

Pilgrims Together



Celebrating the 50th anniversary
of the Second Vatican Council's

Decree on Ecumenism *Unitatis Redintegratio*

Cathedral Church of Saint James, Toronto
Sunday, November 9, 2014

Organ Prelude

Words of Welcome

The Very Rev. Douglas Stoute, *Dean of Toronto & Rector of St. James' Cathedral*

Invitation

Presider Jesus said: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Let us stand and in silence acknowledge the Lord's presence in our midst.

You are invited to stand as a moment of silence is observed.

Opening Hymn

Christ is our cornerstone,
on him alone we build;
with his true saints alone
the courts of heaven are filled:
on his great love
our hopes we place
of present grace
and joys above.

O then with hymns of praise
these hallowed courts shall ring;
our voices we will raise
the Three in One to sing;
and thus proclaim
in joyful song
both loud and long
that glorious Name.

Here, gracious Lord, do thou
for evermore draw nigh;
accept each faithful vow,
and mark each suppliant sigh:
in copious shower
on all who pray,
each holy day
thy blessings pour.

Here may we gain from heaven
the grace which we implore;
and may that grace, once given,
be with us evermore,
until that day
when all the blest
to endless rest
are called away.

Text: Latin, 7th century; trans. John Chandler (1806-1876)

Music: John Darwall (1731-1789)

Introduction

Presider In 1959, Pope John XXIII called for an Ecumenical Council, with the restoration of Christian unity as one of its principal concerns. Five years later, his successor, Pope Paul VI, promulgated *Unitatis Redintegratio*, the Council's Decree on Ecumenism. Now, fifty years later, we gather to celebrate the great strides we have taken on the path to Christian unity, and to pray that the work of ecumenism may come to fruition around the table of the Lord.

Prayer of Repentance

Presider The apostle James invites us to confess our faults and to pray for one another. As we begin this time of prayer and worship, let us acknowledge our sins against the unity of the Body of Christ.

You are invited to kneel or sit.

Presider Jesus prayed that all may be one. Still, the body of Christ is rent by division. And so we pray:

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Presider Though we are bound by a common baptism and a faith in Jesus as Lord and Saviour, we fail to acknowledge one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, and so we pray:

All (sung) **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Presider The grace of the Holy Spirit has wrought great works in the hearts of our brothers and sisters. Yet sin blinds us to the mystery of the Spirit at work in powerful ways, and so we pray:

All (sung) **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Presider Christ summons the Church to continual reformation as she sojourns here on earth. Yet our conduct has made Christian unity more difficult to achieve, and so we pray:

All (sung) **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Presider As Christians, we desire a true change of heart, a renewal of the inner life of our minds, to be humble and of service to others, and so we pray:

All (sung) **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Presider May the God of peace himself sanctify us entirely; and may our spirits and souls and bodies be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All **Amen.**

First Reading

Ephesians 4:1-16

Lector Word of God, word of life.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel *You are invited to stand.*



John 17:1-3, 20-23

Homily *Please be seated.*

The Rt. Rev. Linda Nicholls

*Bishop of the Trent-Durham area of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto
and Co-chair of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue of Canada*

Hymn *You are invited to stand.*

God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humble pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!

Saviour, who came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind:
now for all humankind
let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed on your flight!
Move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light!

Gracious and holy Three,
Glorious Trinity,
wisdom, love, might,
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light!

Text: John Marriott (1780-1825)

Music: Felice de Giardini (1716-1796)

Affirmation of Faith

Presider The Decree on Ecumenism affirmed that all who have been justified by faith in baptism are members of Christ's body, and have a right to be called Christian, and so are correctly accepted as brothers and sisters in Christ. Baptism therefore establishes a sacramental bond of unity that links all who have been reborn by it.

In Canada, this sacramental bond of unity is acknowledged in an agreement reached in 1975 by the Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, and United churches, by which all five ecumenical partners recognize the validity of baptisms conferred by the others. We celebrate this important step in our pilgrimage toward our full visible unity.

Let us therefore stand and together affirm the faith of our common baptism in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

You are invited to stand.

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 God 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 Intercession

Presider Sisters and brothers, we direct our prayers to God our loving Father, for he wills that all humankind be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

For the entire people of God, that through our common baptism we may strive to achieve unity of heart and mind around the table of the Lord. Christ, hear us.

People **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Presider For our individual communities of faith, that the Spirit may strengthen the bonds of charity and remove from our hearts all discord. Christ, hear us.

People **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Presider For the poor, the suffering, and unemployed of our communities, that all may share in our abundance. Christ, hear us.

People **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Presider For our civic, provincial, and federal leaders, and for the leaders of the world, that their actions may always serve the common good. Christ, hear us.

People **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Presider For those who sleep in Christ, that they may enjoy the light and peace of God's presence. Christ, hear us.

People **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Presider For those petitions we hold in the silence of our hearts.

A moment of silent prayer is observed.

Christ, hear us.

People **Christ, graciously hear us.**

Presider And now uniting our prayers and praises into one,
let us pray as our saviour Christ has taught us:

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.**

Concluding Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

We humbly ask you, Lord,
lover of the human family,
to pour out more fully upon us the grace of your Spirit,
and grant that,
walking worthily in the vocation to which you have called us,
we may bear witness to the truth before others
and seek with confidence the unity of all believers
in the bond of peace.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

Blessing

Presider May the Lord bless and keep you.

People **Amen.**

Presider May he let his face shine upon you and show you his mercy.

People **Amen.**

Presider May he turn his countenance toward you and give you his peace.

People **Amen.**

Presider And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you forever.

People **Amen.**

Concluding Hymn

Your hand, O God, has guided
your flock, from age to age;
their wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on every page;
our forebears owned your goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Your heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest as to least;
they bade them rise and hasten
to share the great royal feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in every deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

When shadows thickly falling,
engulfed the world in night,
you summoned forth your servants,
your messengers of light.
On them and on your people
your plenteous grace was poured,
and this was still their message,
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?
shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
shall we evade the struggle,
and cast away our crown?
Not so: in God's deep counsels
some better gift is stored;
the covenant of promise—
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Your mercy will not fail us,
nor leave work work undone;
with your right hand to help us,
your people shall be one;
and then, by all creation,
thy name shall be adored,
and this shall be their anthem:
one Church, one faith, one Lord.

Text: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)

Music: Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

This liturgy is drawn from “Pilgrims Together: Celebrating Christian Unity,” prepared in 2014 by the National Liturgy Office of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, and from a 2011 service commemorating the fortieth anniversary of Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue in Canada.

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