

**OPENING EUCHARIST FOR THE**  
**32<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF EASTERN**  
**NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**  
**CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**  
**FEBRUARY 25, 2022**

A land acknowledgment is offered to recognize Aboriginal peoples' enduring connection to their traditional territories, to recognize the history of the land that is currently shared by many peoples, and to recognize stewardship as a shared commitment of all those who reside in a territory. The practice of territory acknowledgment is itself a replication of an Aboriginal practice that predates European contact.

We respectfully acknowledge the land on which we gather as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, whose culture has now been erased forever. We also acknowledge the island of Newfoundland as the unceded, traditional territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq. And we acknowledge Labrador as the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Innu of Nitassinan, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, and the Inuit of NunatuKavut. We recognize all First Peoples who were here before us, those who live with us now, and the seven generations to come. As First Peoples have done since time immemorial, we strive to be responsible stewards of the land and to respect the cultures, ceremonies, and traditions of all who call it home. As we open our hearts and minds to the past, we commit ourselves to working in a spirit of truth and reconciliation to make a better future for all.

**Opening Hymn: 433 Lord you Give the Great Commission**

1. Lord, you give the great commission:  
"Heal the sick and preach the word."  
Lest the church neglect its mission  
and the gospel go unheard,  
help us witness to your purpose  
with renewed integrity;  
with the Spirit's gifts empower us  
for the work of ministry.
  
2. Lord, you call us to your service:  
"In my name baptize and teach."  
That the world may trust your promise,  
life abundant meant for each,  
give us all new fervour, draw us  
closer in community;  
with the Spirit's gifts empower us  
for the work of ministry.

3. Lord, you make the common holy:  
 "This my body, this my blood."  
 Let your priests, for earth's true glory,  
 daily lift life heavenward,  
 asking that the world around us  
 share your children's liberty;  
 with the Spirit's gifts empower us  
 for the work of ministry.
  
4. Lord, you show us love's true measure:  
 "Father, what they do, forgive."  
 Yet we hoard as private treasure  
 all that you so freely give.  
 May your care and mercy lead us  
 to a just society;  
 with the Spirit's gifts empower us  
 for the work of ministry.
  
5. Lord, you bless with words assuring:  
 "I am with you to the end."  
 Faith and hope and love restoring,  
 may we serve as you intend,  
 and, amid the cares that claim us,  
 hold in mind eternity;  
 with the Spirit's gifts empower us  
 for the work of ministry.

## The Gathering of the Community

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

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God,  
**All** **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.**

## The Gloria

*Celebrant* Glory to God in the highest,  
**All** and peace to his 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.**

## The Collect of the Day

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 our calling;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

## The Proclamation of the Word

### Hebrews 10:19-25 A Call to Persevere

Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching. **Amen.**

## Psalm 77

- 1 I will cry aloud to God; \*  
I will cry aloud, and he will hear me.
- 2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord; \*  
my hands were stretched out by night and did not tire;  
I refused to be comforted.
- 3 I think of God, I am restless, \*  
I ponder, and my spirit faints.
- 4 You will not let my eyelids close; \*  
I am troubled and I cannot speak.
- 5 I consider the days of old; \*  
I remember the years long past;
- 6 I commune with my heart in the night; \* I ponder and search my mind.
- 7 Will the Lord cast me off for ever? \*  
will he no more show his favour?
- 8 Has his loving-kindness come to an end for ever? \*  
has his promise failed for evermore?
- 9 Has God forgotten to be gracious? \*  
has he, in his anger, withheld his compassion?
- 10 And I said, "My grief is this: \*  
the right hand of the Most High has lost its power."
- 11 I will remember the works of the Lord, \*  
and call to mind your wonders of old time.
- 12 I will meditate on all your acts \*  
and ponder your mighty deeds.
- 13 Your way, O God, is holy; \*  
who is so great a god as our God?
- 14 You are the God who works wonders \*  
and have declared your power among the peoples.
- 15 By your strength you have redeemed your people, \*  
the children of Jacob and Joseph.
- 16 The waters saw you, O God;  
the waters saw you and trembled; \*  
the very depths were shaken.
- 17 The clouds poured out water;  
the skies thundered; \*  
your arrows flashed to and fro;
- 18 The sound of your thunder was in the whirlwind;  
your lightnings lit up the world; \*  
the earth trembled and shook.
- 19 Your way was in the sea,  
and your paths in the great waters, \*  
yet your footsteps were not seen.

20 You led your people like a flock \*  
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

God of saving power, remember us in times of sorrow and despair. Redeem us with your strength and guide us through the wilderness. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.

### **Gradual Hymn 430 Will You Come and Follow Me**

1. Will you come and follow me  
if i but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?
  
2. Will you leave yourself behind  
if i but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer  
in you and you in me?
  
3. Will you let the blinded see  
if i but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what i mean  
in you and you in me?
  
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide  
if i but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?

5. Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.

### **Reading: Mark 4:35-41 Jesus Stills a Storm**

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

## **THE BISHOP'S CHARGE**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**Celebrant** 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.**

## The Prayers of the People

Let us pray as we hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, saying let our cry come unto You.

God of the Church, you have called us into one body as one people, to be witnesses to the hope of your Salvation. We thank you that your love and grace has sustained us in these uncertain times. We pray for the church worldwide, all Bishops, Priests, Deacons, and laypeople; that we may embody the hope to which you have called us and that our work may inspire those who are overwhelmed by despair to place their trust in you.

Lord hear our prayer...

**Response: *Let our cry come on to You.***

God of the Church, we lift before you, our Diocese adapting to the rapid decline in membership, depletion of our financial resources, changes in administrative structure, leadership and the regulations imposed in this ever-evolving pandemic. We seek your guidance and inspiration as we discern new ways of ministry that will touch and transform the lives of your people. Fill the clergy and laity of our Diocese with passion and determination to proclaim and live the Gospel relevant to our time.

Lord hear our prayer...

**Response: *Let our cry come on to You.***

God of the Church, we pray for your guidance upon this thirty-second session of our Diocesan Synod. Be present with us who take counsel together for the renewal and mission of your Church. As we hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it.

Lord hear our prayer...

**Response: *Let our cry come on to You.***

God of the Church, give to our Bishop, in the midst of the stress of his position, a daily renewal of your presence, that upheld in your peace, enlightened by your word, and strengthened by your grace, he may be a shepherd enabling your church to fulfil the mission you have given us.

Lord hear our prayer...

**Response: *Let our cry come on to You.***

God of Church and nation, we pray for our Prime Minister and other elected officials in our country, who are called upon to make decisions on our behalf. Give them wisdom, to discern what is best for your people and give them the courage to act in the best interest of your people. We pray for all our frontline workers, especially those who work in the health care sector, who have faced extreme pressure during this time of pandemic. Sustain them with your grace and grant them relief and renewal in body, mind and spirit.

Lord hear our prayer...

**Response: *Let our cry come on to You.***

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, as you use us to direct the Church to a way forward. Amen

## Confession and Absolution

**Celebrant** 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.

**Celebrant** 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.**

**Celebrant** 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.

**People** Amen.

## The Peace

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

## The Celebration of the Eucharist

### Offertory Hymn 432 Jesus Calls Us! O'er the Tumult

1. Jesus calls us! O'er the tumult  
of our life's wild, restless sea,  
day by day his clear voice soundeth,  
saying, "Christian, follow me!"

2. As of old Saint Andrew heard it  
by the Galilean lake,  
turned from home and toil and kindred,  
leaving all for his dear sake.
  
3. Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store;  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying, "Christian, love me more."
  
4. In our joys and in our sorrows,  
days of toil and hours of ease,  
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,  
"Christian, love me more than these."
  
5. Jesus calls us! By thy mercies,  
Saviour, may we hear thy call,  
give our hearts to thine obedience,  
serve and love thee best of all.

## Prayer over the Gifts

God of faithfulness,  
in every age you call men and women  
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.

## Eucharistic Prayer 5

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

**Celebrant** Lift up your hearts.  
**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**Celebrant** We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder,  
and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe.  
**People** **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**Celebrant** You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves,  
but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.  
In Jesus, your Son,  
you bring healing to our world  
and gather us into one great family.  
Therefore, with all who serve you  
on earth and in heaven,  
we praise your wonderful name, as we sing (say),

**All** **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.**

**Celebrant** We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us  
you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry.  
He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love.  
On the cross  
he defeated the power of sin and death.  
By raising him from the dead  
you show us the power of your love  
to bring new life to all your people.

**People** **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**Celebrant** On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends,  
took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them,  
saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it:  
this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you:  
this is the cup of my blood,  
the blood of the new and eternal covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many,  
so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me."

**People** **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**Celebrant** Gracious God,  
with this bread and wine  
we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus,  
and we offer ourselves to you in him.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the  
presence of Jesus  
in the breaking of bread, and share in the life  
of the family of your children.

**People** **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

**Celebrant** Father, you call us to be your servants;  
fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,  
that all the world may gather in joy  
at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**People** **Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Celebrant** As our Saviour taught us, let us pray,  
**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**

**Celebrant** 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.**

## **The Communion: A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Lord Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. However, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your love. Amen.

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

### Choir Anthem during Communion

### 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.

**Celebrant** 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.

### Episcopal Blessing

### Dismissal

**Leader** Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.  
**People** Thanks be to God.

### Closing Hymn: 450 You Call Us, Lord to be

1. You call us, Lord, to be  
a people set apart,  
to feel with thoughtful mind  
and think with tender heart.  
Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask  
for faith in your unfailing grace  
to make us equal to the task.
2. You call us, Lord, to care  
for self and neighbour too,  
to take the risk, and dare  
to show what love can do.  
Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask  
for faith in your unfailing grace  
to make us equal to the task.
3. You call us, Lord, to be  
good stewards of the earth;  
to tend to it as a place  
of blessedness and worth.  
Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask  
for faith in your unfailing grace

to make us equal to the task.

4. You call us, Lord, to serve:  
to die that we may live,  
to know we best receive  
when joyfully we give.  
Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask  
for faith in your unfailing grace  
to make us equal to the task.