

A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist in Loving Memory of and Thanksgiving for the Life of Iris Lorraine Webster 19 April 1932—26 November 2025

Saturday 13 December 2025 2:00 p.m.

Presider
The Rev. Canon Brad Smith, Rector

Organist
Robert Grandy, Director of Music

The Congregation stands as the liturgical procession enters the Church. Hymns are found in the blue hymn book Common Praise.

**Hymn** 381—Praise, My Soul Praise, My Soul

Greeting

Presider Alleluia. Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

Presider May his grace and peace be with you.

People May he fill our hearts with joy.

Responsory

Presider In the midst of life we are in death; from whom can we seek help?

From you alone, O Lord, who by our sins are justly grieved.

All



Presider Lord you know the secrets of our hearts; shut not your ears to our prayers, but

spare us, O Lord.

All Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Presider O worthy and eternal Judge, do not let the pains of death turn us away from

you at our last hour.

All Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal One, have mercy upon us.

Collect

Presider Let us pray.

O God, the maker and redeemer of all,

grant us, with your servant Iris 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.

All Amen.

First Reading Wisdom 3:1-8

Read by Julie Deck

*Reader* A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon.

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 84



O how lovely ' are thy ' dwellings, thou ' Lord ' —of ' hosts.

My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the 'courts • of the 'Lord: my heart and my flesh re-'joice • in the 'living 'God.

Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may 'lay her 'young: even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my 'King' and my 'God.



Blessed are they that 'dwell in • thy 'house; they will be 'alway 'praising' thee.

Blessed are those whose 'strength • is in 'thee, in whose 'heart • are the 'pilgrim 'ways;

Who going through the Vale of Misery 'use it • for a 'well; yea, the early rain 'cover-eth' it with 'blessings.

2nd They go from 'strength to 'strength, and unto the God of gods appeareth every 'one of 'them in 'Sion.

O Lord God of hosts, 'hear my 'prayer: hearken, 'O' God of 'Jacob.

Behold, O'God, our'shield, and look upon the' face of'thine a-'nointed.

For one 'day • in thy 'courts is 'better' than a 'thousand.

I had rather be a door-keeper in the 'house of • my 'God, than to 'dwell • in the 'tents • of un- 'godliness.

For the Lord God is a light and defence; the Lord will give 'grace and 'glory and no good thing shall God withhold from them that 'lead a 'godly 'life.

O Lord 'God of 'hosts, blessed are they that 'putteth their 'trust in 'thee.

### **Second Reading**

Romans 8:38-39

Read by Rebecca Christensen

*Reader* A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

#### The Congregation stands.

**Hymn** 533—Jesus, Lover of My Soul Aberystwyth

Gospel John 14:1-6

Presider May God be with you.

And also with you.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Saviour Jesus Christ according to John.

People Glory to you, Jesus the Christ.

Presider 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. No one comes to the Father except through me."

The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Congregation sits at the conclusion of the prayer that begins the Homily.

# Homily

A11

A silence for reflection is observed after the Homily. The Congregation stands with the Presider to confess the Creed.

# Apostles' Creed

*Presider* Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

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.

### Prayers of the People

At the end of each petition:

Leader Loving God, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Leader

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications to you, and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together you will hear their requests. Fulfill now our desires and petitions, as may be best for us, granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come eternal life; for you, Father, are good and loving, and we glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Amen.

Peace

*A11* 

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

We greet those around us with a handshake or similar greeting as a sign of reconciliation.

**Hymn** 184—My Song is Love Unknown

Love Unknown

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider God of mercy, accept the worship we offer you this day.

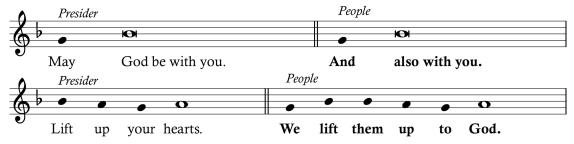
Increase, we pray, our faith, deepen our hope,

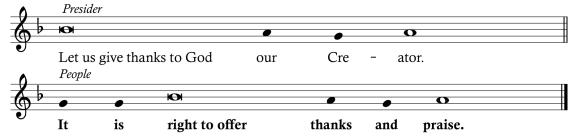
and confirm us in your eternal love.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All Amen.

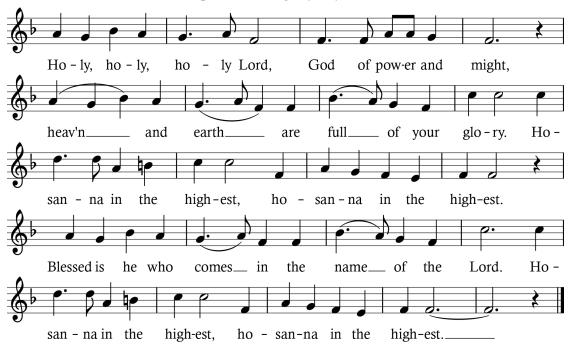
# The Great Thanksgiving





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.



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, 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.

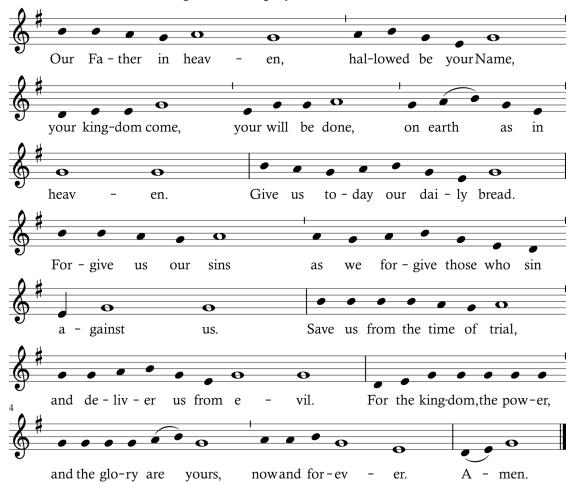
In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom,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

All Amen.

All

### Lord's Prayer

Presider As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:



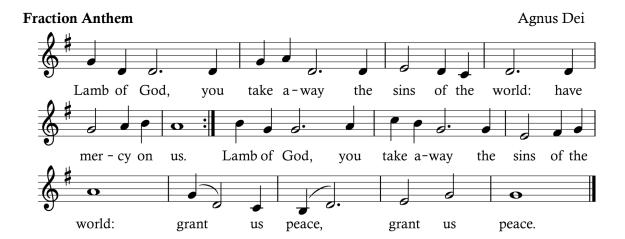
# Breaking of the Bread

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

All Those who eat this bread will live for ever.

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.

All Thanks be to God.



The Congregation sits.

#### Communion

All baptised Christians are welcome to receive Communion by approaching the Presider in a single file for the Bread and then moving to either side to the Chalice Administrator to receive the Wine.

Those desiring gluten-free wafers may request them from the Presider.

Those with mobility challenges may indicate their wish to have Communion brought to them.

Hymn: 619—Fairest Lord Jesus Crusaders' Hymn Anthem: "Look at the World" John Rutter

The Congregation stands when the Presider approaches the Altar.

# **Prayer after Communion**

Presider Almighty God, we thank you that in your great love you have fed us with the spiritual food and drink of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ, and have given us a foretaste of your heavenly banquet.

Grant that this sacrament may be to us a comfort in affliction, and a pledge of our inheritance in that kingdom where there is no death, neither sorrow nor crying, but fullness of joy with all your saints; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All Amen.

#### The Commendation

Presider

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.

Presider

Into your hands, O merciful Saviour, we commend your servant Iris Lorraine.

Acknowledge, we pray, a sheep of your own fold,

a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming.

Receive her into the arms of your mercy,

into the blessed rest of everlasting peace,

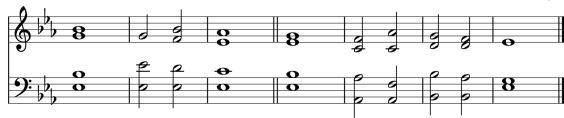
and into the glorious company of the saints in light.

All

Amen.

#### **Nunc Dimittis**

J. Barnby



Lord, now lettest thou thy servant de- 'part in 'peace, ac- 'cording 'to thy 'word.

For mine eyes have 'seen thy • sal- 'vation, which thou hast prepared be- 'fore the 'face of • all 'people;

to be a light to 'lighten • the 'Gentiles, and to be the 'glory of • thy 'people 'Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and ' to the ' Son, and ' to the ' Holy ' Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and 'ever' shall be, world without 'end. 'A-'men.

**Blessing** 

The Presider blesses the Congregation, who answer, Amen.

**Hymn** 29—The Day Thou Gavest

St Clement

A time of fellowship and refreshment follows in the Guild Hall.



# The Story of Iris Lorraine (Perry) Webster's Life

Iris was born in Toronto to John and Gladys (Rowan) Perry, little sister to Jack (deceased) and Lillian (Docherty), step-daughter to Margaret Smillie, big sister to her half-brothers (deceased) Roy, Robert (Bob), and Tom. Iris lived her life one day at a time doing the work in front of her and trusting in God's goodness.

Born during the Great Depression, Iris helped her siblings in their father's business selling produce door-to-door in Scarborough until, at the tender age of thirteen, she got a job with Eaton's in downtown Toronto. She progressed through various departments until she found her way to Eaton's accounts office. In the late 1950s she moved to help set up the accounts offices in London, Ontario. There Iris met her "good man", Tom. In 1961 they were married and, after the birth of their two daughters, Dawn (Donovan Browne) and Eva, they moved to Beatrice. They lived there for 40 years, operating a small family farm through the early years with, over time, rabbits, cows, pigs, ducks, geese, chickens, many cats, a dog, a couple of goats, and a large garden that more than supplied the family's needs. In 1979, she took on weather observations for Environment Canada continuing the local records that became some of the most important in the world for showing climate change. She sewed, she cooked, she baked, she embroidered, she crocheted, she smocked. She worked hard through those years but still made time for family and anyone that was hurting could be assured of her attention and compassion. There were always flowers among vegetables. Iris' final years were spent in Peterborough to be near family and became known for walking the neighbourhood with Eva in (nearly) all weathers.

An intensely private person she avoided notice and often walked a half-step behind. She lived in and through the lives of those she loved, rejoicing in our successes, grieving our losses, and praying constantly. Her faith was simple, profound, and awe-inspiring! She had an unshakable trust in the love of God. She saw God in creation and loved it - the rocks, the trees, the skies, the birds, the animals (especially her dogs), even the sun glistening on the snow.

Iris died in the gentle care of Hospice Peterborough after a brief illness and now lives in bliss. Her legacy is less in what she did and more in the lives she touched – individually, privately, almost secretly imparting her love of God and God's love for us all.