

THE DIOCESE OF NIAGARA



A Service of Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation

21st Sunday after Pentecost
Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton

October 18th, 2026 at 4pm

Territorial Acknowledgement

The sacred land upon which we gather, is the traditional territory of several Indigenous peoples, including the Neutrals, the Mississauga, the Anishnaabe and the Haudenosaunee. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and directly adjacent to Haldimand Treaty territory. May our actions be guided by our commitment to truth and reconciliation.

Welcome

Thank you for gathering at this Cathedral Church! You are welcome here. A special welcome to all those who have come to be Confirmed in faith, or received into the Anglican Church, or to renew their baptismal vows, this is a joyful day!

During the service you will be invited to receive communion from one of two stations. Please do not move to the communion station until you are directed to do so.

There will not be a collection taken during this service, however there is a collection plate at the back of the Cathedral if you would like to make an offering of thanksgiving for the ministry of this Diocese.

At the end of the service, please remain in your seats while the Bishop and candidates have photos taken on the steps of the Cathedral (weather permitting).

Presiding Celebrant	The Right Reverend Dr. Susan Bell
Dean	The Very Reverend Dr. Tim Dobbin
Bishop's Chaplain	The Reverend Andrew Rampton
MC	The Reverend Canon Mike Deed
MC	The Reverend Canon Dr. Susan Wilson
Deacon	The Reverend Deacon Sheila Plant
Organist	Bruce Burbidge
Oboist	Islay-May Renwick
	The Choir of Christ's Church Cathedral

Candidates

St. John's, Ancaster

Ugur Cetin
 Krista Deverson
 Jonathan Juilfs
 Michael Svarc
 Michelle Svarc
 Helen Vreugdenhil

St. Christopher's, Burlington

Stephen Owen Gartshore

St. John's, Burlington

Cynthia Anne Bennett
 Craig Richard Bragg
 Grayson William Gerrit Tegelaar

St. James, Dundas

Andrew Gentles
Louis Scott Steaphon Kirstein
Mikaiah Jane Kirstein
Mason Kay Wellard

St. Andrew's, Grimsby

Darlene McFadden-Hart
Avalyn May Widdifield
Carson Thomas Edwin Widdifield
Gayle Marilyn Young

St. George's, Guelph

Elie Atieh
Rita Atieh
Therese Atieh
Jeremy John Richard Edwards
Karen Henderson
Aaron Maksym
Rosalina Parker
Mateo Pineda Paoli
Nicholas Scott
Scott Mark Wilson

St. John the Evangelist, Hamilton

Cynthia Eden

St. John the Evangelist, Niagara Falls

Rosemarie Carruthers

Appleby College, Oakville

Jameson Digings
Amanda Fernandez Pizarro
Victoria Fernandez Pizarro
Joy Li
Cassandra Roberts
Lily Roberts

St. Cuthert's, Oakville

David Clements
Catherine Hamblin
Elizabeth Hamblin
Jeff Hamblin
Joseph Hamblin
Scott Hamblin
Rick Little
Anthony Persaud
Jack Rugg
Camilla Wilson
Leigh Wilson-Mattson

St. Thomas, St. Catharines

Keith Freeman
Ryan Galway
Roxann Gurman
Angelo P. Largoza
Sylvia Verde
Jada Tennille Wilson

Grace Church, Waterdown

Ava Angelina Hofstee

St. David's, Welland

Coulson John Shadow Broughton
Gemma Leigh Bishop
Manuela Fatima Scott

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

SNC#137

Please stand as you are able.

Called to faith, your people gather,
Christ our brother, in your name,
knowing need of one another,
faces different, hearts the same,
growing in your holy likeness,
open, healing, Spirit-spurred,
families formed for loving service,
fed by bread and wine and word.

Called to hope, your people serve you
as they reach out through your grace,
seeking out your mission's purpose,
being Christ in every place,
working for shalom and justice,
learning how to simply share
so your will may be enacted
as we ask in daily prayer.

Called to love, your people challenge
all that silences your song:
prejudice and greed and malice,
weak exploited by the strong.
Serving Jesus in self-giving,
choosing your will, not our own,
we will truly be your people
so your kingdom can be grown.

THE GATHERING

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.

There is one body and one Spirit,

There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

One God and Father of all.

THE WELCOME AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE COLLECT

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that we who have been buried with Christ in baptism may be raised with him to newness of life. Renew us by the power of your Holy Spirit that we may live in righteousness and true holiness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Proclamation of the Word

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 33.12-23

A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight.' Now if I have found favour in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight.

Consider, too, that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not bring us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The Lord said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have asked, for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Please show me your glory." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord,' and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1.1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the

word with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 22.15-22

Please stand as you are able.

CP#405

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of the Lord lasts forever.

What is the Word that is living?

It is brought to us through his Son Jesus Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things

that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of the Lord is alive,

the Word of God is active;

it can shape our thoughts, bring us closer to our God.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

CHOIR ANTHEM

The Lord Is My Shepherd

John Rutter

Presentation and Examination

Bishop Please remain seated; I ask the presenters to stand, and with them, those whom they bring to be confirmed or received.

The presenters say:

Bishop, I present N for confirmation.

Or

Bishop, I present N to be received into this communion.

Or

Bishop, I present N who desires to reaffirm their baptism vows.

THE RENEWAL OF THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Bishop Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil?

Response **I do.**

Bishop Do you renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

Response **I do.**

Bishop Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?
Response **I do, and with God's grace I will follow him as my Saviour and Lord.**

Addressing the whole congregation:

Bishop Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

All **We will.**

Bishop Let us join with those who commit themselves again to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Bishop Do you believe in God the Father?

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Bishop Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All **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.**

Bishop Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All **I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgive-ness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Bishop Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

All **I will, with God's help.**

THE PRAYERS

Bishop Let us join our prayers for those who are affirming their baptism, and for all of God's church here and throughout the world as we say 'Lord in your mercy'

All **Hear our prayer.**

The prayers of the people are offered...

Bishop Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bishop Let us now lift to God all those who have come to this place today, for confirmation, for reaffirmation of their baptismal covenant, to be received into this Communion, and let us seek the blessing, guiding, inspiring and anointing of the Holy Spirit upon them as we pray and sing...

All **Holy Spirit, come to us,
Kindle in us the fire of your love.
Holy Spirit, come to us,
Holy Spirit, come to us.**

A time for silent prayer is kept.

Bishop Almighty God, we thank you that by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ you have overcome sin and brought us to yourself, and that by the sealing of your Holy Spirit you have bound us to your service. Renew in these your servants the covenant you made with them at their baptism.

Send them forth in the power of that Spirit to perform the service you set before them; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Bishop lays their hand upon each one and says,

Confirmation

Strengthen, O Lord, your servant N with your Holy Spirit; empower them for your service; and sustain them all the days of their life. Amen.

Reception

N, we recognize you as a member of the one holy catholic and apostolic Church, and we receive you into the fellowship of this Communion. God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you. Amen.

Reaffirmation

N, may the Holy Spirit, who has begun a good work in you, direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom. Amen.

After all have been confirmed or received:

Bishop Almighty and ever living God, let your hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Please stand as you are able.

Bishop Christ is our Peace; we are reconciled in one body by the cross. We meet in the name of Christ and share God's peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN

CP#438

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,
nor 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.

The Great Thanksgiving

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessed are you Lord God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made; they will become for us our heavenly food.

Blessed be God forever! Amen!

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 Living God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life.

Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

SNC#218

Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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 the Lord, hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it,

and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, 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."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,
we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,
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 BREAD

'I am the bread which has come down from heaven' says the Lord.

Give us this bread forever.

'I am the vine, you are the branches.'

May we dwell in him, as he lives in us.

The gifts of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CP#745

The Choir sings:

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace.

RECEIVING COMMUNION

Please move to one of the communion stations as you are directed. If you wish to receive communion, please put out your hands. If you wish to receive a blessing, please place your hands on your chest.

COMMUNION HYMNS

CP#60

I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one,
and strangers now are friends.

The spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here.

Together met, together bound,
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one.

SNC#160

Refrain

Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender. *Refrain*

Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory. *Refrain*

May I weep with those who weep,
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. *Refrain*

1 Lord Je - sus Christ, you have come to us, you are
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, you have come to us, born as
 3 Lord Je - sus Christ, I would come to you, live my
 4 Lord Je - sus Christ, now and ev - ery day teach us

6
 one with us, Ma - ry's son; cleans - ing our souls from
 one of us, Ma - ry's son; led out to die on
 life for you, Son of God; all your com - mands I
 how to pray, Son of God; you have com - mand - ed

10
 all their sin, pour - ing your love and good - ness in:
 Cal - va - ry, ri - sen from death to set us free:
 know are true, your ma - ny gifts will make me new:
 us to do this in re - mem - brance, Lord, of you:

13
 Je - sus, our love for you we sing-- liv - ing Lord!
 liv - ing Lord Je - sus, help us see you are Lord!
 in - to my life your power breaks through-- liv - ing Lord!
 in - to our lives your power breaks through-- liv - ing Lord!

(Organ)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son, Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

THE DOXOLOGY

Together we proclaim,

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, forever and ever. Amen.

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

CP#524

During this hymn, the Bishop will lead the candidates out of the Cathedral.

O Christ, the great foundation
on which your people stand
to preach your true salvation
in every age and land:
pour out your Holy Spirit
to make us strong and pure,
to keep the faith unbroken
as long as worlds endure.

Baptized in one confession,
one church in all the earth,
we bear our Lord's impression,
the sign of second birth.
One holy people gathered
in love beyond our own;
by grace we were invited,
by grace we make you known.

Where tyrants' hold is tightened
where strong devour the weak,
where innocents are frightened,
the righteous fear to speak;
there let your church awaking
attack the powers of sin,

and, all their ramparts breaking,
with you the victory win.

This is the moment glorious
when he, who once was dead,
shall lead his church victorious,
their champion and their head.

The Lord of all creation
his heavenly kingdom brings:
the final consummation,
the glory of all things.

THE BISHOP'S CHARGE TO THE CANDIDATES

Please remain in your seats and listen to the Bishop's charge.

THE BLESSING

The Bishop prays for God's blessing upon us all.

THE SENDING

Deacon Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord!

All **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G

JS Bach