

*Welcome to St. Aidan's--we are blessed by your presence today! Hymns are found in the blue "Common Praise" book.
We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabeg People.*

The Gathering of the Community

Hymn 385: Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness

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.

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.

Grant us, Almighty God, after the example of your holy servant Francis, to do what you would have us do, and always to desire what is pleasing in your sight, that cleansed by your love, enlightened by your truth, and kindled with the fire of your Holy Spirit, we may follow in the footsteps of your beloved Son and make our way to you, O God most High; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

A Reading from Genesis

God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

GENESIS 1:20-25

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 148.7-14

Praise the Lord from the earth, **you sea-monsters and all deeps;**
fire and hail, snow and fog, **tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**
mountains and all hills, **fruit trees and all cedars;**
wild beasts and all cattle, **creeping things and winged birds;**
sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, **princes and all rulers of the world;**
young men and young women, **old and young together.**
Let them praise the name of the Lord, **whose name only is exalted, whose splendour is over earth and heaven.**
The Lord has raised up strength for this people and **praise for all loyal servants,**
the children of Israel, **a people who are near to the Lord. Hallelujah!**

A Reading from Galatians

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen.

GALATIANS 6:14-18

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Procession (CP314): **Sing praises, all you peoples, sing praises to the Lord.
Sing praises, all you peoples, sing praises to the Lord!**

The Holy Gospel

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

MATTHEW 11:25-30

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

Blessing of the Animals

Creator of all things and giver of all life,
we give thanks for all the animals that have graced our lives
with their gentle and friendly presence.
We remember especially those beloved pets who have died,
who we name silently or aloud.
Now, we celebrate those who are with us today.
Let your blessing be upon these animals.
Grant them health, peace, and joy, all the days of their lives.
May our relationships with them mirror your love,
and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy.
In Christ's name, we pray. **Amen.**

The priest will go around and bless each animal.

Creed Hymn 44

The Prayers of the People

Response: God of Life, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray for Lynn, Sandra, Terence, Laurie, Jennifer, Kathryn, Chris, Ronald.

We give thanks for the lives of David Houlton, beloved husband of Donna and Jenny Banfai, daughter-in-law of Connie Munro and Joe McKendy. May they rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Confession and Absolution

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

**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 of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Hymn 59: Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him

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The Celebration of the Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts

Loving God, join our offering to the sacrifice of your only Son, that our service may be stamped with his humility and bear the image of his obedience; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer (Salal and Cedar, Adapted for Local Use, Used with Permission)

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Creator.**

Let us thank the Giver of Life. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** [...]

Together with angels and ancestors, lake and river, deer and coyote, birch tree and cedar,
we join our voices with all of creation as we sing: ***Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*** [...]

All honour and glory are yours, Creator, Saviour, and Spirit, now and in the world to come. **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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

"I am the bread of life," says the Lord.

"Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst."

Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are they who trust in him!

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

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus, Bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Redeemer, Redeemer of the world, give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Communion

For Communion from the Pews, tell our Sidesperson, or raise your hand; otherwise, Communion is offered at Altar Rail.

Prayer after Communion

God of all goodness, who gave to your servant Francis a will to be the servant of all, grant us in our service of your gospel to hold back nothing of ourselves for ourselves, that Christ may receive the whole of our lives into the habitations of light and glory; through the same Jesus Christ our 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.

The Peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 362: Tell Out My Soul

After worship, all are welcome to Coffee Time in Lindisfarne Hall!

Warm Hearts, Warm Church Campaign: Thanks to all who have generously supported our Campaign through prayer and donations! As of October 1st, we have raised a total of **\$64,150.14** (actual received: **\$42,650.14**, pledged: **\$21,500**) towards the goal of **\$61,944.34**. Any surplus funds enable St Aidan's to respond to unexpected changes with the project.

St Aidan's Monthly Sunday School! Sunday School is next week on October 11th in Lindisfarne Hall.

Coping with Grief and Loss Workshop: Please join St Aidan's on Saturday, October 17th at 1:00 pm for a Workshop on Grief and Loss, which will be facilitated by guests from Epiphany Anglican Church. All are welcome. To learn more or if you plan on attending, speak with Rev. Rosemary.

Coffee Time Ministry - Volunteers Needed: Do you enjoy our Coffee Time after worship? We are looking for volunteers to help make the coffee/tea and put out our church-supplied treats; plan to arrive by 9:00 am on Sunday, and to stay after the gathering to clean up. Speak with our new Coffee Time Coordinator, Ruth Alberts, to sign up!

Yuletide Bazaar: The date for the Bazaar this year is Saturday November 14. This is an important event both for community building and fundraising. Convenors are still needed for several areas. Items to donate can be brought to the church after October 11 as there is limited space to store things at present.

Heron Emergency Food Centre: Thanks to the generosity of parishioners, two trips to the Heron Emergency Food Centre were made in September emptying out the food barrel twice. All the food you brought in has been received with gratitude. Collection activities continue in October.

Parish Council Highlights: September 30, 2026

-St Aidan's Book Study: We are delighted that Peter Martin will be offering another Book Study this year, and intrigued by the chosen book, too! More details to come.

-Arch Street Public School: Thanks to your generosity, there was ~\$400 left over from our 2026 Lenten Project for Arch Street Public School. When asked about their current needs, Arch Street's new Principal shared that their biggest wish was to get the children's skates sharpened, so St Aidan's is helping out!

-St George's Hawthorne Cemetery: Did you know St Aidan's oversees a beautiful cemetery nearby? Are you passionate about genealogy, history, and/or yard work? In the new year, we will be looking for new members to serve on their Board.

All are welcome on Wednesdays for BCP Eucharist at 10:00 am, and/or Coffee Time at 10:30 am!

Celebrant: Rev. Rosemary Parker
Music Director: Téa Mamaladze
Reader: Linda Balke
Intercessor: Kathryn Noel
Server: Chris Brown
Lay Administrator: Rita Capello-Code
Greeter: Linda Hannah
Sidespeople: Cheryl Dinelle

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