## PASTORAL CARE MESSENGER

Christ Church Cathedral Ottawa, July 2021

## In-person services at the Cathedral have resumed



"We have returned to this Cathedral, this sacred space, this place that represents and signifies so much more than the stone structure that it is. Each in our own pace, and perhaps for the first time, we are engaging with the community of faith that gathers and worships and ministers. Emerging from the exile of the pandemic, the story written in this place reminds us that God's presence and promise have been with us, even when we didn't feel it. And in the avalanche of God's gifts listed in Ephesians – blessing, adoption, redemption, forgiveness, inheritance, salvation - we are reminded who we are and whose we are. In the midst of our return, we are challenged to keep God at the centre of our life.... May we keep God at the centre of our lives always, empowered to be reconcilers and healers in our hurting world. May we dance with hope and joy into the adventure that lies before us."

> Excerpt from Dean Beth's sermon, Sunday, July 11, 2021

As you can see from the photo, it is pure joy to be welcoming people back to the Cathedral! And as we do so, all who are unable to join us, for whatever reason, are very much with us in spirit, held gently in our hearts and minds. May you be blessed in this time of summer restoration by the warm air, the growing season, and all the expressions of Creator's joy. Take care,

— Dean Beth



God of love, teach us to walk blamelessly in your ways, that our whole life may be established in you, and that we may come to the place prepared for us by your Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

— Psalm prayer from *The Book of Alternative Services*