

June 4, 2025
Martyrs of Uganda (translated)
9:30 am Wednesday Eucharist

The peoples of what is now Uganda lived in a highly sophisticated society comprised of a federation of tribes under a hereditary monarch, the Kabaka. When European explorers and Christian missionaries entered the region in the 1860s, the Bugandan people were receptive to their teachings. The Kabaka, however, feared the growing strength and influence of foreigners. A vicious persecution began in 1885, culminating in the killing of Anglican and Roman Catholic converts at Namugongo on June 3, 1886. Their witness proved to be “the seed of the Ugandan church”, and by Uganda’s independence in 1962 it was the most Christian nation in Africa. The Church’s strength and resistance to the terror and corruption of Idi Amin’s overthrow of the government in 1972 brought more persecution. When Anglican Archbishop Janani Luwum formally protested the injustices, he was murdered in 1977. Today we remember those whose love and witness for Christ gives us courage to speak up and resist evil in our times.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: We gather here from many places on land that is the traditional and unsundered territory of the Halq’emeyn-speaking Coast Salish peoples.

People: **May Christ lead us on right pathways as we seek truth and reconciliation in action.**

Presider: Let us pray,

All: **O God, by the blood of Christian martyrs you planted in the heart of Uganda the seed of a strong and living Church, and you confirmed its growth under the hand of tyranny by the witness of your servant Janani Luwum. May we who cherish their remembrance before you be valiant in our witness against the terrors of unjust rulers, and remain steadfast in the love by which you bind us to yourself; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Reading: Hebrews 10:32-39

Reader: A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews,

³² But recall those earlier days when, after you had been enlightened, you endured a hard struggle with sufferings, ³³ sometimes being publicly exposed to abuse and persecution, and sometimes being partners with those so treated. ³⁴ For you had compassion for those who were in prison, and you cheerfully accepted the plundering of your possessions, knowing that you yourselves possessed something better and more lasting. ³⁵ Do not, therefore, abandon that confidence of yours; it brings a great reward. ³⁶ For you need endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. ³⁷ For yet 'in a very little while, the one who is coming will come and will not delay; ³⁸ but my righteous one will live by faith. My soul takes no pleasure in anyone who shrinks back.'³⁹ But we are not among those who shrink back and so are lost, but among those who have faith and so are saved.

Holy Word, Holy Wisdom.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 116:10-17

¹⁰ I believed, even when I said, *
"I have been brought very low."

¹¹ In my distress I said, *
"No one can be trusted."

¹² How shall I repay you, O Lord, *
for all the good things you have done for me?

¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation *
and call upon your name.

¹⁴ I will fulfil my vows to the Lord *
in the presence of all the people.

¹⁵ Precious in your sight, O Lord *
is the death of your servants.

¹⁶ O Lord, I am your servant; *
**I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.**

¹⁷ I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and call upon the name of the Lord.

The Gospel: Matthew 24:9-14

Reader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you Lord, Jesus Christ.

⁹ 'Then they will hand you over to be tortured and will put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of my name. ¹⁰ Then many will fall away, and they will betray one another and hate one another. ¹¹ And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. ¹² And because of the increase of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. ¹³ But anyone who endures to the end will be saved. ¹⁴ And this good news of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the world, as a testimony to all the nations; and then the end will come.

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

A member of the community leads us in offering our concerns and thanksgivings to God.

The Exchange of the Peace

Presider: May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of God's peace with your neighbours, respecting their comfort with touch.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, make this table the place where you are pleased to remember your covenant, that in company with your holy martyrs we may know the wondrous victory of him who conquered death and lives forever, Jesus our Lord. Amen.

the Great Thanksgiving

EP 3

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; you are glorified in the assembly of all your saints. All your martyrs bless you and praise you, confessing before the powers of this world the great name of your only Son. Therefore we join our voices with theirs, and with all who have served you in every age, to proclaim the glory of your name:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One 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 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 sons and daughters; 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.

The Lord's Prayer

In the language closest to your heart, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
*(please use the traditional version or another language
you use for prayer if you desire)*

**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 glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, God bids you welcome to this table. Here we are strengthened for the journey. Here strangers become friends and the seeker finds God's wisdom speaking to them. See who you are and become what you see. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

All who are drawn to Christ are welcome at this table. Bread and wine are shared, but receiving in one kind carries the fullness of Christ's presence. You may also come forward for a blessing instead.

Prayer after Communion

Presider: Let us pray,

All: Glory to God, 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, now and forever. Amen.

The Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

Please join us for fellowship after this service in the Parish Lounge- the building facing the cathedral across the walkway.

Readings for Pentecost, June 8, 2025

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34; Romans 8:14-17; John 14:8-17



THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Thursday

Celebration of Life for Doreen Becker 11 am

Vespers 5:30-6 pm online by Zoom

Choir Rehearsal 7:30-9 pm in the Cathedral

Saturday

Community Brunch, 11 am-noon

Sunday

BCP Eucharist, 8-9 am. *

Choral Eucharist with Baptisms, 10-11:15 am

Wednesday

Midweek Eucharist, 9:30-10 am*

Coffee & Fellowship, 10-10:30 am

Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 am

+ *link available by signing up for the weekly newsletter on*

www.holytrinitycathedral.ca

**live-streamed over Facebook.*

***HOW TO FIND THE LIVE-STREAMED SERVICES:**

go to www.holytrinitycathedral.ca

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