



DRAG COMMUNION

A QUEER LITURGY

Version 2.5 - October 19, 2025

Drag Communion was first developed and celebrated at Shaughnessy Heights Church in Vancouver Canada on 6th October 2024 in partnership with Affirm United, South Arm United Church, Christ Church Cathedral Vancouver, and the SQUID project.

We also thank the Indigenous teachers who provided essential feedback and relational training for improving this new draft of the Drag Communion Liturgy.

This liturgy is made freely available to any worship communities who want to celebrate their own service of Drag Communion.

General Notes:

This service should feel high energy, inclusive, and be sensitive to the norms of both church and drag events.

Attendees more used to drag events will likely be loudly, vocally encouraging, which is energy that we can direct into our themes of radical acceptance. That kind of verbal affirmation, in a church, for people who are often marginalized, should be encouraged with grace. It's an appropriate time to make a joyful noise!

We're calling our drag performers Drag Liturgists, to reflect their role in creating and holding sacred space. Prior to the service, Drag Liturgists (if not doing last minute touch-ups) should be present in the sanctuary and greeting hall, helping invite people in with warmth. For some churchgoers this experience may be pushing their comfort zone, so it's recommended that people who need space be given plenty of it.

9:55 - Prelude -

Greeters and drag liturgists welcome attendees warmly, help them find seats, and let them know that there's a quiet space in the chapel if they need it.

Greeters: [???

Distribute cups with markers and nametags as people arrive.

10:00 - Land Acknowledgement – Dave

Here in this place, where the sea meets the land, untold generations of Coast Salish peoples built their homes, cared for the land, and traded with their neighbors. For millennia upon millennia Indigenous communities honoured those who embodied diverse sexualities, gender identities, roles and expressions, people who now often describe themselves as Two-Spirit. However, when colonizers arrived and took this land for themselves, they imposed the laws and social norms of their Empire, demanding cultural conformity and assimilation, denouncing and dismissing Indigenous social, sexual, gender, and interpersonal identities.

Now, as First Nations proudly reclaim their stories, their culture, and their history, and especially as Two-Spirit people are reclaiming their place in their communities, we join them in grieving what was lost and stolen, and in asserting the truths of identity and personhood that Empire denies. In love, in solidarity, and in partnership we join the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh people, as well as Indigenous guests on this land, in growing relationships that model a shared vision of freedom and respect.

10:02 - First Choral Anthem “God is Still Creating”

Choir returns to seats when anthem ends.

10:05 - Welcome

Because our church is situated on unceded territory we recognize that the word “Welcome” is complicated by a history of colonization. While we welcome you to this community of faith with open arms and open hearts, we do so with a commitment to living in Right Relations with Indigenous peoples, and dedicated to honouring any Welcome that we might receive.

A new kind of service, or even stepping into a church, may feel strange or uncomfortable. We want you to feel supported as we celebrate Drag Communion together.

First of all, if you need to take personal time for any reason, [name] is holding space in our chapel, to the left through those doors. You are encouraged to care for yourself and your body.

We each may carry different needs or how we relate to each other in this space. During times of sharing and connection, we encourage each other to seek out those of us who are quiet, who are strangers, or who are shy, and to offer fellowship. We also encourage those who need space in that moment to cross your arms over your chest when approached.

Offering plates are available in the back of the sanctuary to help support affirming ministries like this service, and we’ll be taking a love offering to support Rainbow Refugee.

[Dave is extemporaneous]

Finally, drag spirituality is about joy [*music begins*], and making a joyful noise, so let’s give a rousing welcome to today’s Drag Liturgists and our guest preacher:

- Tara Beladi
- [Skyler]
- Whoopsie Daisy
- Reverend Cal Morgan

10:08 - A Call to Gather - Drag Liturgists [*music continues*]

Whoopsie: “Come as who you are.” This is the invitation that Creator extends. Today, the same way that the sea meets the land and creates the shore, we combine the tradition of Drag Brunch—where attendees celebrate unconditional love and acceptance in community around a shared meal—with the tradition of Holy Communion, where Creator offers unconditional love and invites everyone to participate in the feast where we are seen, known, and loved as our true selves.

Cal: I invite you all, Two-Spirit, gay or straight, trans or cis, rich or poor, friend or stranger, Indigenous or settler, from wherever you come, to journey with us, as we enter authentic relations with ourselves and with each other, in preparation for The Feast.

Tara Beladi: There is no right or wrong way to be present here. Some of us are loud and love to dance in the aisles. Others need space and quiet, or something to occupy our busy hands. However you choose to participate, you are loved and welcomed in this space.

Skylar: We enter this space together with one unshakeable covenant: that we meet each other, as who and whose we are, with love.

[Music continues as Cal proceeds to light the candle at the altar]

10:10 - Lighting of the Candle & First Singalong “Draw the Circle Wide/Jesus Loves Me”

Skylar should share a brief thought or story during the musical introduction. Big personality, lots of presence, lots of affirmation. They then sing the piece, inviting the congregation to join them for the final verse and chorus.

At the conclusion, pass the mic to Whoopsie.

10:15 - Children’s Time with Whoopsie & Ben (Mr. Rogers tribute)

At the conclusion, segue into “It’s You I Like”

10:18 - Hymn/Singalong - “Fearfully Wonderfully Made”

Whoopsie invites the congregation to join her for the final verse and chorus.

10:22 - Scripture Reading - ???

Gospel - Choosing David

10:26 - Homily - Reverend Cal Morgan

10:36 - Choir Anthem “You Can’t Erase Us”

Choir enters and exits as usual. Drag performers take solos from the front.

10:40 - Prayers - Whoopsie

We now enter a time of prayer and contemplation. Today, **you** are the prayer. While [...] plays some music, take a few moments to think about who you are, and how you may have hidden your true self from the world. How do you want to be known? Where do you feel most at home? As our drag liturgists hand out blank name tags and markers, we encourage you to name yourself as you want to be seen in the community: Gardener. Storyteller. Peacemaker. Woman, Man, or any other Gender.

As you think about your truth, share as much or as little on the name tag as you feel comfortable with. When you've written your name and your truth down, hold onto your nametag, but don't put it on yet.

(Instrumental music during activity - Cal)

(Sam and two others distribute extra pens and nametags as necessary)

10:45 - Words of Forgiveness and Freedom - Dave

Presider - Now that we have each named ourselves and our truth, we come before Creator as we pray:

(From St. Hildegard's Rite)

All -

Holy One, we long for You.
You know our wounding and our broken-heartedness.
You know how others have hurt us,
And how we have hurt others.
You have the healing we need.
Yours is the love that changes everything.
Amen.

Presider –

Although fear and judgment led so many of us to hide and protect our true selves, God has always known and loved us as we are. We are, all of us, forgiven, accepted, and celebrated by God as our most authentic selves, fearfully and wonderfully made, and celebrated with unending joy and thanksgiving.

10:47 - The Peace – Cal

The sharing of the Peace in the church began as a practice of mutual reconciliation, setting down our differences and getting right with each other so that we could partake of the Feast in community, with open hearts. Today, we share the Peace by naming each other as we want to be seen. Please find a neighbor, and take turns putting on your nametags. As you do, say “Peace be with you” and name them aloud. Please take extra care to find and recognize those alone among us who may be shy, feel unwelcome, or uncertain, recognizing that anyone may gently decline interaction with arms crossed over their chest.

The drag liturgists illustrate the process, naming each other. Be sure to rehearse this in advance.

10:51 - Communion – Dave, Whoopsie, Cal

God’s feast is a party, and we’re all invited. As we return to our seats, let us do so with joyful hearts, in preparation for the feast!

Communion Liturgy for Pride ([source](#): Rev. Sam Lundquist)

Beloved children of Creator God, as we gather here this morning, we are the church! In this moment, we respond to the words of Jesus, who tells us: “...where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

And it is with the power of Christ that we proclaim that this table is open to all people — no matter who you are or what you believe or what you’ve been told.

Here at Creator’s table we remember the simple gathering of a chosen family that came together for a meal that proclaimed a new way of being in this world.

We remember Creator’s radically inclusive love made real in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

We remember the One who befriended the forgotten, embraced the outcast, and saw the Image of God in all people.

We remember the One who confronted every power that disconnected, marginalized, oppressed, and “other-ed.”

It is here at this table that we find hope and imagination to see Creator's dream and promise of a world of wholeness, and it is here that we receive the nourishment and strength to continue on the paths of justice.

We recall that on the night he was betrayed, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup, saying, "Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."

Creator, we thank you for breathing this world into existence and proclaiming from its birth: "It is good."

We come to you with gratitude for the endless blessings that we see, feel, and know on our journeys of life.

We celebrate the rich diversity of your creation—every beautiful body, every shade of skin, every expression of love.

Through your Spirit, open our hearts to the joy we can find in the midst of life's challenges.

Remind us that we are loved—fiercely and forever.

And however the world may try to hold us down or tell us who to be, remind us that nothing can separate us from your presence.

And so as we stand before this feast, we pray with the words you taught us to pray:

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Parent of us all,
Loving Creator, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustains our hope and comes on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Beloved children of God, the table is set.
Come and feast with the One who loves you more than you can possibly imagine.

At this table, everyone is welcome, no one is obligated. All who wish may now receive holy communion, gifted to you with love for who you are.

10:55 - Distribution

Distributors say, as they share with each person: “Creator’s unconditional love, [name the person from their nametag]”

11:00 - Blessing & Dismissal –

We’ve shared in the heavenly meal, [and in a few minutes we’ll share brunch in the Fellowship Hall.]

If you need care or a quiet contemplation following the service, we will continue holding space in the chapel, just through those doors.

Our drag liturgists today are [...]. A huge thank you to them, to Rev. Sam Lundquist for the Communion text, to St. Hildegard’s Sanctuary for their forgiveness rite, as well as to the choir and musicians, and most of all to you for showing up with open hearts for this sacred service of Drag Communion.

We have one final song for you after the Blessing. Whether dancing in your seats or in the aisles, you’re encouraged to move your body and sing with joyful abandon. At the end of the song, everyone is invited, but not obligated, to join as we dance out the door, down the sidewalk and back to the hall for fellowship.

Now, may Creator bless all of us, Two-spirit, queer, and straight and: those who are not with us, those who do not have homes, those who are closeted, those who are Indigenous to this land and those who have settled here, and all those who are only at the beginning of their journey. May we all find acceptance and home. May we all find a chosen family that loves and supports us. Creator’s arms are wide open to welcome you as who you are.

11:02 - We Are a Rainbow (Tara Beladi) – *Final song with transition into an optional conga line out the door, down the sidewalk, and back into the hall.*

Drag liturgists move into the congregation and encourage people to get up and dance in the aisles, then vocally and visibly invite them to follow them out of the sanctuary to dance along the street and back.

RECESSIONAL/POSTLUDE: Transition music into a dance line, out the door, onto the sidewalk, and down the street to re-enter the hall.

RESOURCES

Watch the original Drag Communion –

 Sunday Service - 10:00am, October 6th, 2024 - Shaughnessy Heights United Church

[Pride Prayers for Queer Folks](#) - Rev. Sam Lundquist

[The St. Hildegard Rite](#)





