

# **The Glebe-St. James United Church**

**Orange Shirt Day**

**September 28, 2025**

## **Gathered by God**

### **PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

Navajo Prelude for Piano Nos. 2 & 3

Connor Chee

### **WELCOME**

Wendy Bergeron

In the name of the Holy Mystery,  
who is Wholly Love,  
we welcome you to Creator's House.  
Thanks be to God!

Good morning and welcome, everyone, to our worship service at Glebe-St. James United Church in downtown Ottawa on September 28 – Orange Shirt Sunday.

My name is Wendy Bergeron and I am Chair of Council here at Glebe-St. James.

I am delighted to see so many of you wearing orange shirts. By wearing an orange shirt, you are saying that Every Child Matters and that you want to be part of a future that values all Indigenous Peoples.

We're so glad you're here today. Whether you're a first-time guest or a longtime member, whether you are joining us in person or online, we hope you feel at home. This is a place of faith, love, and community. Glebe-St. James is an Affirming Community of Faith in the United Church of Canada. We are committed to creating a safe and inclusive environment where people of all ages, backgrounds, and identities feel loved and supported. Thank you for being here.

Friends, note who is seated near you and extend our hospitality. If you want more information about Glebe-St. James, green cards are available near the entrances and during coffee hour. Just fill one out and place it on the offering plate or give it to one of the greeters and they will pass it into the office.

Today's worship service bulletin can be found on the GSJ website, along with a link to this week's announcements and a "donate" button to make your offering. If you are here in person, you can share your offering in the service, either in the collection plate, by e-transfer or through our website - the QR code, on the back of the pews, will take you to the website.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

This is a busy community, and lots is going on. You will find the announcements of activities on our website and scrolling on the screens here in the sanctuary before and after our service. In the interests of time, I will highlight just two.

Glebe-St. James partners with local organizations to support people in our community facing food insecurity. We help through our donations of time, food and money. Every Sunday, you have the chance to help by bringing non-perishable food items and placing them in the basket at the main entrance to the sanctuary. Here's another opportunity to show your support by joining in the "Walk for the Centre" – an event taking place on Sunday, October 5, starting at 1:30 pm to support the Centertown Community Food Centre. If you can't walk, consider making a donation if you are able. More detailed information is available in the e-update.

Secondly, by popular demand, we are holding a Fall edition of our Glebe-St James Goes Out to Dinner on the four Saturdays in October. This is fundraising event, but even more important it is a community-building event, an opportunity to get to know each other better. I have personally hosted a couple of these dinners, and I can attest to the fact that they are a lot of fun. There are still a few spots available if you haven't yet signed up. Information on how to make your dinner reservation is available in our e-update or through Jennifer Reid at the church office. Thanks to David Brown and Margaret Ford for their leadership in organizing these events.

And now, let us remember the holy land upon which this Sanctuary stands.

## **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Pam Fitch

We gather and worship on the unceded, un-surrendered lands of the Algonquin people who have stewarded our forests, lands and waters since time immemorial.

This week, on September 30, we celebrate the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation which recognizes the tragic legacy of residential schools, all the missing children, the families left behind, and the Survivors of these institutions.

In the coming week, and indeed the whole year, let's find tangible and meaningful ways to demonstrate honour, respect and appreciation for Indigenous people. We can do that by wearing orange shirts on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, in solidarity with the missing children and survivors of residential schools. We can deepen our knowledge and awareness of the historical and ongoing harm caused by the residential school system and to advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

**I am sending you light to heal you, to hold you.  
I am sending you light to hold you in love.  
I am sending you light to heal you to hold you.  
I am sending you light to hold you in love.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Today we wear orange  
**to remember and honour all the Indigenous children who went to residential schools.**  
Today we wear orange and we pray  
**for the residential school and intergenerational survivors who are still struggling.**  
Today we wear orange and we are thankful  
**for those who speak the truth, and who work to shine a light on injustice.**  
Today we wear orange in the name of compassion and the spirit of truth and reconciliation.  
**Help us, God, to remember and act on this this every day.**

**Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

**Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.**

**Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!**

## OPENING PRAYER

Powerful Christ,  
we are grateful that you came to us as a child,  
who grew out of a community that nurtured, supported,  
and taught you the way of your ancestors.

You have asked us to do the same:  
to treat every child as we would treat you,  
to love every person as you have loved us.

We are grateful that  
your power is rooted in love, not force;  
your strength is displayed through community, not might.  
You have taught us to work toward a better world where all of creation thrives,  
and where every child matters.

On this Orange Shirt Day,  
we remember Phyllis Webstad as a child,  
and the stolen childhood of all the children forcibly raised  
by church-run institutions, known as residential schools.

We lament how these institutions  
stole from children the opportunity to grow in a safe and loving environment,  
stole from Elders the opportunity to share their teachings and wisdom  
with younger generations; and  
stole from communities the opportunity to live intergenerationally.

We mourn the children who never made it home,  
the communities that were destroyed,  
the broken hearts,  
the stories never shared, and  
the shattered relationships.

We ask that you provide  
comfort to all who are seeking healing and who daily wrestle  
with the ongoing harmful legacy of these colonial institutions,  
strength to all who name how colonial powers have harmed us  
as peoples and as a nation; often at great personal cost, and  
courage to all who are working toward reconciliation.

Christ Child, as you grew,  
you reminded us to always welcome and care for children.  
We remember your children today.

We lament and acknowledge the sinful ways that colonial powers  
tried to eradicate Indigenous cultures within Canada,  
breaking Indigenous families,  
removing children from their homes while destroying communities.

And we pray for healing,  
so that we who live together in this country  
can also work together to build a better future  
where all children are cherished, beloved, and given what they need to thrive.  
So that we may treat all children as we would treat you, our Beloved.  
May it be so. Amen.

#### **INVITATION TO HEALING**

Every being seeks to be whole; seeks to be complete,  
this is the longing behind the prayer for healing:

#### **PRAYER FOR HEALING**

**Holy One, Child of Life, Great Spirit, we meet you in the company of ancestors  
and the oft-unnoticed presence of people praying throughout the country,  
connected by a longing for peace and healing.**

**Find our hearts open and ready for reconciliation  
as we face the injustices of the past and long for the joy of a future of peace and  
healing.**

**Help us to attend well to the stories we need to receive.  
Awaken our hearts with the stories of residential school survivors and their kin.**

**Together, we weep for the children, then and now:  
for braids, beads, new moccasins, and the orange shirt  
taken away leaving only broken hearts;  
for parents whose hearts were torn from them  
when their children were taken;  
for children whose tongues were silenced  
when they lost their languages and names.**

**Awaken our spirit, O God.  
Help us to hold the stories faithfully,  
so that they may transform us and become part of us.**

**May our prayers be translated into compassion  
and may our “Amen” be this truth:  
(Indigenous) brothers, sisters, and siblings:  
We receive your stories.  
May they lead us in wisdom and may we journey together in love.  
Amen. Hiy Hiy**

### **ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE**

Hear the good news: Christ is our peace.  
Christ has united those who were separated.  
Christ has broken down the walls of hostility.  
Christ has given wings to our steps on the path of justice.  
Rejoice in our God, the kin(g)dom is at hand!  
Amen!

### **SIGN OF PEACE**

One of the hallmarks of faithful living is concern for others –  
we pray for better conditions for people here and in war zones.  
We seek to build peace in our homes and workplaces,  
and on the national and international stages.  
It is in remembering this sacred duty that I say to you:

Friends, the peace of Christ be with you!  
**And also with you.**

**HYMN**    Peace for the Children

MV 149

**Peace for the children, peace peace.  
Peace for the children we pray.  
Following the path of One of peace,  
we work for healing, we work for peace;  
peace for the children today.**

Peace for the creatures, peace peace.  
Peace for the creatures we pray.  
Following the path of One of peace,  
we work for healing, we work for peace;  
peace for the creatures today.

## Listening for Wisdom

**THEME CONVERSATION** With Our Orange Hearts

Phyllis Webstad and Emily Kewageshig

*September 30<sup>th</sup> is National Truth and Reconciliation Day and is also known as “Orange Shirt Day.” Orange Shirt Day began in 1973 when six-year-old Phyllis Webstad entered the St. Joseph Mission Residential School in B.C. Young Phyllis was wearing a new orange shirt that her grandmother had gotten for her for her first day of school—but the Mission Oblates quickly stripped her of her new shirt and replaced it with the school’s institutional uniform. (Visit [orangeshirtday.org](http://orangeshirtday.org) for the full story about Phyllis Webstad and her experience.)*

Dear God,  
when someone hurts me  
help me to forgive them.  
when someone hurts another person,  
help me to stand up for them. Amen.



### PRAYER FOR INSIGHT

God, the words you speak have power:  
power to create,  
power to disturb,  
power to heal.  
Help us to hear your Word for us today. Amen.

## GIFT OF MUSIC

Sweetgrass and Candle

Ron Klusmeier

*Sweetgrass and candle,  
the peace pipe and bible,  
the stories of elders  
and beat of the drum;  
these are the symbols  
of hope, faith and justice.  
We gather in circle  
affirming we're one.*

*Welcome the stranger  
for he is our brother  
and she is our sister  
of mother earth.  
Care for creation  
for all life is sacred  
and we are united  
by vision's rebirth.*

*Join in the circle  
that will have no ending,  
for we are all equal  
and loved in God's sight.  
Praise the Great Spirit!  
We gather as family  
to sing of Love's freedom  
and dance with delight!*

*Welcome the stranger  
for he is our brother  
and she is our sister  
of mother earth.  
Care for creation  
for all life is sacred  
and we are united  
by vision's rebirth.*



*Sweetgrass and candle,  
the peace pipe and bible,  
the stories of elders  
and beat of the drum;  
these are the symbols  
of hope, faith and justice.  
We gather in circle  
affirming we're one.*

**GOSPEL** Luke 16:19-31

Barb Coyle

"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

"The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'

"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.'

"He answered, 'Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.'

"Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.'

"No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'

"He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

This is wisdom from our ancestors in faith.

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Dr. Teresa Burnett-Cole

## **Responding at Table**

**HYMN** Spirit, Open My Heart

MV 79

*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.**

**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.**

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

### **INVITATION TO GIVE**

Love is generosity. The risk of love, because every relationship is a risk, is ours to take. We choose to act and share our time, talents, and treasures. We choose to step with God into the obstacles so that love and justice becomes the path to walk. Let us now share our offering.

**OFFERING HYMN** Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands

VU 537

**Your work, O God, needs many hands  
to help you everywhere,  
and some there are who cannot serve  
unless our gifts we share.  
Because we love you and your work,  
our offering now we make:  
be pleased to use it as your own,  
we ask for Jesus' sake.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

May these gifts of our time, talents, and resources help us to keep these doors open that this community can stand as a place where justice matters. May these gifts remind people that we follow the God of Jesus, who has something to say in our much-traumatized world. Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE    Your Will Be Done**

MV 151

**Your will be done, be done on earth  
Your will be done, be done on earth.  
Your will be done, be done on earth.  
Your will be done on earth.  
Your will be done on earth.**

## **PRAYER OF JESUS**

**Our Mother and 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  
Forever and ever, Amen.**

## **Sent by the Spirit**

## **HYMN    I Saw the Rich Ones**

MV 127

**I saw the rich ones I saw what they gave  
the widow who offered two pennies she'd saved  
and I saw she was smiling I knew she was glad  
and I wondered because she gave all that she had**

**Refrain:**

But with God the world is turned upside down  
the poor are embraced and the lost they are found  
Let's work for a world where all people are free  
where it's good to feel good about God loving you and me.

I saw Zacheus, a sinner they said  
but to his house I saw Jesus go to break bread  
and I knew something special had happened that day  
when Zacchaeus gave half of his riches away

The men in the vineyards were grumbling one day  
I knew they weren't happy with what they'd been paid  
for the ones who came later were paid just the same  
as the workers who greeted the dawn when they came

**SENDING FORTH**

Go now with each breath, sharing the unending love of your Creator.  
Know that the very mystery of the universe holds you  
and molds you now and always.  
Rely on that love to reveal itself in you,  
in your hopes and dreams,  
thoughts, feelings, and actions.

May we know that we are One with all of Creation,  
tend to it and be tended to by it  
for friends, we are never alone!  
We go with God the Source of love,  
Jesus, the Love in Human Love,  
And the Holy Spirit, God's love and sustenance.

**SUNG AMEN**

Merritt in G

**MUSIC TO SEND US FORTH**

Navajo Vocab for Piano No, 7

Connor Chee

**End of Worship - Beginning of Service**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Thank you to all who participated in today's service – you stand among the saints of GSJ! Please join us in Fraser Hall following the service for coffee and fellowship.



We extend our deepest sympathies to the friends and family of **Bev Pidduck**. Bev has been a member of Glebe-St. James from many years. She passed away on September 24<sup>th</sup> family by her side. A service will be held today, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.

We also extend our sympathies to **Brenna Manders**. Mrs. Manders was part of the St Paul's-Eastern family. She passed away in August 2025. A memorial service will be held here at Glebe-St. James United on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

### ...At Glebe-St. James

Monday Meditation, weekly at 8 pm on zoom  
Check Mates – will resume September 30<sup>th</sup>, 10 am  
Trustees Meeting, September 30<sup>th</sup> (Art Room)  
Nattering Knitters – will resume October 7<sup>th</sup>, 1:30 pm

### GSJ Goes Out to Dinner Fall Edition

Saturdays in October

If you would like to host a dinner or to attend a dinner, please speak with David Brown or Margaret Ford.

### Photo Directory

Universal Photos will be in the church on October 7, 8 and 9<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 12 noon and 9:00 pm. They will photograph you and your family, pets, grandchildren, and display them for you immediately. The photo session is at no cost to you, however if you wish to purchase any pictures there is a cost. You may submit your own photo but there is a slight cost to do so.

Check the posters around the church and call Brenda at 1-888-769-7339, ex 1 to book your appointment. If you have any difficulty and need assistance, Jennifer, in the office, can help you.

Everyone is invited to participate – whether you have been coming to Glebe St. James for 50 years or 50 days, join in to make our Directory as complete as possible!

Your Directory Team

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## ***Our Ministry Team...***

Coordinating Minister: Rev. Dr. Teresa Burnett-Cole, ex 24; [Revtbc.gsj@gmail.com](mailto:Revtbc.gsj@gmail.com)

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