, you call some to serve as deacons and priests: may the bishop we elect be a pastoral and steady leader for those ordained to minister among us.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Nous prions pour Sarah, archevêque de Canterbury, Shane, notre primat, et Anne, notre archevêque métropolitain. Dieu de communion, tu appelles ton Église à l'unité : que l'évêque que nous élisons nous maintienne en communion avec l'église canadienne et internationale, en encourageant l'œcuménisme et la collaboration avec nos amis interconfessionnels et d'autres partenaires.

We pray for Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury, Shane, our Primate, and Anne our Metropolitan. God of Communion, you call your Church to be one: may the bishop we

elect keep us in communion with the wider Church in Canada and beyond, encouraging ecumenism and collaboration with interfaith friends and willing partners.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Nous prions pour le monde que nous partageons avec tous et tout. Dieu vivant, tu nous appelles à respecter la dignité de chaque être humain et à partager avec toi la gestion de la création: que l'évêque que nous élisons soit courageux dans la poursuite de la paix, de la justice et de l'intégrité de la création, nous appelant à œuvrer pour la réconciliation entre les peuples et la guérison de la terre.

We pray for the world we share with everyone and everything. Living God, you call us to respect the dignity of every human being and to share in the stewardship of creation: may the bishop we elect be courageous in the pursuit of peace, justice, and the integrity of creation, calling us to strive for reconciliation between people and the healing of the earth.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for Brian, Kathryn and Monique who have faithfully offered themselves to serve as candidates in this election and have entrusted the outcome to the Holy Spirit working in us here today. God who calls us, bless these your servants and those who have accompanied them in discernment, and give them peace and serenity at this time and in the days ahead.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Gracious God, trusting that you will give us tomorrow, we pray, have mercy on us today, and unite us in heart and mind as we are guided by your Holy Spirit to seek and to serve you. We ask this in the name of our true Shepherd, your son Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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

Silence.

Most merciful God,
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.

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. **Amen.**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Hymn 442 | *Great God, your love has called us here*

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

God of faithfulness, in every age you call people to make known your love. May we who celebrate this eucharist today be so strengthened in the ministries to which we are called, that we may always witness to your holy name. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 Creator 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. **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread,
Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.
If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

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

Communion

All are welcome to come to the altar rail. If you wish prayers for healing before receiving Communion, please carry an Order of Service with you; to receive a blessing, cross your hands over your chest; for a gluten-free wafer, hold out one hand; for a regular wafer, hold out two hands. Please do not dip the bread in the wine.

Hymn 435 | *Take my life, and let it be*

Hymn 180 | *Giver of the perfect gift*

Hymn 450 | *You call us, Lord, to be*

The Sending of the Community

Prayer after Communion

God of our salvation, your Spirit has given us new life, and you have nourished us with holy things. May we be living members of your Son Jesus Christ, and exercise the ministry to which we are called. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

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.

Episcopal Blessing

Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn 444 | *Your hand, O God, has guided*

Postlude | *Komm, Gott, Schöpfer, heiliger Geist (BWV 667)* | *J.S. Bach*

Celebrant | Preacher | The Most Reverend Anne Germond

Organist | James Calkin

Readers | Norm Villegas | Katherine Spencer-Ross

Intercessor | The Reverend Canon Catherine Ascah Duty Warden | Katherine Spencer-Ross

Liturgy: *The Book of Alternative Services* ©1985; *The Psalter of The Book of Alternative Services Emended for Contemporary Liturgical Use* ©2016 by the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. Readings: *New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV) Anglicized Edition*, ©1989, 1995, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.



**Christ Church
Cathedral
Ottawa**