



Montreal, March 20, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

As you know, the team has been working very hard in order to provide alternative ways in which the communities of Christ Church Cathedral will continue to be able to worship together despite the closure of our beloved building.

At our COVID response meeting early in the week, it became clear that the preference was for providing opportunities for participative service, so we have opted to experiment with the Zoom online meeting platform in order to continue to be actively engaged as a praying community. For the time being, we will be joining together in prayer, singing and music, and the stream will remain open after the service so that we can share in a virtual coffee time. We will all be learning as we go along, and so feedback will be welcome.

In order to use Zoom, you can either link from your computer (preferably with video and microphone) through the links provided, or you can also connect by telephone by dialling the number and keying in the relevant event number. We suggest that you test Zoom in advance of Sunday in order to troubleshoot any problems by going to <https://zoom.us/test>

Please remember that, while the cathedral building is physically closed and worship is held in cyberspace, we still need your generous support to ensure that we are able to continue to cover our costs which continue to accrue. If you normally support us week by week, consider making an e-transfer to accounting@montrealcathedral.ca, using Canada Help through the donation page on our website, or even send a cheque to the office.

Here are the details for Sunday:

8 am – A service of Morning Prayer according to the Book of Common prayer

<https://zoom.us/j/451675690>

or Tel : (438) 809 7799 - Meeting: 451 675 690

9 am – Service de la Prière du Matin avec chants en Français

<https://zoom.us/j/482887404>

or Tel: (438) 809 7799 - Reunion: 482 887 404

10 :30 am – Morning Prayer service with hymns and music

<https://zoom.us/j/553661715>

or Tel : (438) 809 7799 - Meeting: 553661715

4 pm – Evensong

There will be a broadcast on Radio VM, but exact details of what we can or can't offer are still being worked out. However, the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral is currently not able to meet.

Weekday worship and other activities

In these strange circumstances when many will be in self isolation at home, we will trial two slots a day for people to connect – a virtual coffee time at 11 am for an hour, and a virtual tea time at 2.30 pm for an hour and a half.

All morning sessions will be in English, except Thursday which will be in French. The afternoons will be in English except Wednesday which will be in French. But there are no hard and fast rules, and anyone is welcome to join any of the rooms at anytime. We currently have a few volunteer leaders for those, who will lead on a particular topic. If you would like to volunteer to enable or lead a discussion on a particular topic, please let us know.

Coffee morning – Mon to Sat, 10 am to 11 am

<https://zoom.us/j/848242015>

or Tel : (438) 809 7799 - Meeting: 848242015

Afternoon tea – Mon to Fri, 2.30 to 4 pm

<https://zoom.us/j/561302897>

or Tel : (438) 809 7799 - Meeting: 561 302897

We will evaluate how popular these spaces are and will adjust the schedule on a week by week basis. Please let us know.

Midweek prayer time

In these uncertain times, we felt also that you might want to join with others to pray, so will provide the space for that at 6.30pm on Tuesday in French, and Thursday in English.

<https://zoom.us/j/535719868>

or Tel : (438) 809 7799 - Meeting: 535719868

Compline on Wednesday in English at 8.30 pm.

<https://zoom.us/j/980449693>

or Tel : (438) 809 7799 - Meeting: 980449693

News

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the death of the **Rev'd Dr. Elizabeth Rowlinson** on March 17, 2020.

Elizabeth was a priest of this diocese and was ordained by Archbishop Andrew Hutchison in 1993 (deacon) and 1994 (priest). She served as an honorary assistant at Christ Church Cathedral until she retired in 2011 and as honorary Chaplain at Montreal Diocesan Theological College until she retired from that post in 2014. A notice of her death was posted in the local Orillia media where Elizabeth and her husband retired to after they left Montreal.

May Elizabeth rest in peace and rise in glory!

<https://www.orilliamatters.com/obituaries/rowlinson-dr-elizabeth-reverend-2180637>

Messages of condolence are welcomed at www.mundellfuneralhome.com