



# **FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS**

## **Holy Eucharist**

September 13, 2020

***St. Stephen's is a Christian community in the making.***

At the intersection of what was and what will be, we invite you to gather with us around prayer, food, and the simple conviction that nothing is wasted in God's economy.

***All are welcome at St. Stephen's.***

Whether you come with great faith or great doubt, regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation or marital status, whatever your financial status or housing situation – we hope you can find a home with us as we explore together what it means to follow Jesus.

## **Ministry Team**

|  |   |
|--|---|
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| <b>Honorary Assistant</b>                  | The Reverend Mary Pataki<br>mary@ststephensmaple.ca     |
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# **ST. STEPHEN'S**

**ANGLICAN CHURCH, MAPLE**

# Gathering of the Community

## Prelude

*Fugue in C Major, J.S. Bach*

## Opening Hymn

Lift High the Cross

**Refrain** Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name!

- 1 Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout!  
If we are silent, even stones cry out. **Refrain**
- 2 Jesus, you wept to see our human strife:  
teach us compassion for each human life. **Refrain**
- 3 Worlds to be born and children yet to be,  
come, take up this song into eternity. **Refrain**

Music: © 1974; st. 1-5 © 1992 Hope Publishing

## Greeting

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

**All And also with you.**

Priest Almighty God,

**All to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hidden.  
Cleanse the thoughts of our heart  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Gloria

Priest     Glory to God in the highest  
**All**        **and peace to God's 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.**

## Collect of the Day

Priest     Almighty God,  
              whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
              was lifted high upon the cross  
              that he might draw the whole world to himself,  
              may we who rejoice in the mystery of our redemption,  
              have grace to take up our cross and follow him,  
              who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
              one God, now and for ever.

**All**        **Amen.**

## Proclamation of the Word

### First Reading     Numbers 21.4b–9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Reader     The word of the Lord.  
All         **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 98:1-6

Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.  
O LORD, you have made known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.  
You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.  
Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.  
Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of song.  
With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1.18–24

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.’

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Reader      The word of the Lord.  
**All            Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia.

## Gospel

John 3.13–17

Priest      The Lord be with you.

**All            And also with you.**

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

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

No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

‘For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

‘Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Priest      This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

## Homily     Mary+

### Apostles' Creed

Priest     Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**All     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

Priest     Having affirmed our faith,  
let us prepare to offer our prayers to God.

*Each petition concludes:*

Leader     Lord, in your mercy,  
**All     hear our prayer.**

*At the conclusion of the prayers, the congregation is invited to respond:*

Leader     Merciful God,  
**All     accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

Priest 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 for reflection is observed.*

Priest 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 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.**

Priest 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.  
**All Amen.**

## Peace

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

# Celebration of the Eucharist

## **Invitation to Christian Stewardship**

*Just as we are working to find new and meaningful ways to engage in worship as a community, we're also working to find new ways to express our support of our shared community. Instead of a traditional offering, please consider visiting our website and clicking on the 'donate' button to make a contribution, or to sign up for pre-authorized givings.*

*As always, please do not feel any obligation to give.*

## **Prayer over the Gifts**

Priest      Merciful God, through the death of your beloved Son  
                  you transformed an instrument of shame into a sign of hope and glory.  
                  Receive all we offer you this day, and renew in us the mystery of his love;  
                  through the same Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.

**All            Amen.**

## **Great Thanksgiving**

Priest      The Lord be with you.

**All            And also with you.**

Priest      Lift up your hearts.

**All            We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Priest      It is indeed right to thank you and praise you,  
                  holy and gracious God, creator of all things,  
                  ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life,  
                  for you are the source of all goodness,  
                  rich in mercy and abounding in love;  
                  you are faithful to your people in every generation,  
                  and your word endures for ever.  
                  Therefore, with angels and archangels,  
                  with the fellowship of saints and the company of heaven,  
                  we glorify your holy name, evermore praising you and singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heav'n\_\_\_\_\_ and earth\_\_\_\_\_ are full\_\_\_\_\_ of your  
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Blest is he who comes\_\_ in the  
 name\_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.\_\_\_\_\_

Priest We praise you, merciful Father,  
 not as we ought, but as we are able,  
 because in your tender love  
 you gave the world your only Son,  
 in order that the world might be saved through him.  
 He made you known by taking the form of a servant,  
 healing the sick, liberating the oppressed,  
 reaching out to the lost.  
 Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross,  
 he confronted the power of sin  
 and disarmed it for ever.

In his offering of himself,  
he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice  
for the sins of the whole world.  
Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children;  
by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed,  
Jesus, at supper with his friends,  
took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread,  
gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat:  
this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine,  
and when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them,  
and said, "Drink this all of you:  
this is my blood of the new covenant  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
do this for the remembrance of me."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts  
we approach your holy table,  
remembering our Saviour's sacrifice,  
and rejoicing in his victory.  
Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith.

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

Priest      Send your Holy Spirit on us  
            that as we receive this bread and this cup  
            we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
            and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love,  
and strengthened in our will to serve others;  
and make of our lives, we pray,  
a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you,  
knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honour and glory, now and forever.

**All**        **Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

Priest      And now, as our Saviour 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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

Priest      "I am the bread which has come down from heaven," says the Lord.

**All**        **Give us this bread forever.**

Priest      "I am the vine, you are the branches."

**All**        **May we dwell in Christ, as Christ lives in us.**



Priest These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.  
**All Thanks be to God.**

## Invitation to Spiritual Communion

Priest My dear friends,  
I invite you in this moment, wherever you may be,  
to receive Christ, in communion with the saints,  
and the gathering of God's people, unseen and yet present with us now.  
Many are made one.

Priest We receive you Lord Jesus Christ,  
**All we welcome your presence in us,  
and together proclaim our love for you;  
with our hearts, minds, our souls and our strength,  
with the saints we worship you,  
with the angels we adore you,  
with your whole Church we proclaim your reign.  
Come to us, though many,  
and make us one in you. Amen.**

*During the musical interlude, this may be prayed silently.*

Holy Jesus we receive you in this moment,  
giving you thanks and praise that you make yourself present  
to all your people in the bread and wine of the Eucharist.  
Transform our hearts that we may shine as your light in dark places;  
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
Where there is sadness, joy.  
And this all, in love for you. Amen.

## Prayer after Communion

Priest     Almighty God,  
we give thanks that you have made us partakers  
of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who took our nature upon him  
and suffered death upon the cross for our redemption;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**All     Amen.**

## Doxology

Priest     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.**

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## Blessing

Priest     The peace of God, which passes all understanding,  
            keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God.  
            And the blessing of God almighty,  
            the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
            be with you all, evermore.

**All        Amen.**

## Closing Hymn     Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

Tree of Life, and awesome myst'ry,  
in your death we are reborn;  
though you die in all of hist'ry,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn,  
still you rise with ev'ry morn.

Seed that dies to rise in glory,  
may we see ourselves in you;  
if we learn to live your story  
we may die to rise anew,  
we may die to rise anew.

Gentle Jesus, mighty Spirit,  
come inflame our hearts anew.  
We may all your joy inherit  
if we bear the cross with you,  
if we bear the cross with you.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, © GIA Publications, Inc.

## Dismissal

Priest     Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All        Thanks be to God.**



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