



The Most Reverend
Michael Geoffrey Peers

July 31, 1934 - July 27, 2023

August 24, 2023 at 11:00am

*The Cathedral Church of St. James
Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada*

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Bishop of Toronto The Right Reverend Andrew Asbil
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with Mr. Richard Peers and Mr. Geoffrey Peers
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The Reverend Maylanne Maybee
The Very Reverend Peter Wall
Music Director Mr. Thomas Bell
Conductor Mr. Nathan Jeffery
Organist Mr. Manuel Piazza
Sung by Members of the Choir of St. James Cathedral

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

This sacred land is the territory of several Indigenous Nations - the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishnaabe, with special recognition to the Mississaugas of New Credit. We also acknowledge that we are on the shores of Niigaani-gichigami / Lake Ontario. This territory is governed by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishnaabe Confederacy to peaceably share and sustain the life of the Great Lakes. In the spirit of that Treaty we seek to place at the centre of our gatherings the values of respectful reciprocity, diversity, peace, responsibility, and mutual aid.

Order of Service

Mass Setting: Communion Service in e - Harold Darke

| | | |
|-----------------|--|------------------------|
| Preludes | Sicilienne, from Suite pour orgue, Op. 5 | <i>Maurice Duruflé</i> |
| | O Welt, ich muss dich lassen | <i>Johannes Brahms</i> |
| | O wie selig seid ihr doch, ihr Frommen | <i>Johannes Brahms</i> |

Entrance Procession

Please stand as the Procession enters the Church.

Burial Sentences

William Croft

Choir I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shalt stand at the latter day upon the earth. And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another.

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the Name of the Lord.

The National Indigenous Archbishop offers a Smudge Ceremony.

Greeting

Bishop 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.**

Eulogies & Tributes

Hymn

Tune: Nun Danket

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
and nourish us with grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God eternal now be given,
to Spirit and to Word, who reign in highest heaven:
our ever faithful God, whom heaven and earth adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinckart; tr. Catherine Winkworth, alt.;
Music: Melody Johann Crüger.

The Collect

Bishop Let us pray.

O God, the maker and redeemer of all, grant us, with your servant Michael Geoffrey and all the faithful departed, the sure benefits of your Son's saving passion and glorious resurrection; that in the last day, when you gather up all things in Christ, we may with them enjoy the fullness of your promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

People **Amen.**

Please be seated.

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 3: 1–15

Reader For everything there is a season,
and a time for every matter under heaven:
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures for ever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain seated.

Psalm 46

Psalm Chant: H. Howells

Choir God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble;
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea;
Though the waters rage and swell,
and though the mountains quake at the towering seas.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place of the dwelling of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her; therefore shall she not be removed;
God shall help her at the break of day.
The nations are in uproar and the kingdoms are shaken,
but God utters his voice and the earth shall melt away.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
Come and behold the works of the Lord,
what destruction he has wrought upon the earth.

He makes wars to cease in all the world;
he shatters the bow and snaps the spear
and burns the chariots in the fire.
'Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.'
The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading

Philippians 4: 4-8

Reader Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gradual Hymn

Tune: Iona Boat Song

From the falter of breath, through the silence of death,
to the wonder that's breaking beyond,
God has woven a way, unapparent by day,
for all those of whom heaven is fond.

From frustration and pain, through hope hard to sustain,
to the wholeness here promised, there known,
Christ has gone where we fear and has vowed to be near
on the journey we make on our own.

From the dimming of light, through the darkness of night,
to the glory of goodness above,
God the Spirit is sent to ensure heaven's intent
is embraced and completed in love.
From today till we die, through all questioning why,
to the place from which time and tide flow,

angels tread on our dreams, and magnificent themes
of heaven's promise are echoed below.

Text: John L. Bell; Music: Melody Scottish trad.
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Please remain standing.

John 14: 1-6a

The Gospel

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

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

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

Gospeller Jesus said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

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

Homily

The Apostles' Creed

Please stand.

Bishop I believe in God,

All **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 Intercessions

The Peace

We offer each other a sign of peace, as you feel comfortable.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Hymn

Tune: Winepress

More than we can ask or imagine,
more than we can ever dare to dream,
we are the children of heaven's creation,
God's own beloved, each called by name.

And we cry, Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God who calls us by name!
Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God! Glory we sing!

More than we will ever imagine,
more than we will ever understand;
we are sent to walk with compassion,
to live out God's love by heart and by hand.

And we cry, Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God who presses us on!
Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God! Glory our song!

More than we can ask or imagine,
more than we could ever desire;
out of the dust God's building a kingdom,
like wine from the press, like bread from the fire.

And we cry, Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God! Glory we cry!
Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory on earth, Glory on high!

Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory to God! Glory we cry!

Glory! (Glory!) Glory! (Glory!)
Glory on earth! Glory on high!
Glory on earth! Glory on high!

Text: Gordon Light; Music: Melody Gordon Light; arr. Andrew Donaldson.
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The Prayer over the Gifts

Presider God of mercy, accept the worship we offer you this day. Increase, we pray, our faith, deepen our hope, and confirm us in your eternal love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Presider Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose victorious rising from the dead has given to us the hope of resurrection and the promise of eternal life. Therefore with angels and archangels and all who have served you in every age, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus & Benedictus

Choir 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.

Presider 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,

All **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Presider 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.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider 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

Presider This is the bread which has come down from heaven.

All **Those who eat this bread will live for ever.**

The Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei

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

All baptized persons are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Gluten-free hosts are available upon request.

*If you choose not to receive communion,
you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.*

Simply cross your hands over your chest to indicate this to the priest.

Communion Hymn

Tune: Londonderry Air

Go, silent friend, your life has found its ending:
To dust returns your weary mortal frame.
God, who before birth called you into being,
Now calls you hence, his accent still the same.
Go, silent friend, your life in Christ is buried;
For you He lived and died and rose again.
Close by His side your promised place is waiting
Where, fully known, you shall with God remain.

Go, silent friend, forgive us if we grieved you;
Safe now in heaven, kindly say our name.
Your life has touched us, that is why we mourn you;
Our lives without you cannot be the same.
Go, silent friend, we do not grudge your glory;
Sing, sing with joy deep praises to your Lord.
You, who believed that Christ would come back for you,
Now celebrate that Jesus keeps his word.

Text: John L. Bell; Music: trad. Irish melody.

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Communion Hymn

Tune: Song 1

O thou, who at thy Eucharist didst pray
that all thy church might be for ever one,
grant us at every Eucharist to say
with longing heart and soul, 'Thy will be done':
O may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.

For all thy church, O Lord, we intercede;
make thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
by drawing all to thee, O Prince of Peace:
thus may we all one bread, one body be,
through this blest sacrament of unity.

Text: William Henry Turton; Music: Orlando Gibbons; Tune: Song 1.

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Motet **Sicut Cervus**

*Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum,
ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus.*

As a hart longs for the flowing
streams, so longs my soul for thee, O God.

Text: Psalm 42: 1;

Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

Communion Hymn

Tune: Eat This Bread

*Refrain Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in him and you will not thirst.*

Christ is the bread of life,
the true bread sent from the Father.

Our ancestors ate manna in the desert,
but this is the bread come down from heaven.

Eat his flesh and drink his blood,
and Christ will raise you up on the last day.

Anyone who eats this bread, will live forever.

If we believe and eat this bread, we will have eternal life.

Text: John 6.35-51; para. Robert J. Batastini and the Taizé Community (France), 1984; Music: Jacques Berthier.

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Motet *And I Saw a New Heaven*

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth:
for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away;
and there was no more sea.
And I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,
coming down from God out of heaven,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.
And I heard a great voice out of heaven, saying:
Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,
and He will dwell with them and they shall be His people,
and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.
And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes,
and there will be no more death, neither sorrow nor crying,
neither shall there be any more pain:
for the former things are passed away.

Text Revelation 21. 1-4;
Music: Edgar Bainton

Prayer after Communion

Presider Let us pray.
God of love, you have fed us at the table of your kingdom. Teach us to trust,
without fear, in your eternal goodness and mercy. We ask this in the name of
Jesus Christ the Lord.

People **Amen.**

The Commendation

The Kontakion of the Departed

Choir Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain
are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of all; and we are mortal,
formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when
you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us
go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia.

Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain
are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Prayer of Commendation

Presider Into your hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend your servant Michael. Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive him into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

People **Amen.**

Presider Rest eternal grant to him, O Lord.

People **And let light perpetual shine upon him.**

Presider May his soul, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

People **Amen.**

Blessing

Presider May the Holy angels of God guard you and guide you. May the prayers of the whole church here and in the hereafter, St. Bartholomew, St. James and all the Saints support and uphold you. May the love of Jesus fill your hearts and enfold you. May the blessing of the one God, eternal and mighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

Hymn

Tune: Engelberg

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space. Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia!

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you till the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry, "Amen!" Alleluia!

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan; Music: Charles Villiers Stanford.

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Dismissal

Deacon Go forth in the name of Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude Fugue sur le nom d'Alain, Op. 7

Maurice Duruflé

*All are welcome to a reception in Snell Hall
immediately following the service.*

*Snell Hall is located in the Cathedral Centre,
the glass building just north of the Cathedral.*

*Dorothy Peers and the family would like to thank
Archbishop Linda, Bishop Andrew, Archbishop Chris &
Archdeacon Michael for their leadership in this
Celebration of Life for Michael.*

*We are grateful to Dean Peter and the staff of
St. James Cathedral for making it all happen.*

*The service was deeply enriched by the music of organ and
choir and to all the musicians and their Director,
our heartfelt thanks. We also want to thank
The Anglican Church of Canada and The Diocese of Toronto
for supporting us through this time in so many ways.
And finally, to all whose lives were touched by Michael's life
and ministry, we are grateful for your presence and
participation today, both virtually and in person,
and for your prayers which continue to support
and uphold us. Blessings to you all.*

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Bishop of Toronto

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The Reverend Canon Beth Benson

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The Reverend Dr. Walter Hannam

Pastoral Associate

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