



## St. Paul's Anglican Church

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### OUR PARISH HISTORY

*A congregation was established in 1836 and this church was built in 1885. It has been a place of worship where old fellowship is enjoyed and new fellowship is built and we welcome you to join with us to carry this faith into the future.*

### INDIGENOUS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*We acknowledge that this church is situated upon traditional Indigenous territory. This land is part of Treaty #20 signed in 1818 by representatives of the Anishinabe (Ojibway) peoples of Mississaugan and Chippewayan dialects. The treaty includes all of the City of Kawartha Lakes. We also recognize the enduring presence of First Nations peoples on this land.*

### 6:45 p.m. Organ Prelude:

"The Star Carol" -- John Rutter

"Ave Verum Corpus" -- WA Mozart

"Sheep May Safely Graze" -- JS Bach

"See Amid the Winter's Snow" -- John Goss

"O Holy Night" -- Adolphe Adam

*The service begins in candlelight as the Christ child is placed in the manger.*

### Processional Hymn

### O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

1. O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
Come and behold him, born the king of angels;

#### Refrain:

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him

O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. God of God, Light of Light,  
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;  
very God, begotten not created:      Refrain:
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God in the highest:      Refrain:
4. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,  
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;  
we too will thither bend our royal footsteps;      Refrain:

### THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

#### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Leader*

We have waited with hope for God to bring justice.

*All*

**We have waited with peace for God's shalom.**

*Leader*

We have waited with joy, celebrating the things God has already done.

*All*

**We have waited with love, awed by how God has shown love to us.**

*Leader*

Tonight we light this candle to celebrate the light God has sent into the world in the birth of Jesus.

#### **The Christ candle is lit.**

*Celebrant*

Let us pray together

**O God of hope, peace, joy and love, from the stable so long ago your light shines out into every corner of the world. Help us sing with the angels the joy of your coming. Help us live by your light, not only today, but throughout the whole year, so that tidings of peace and goodwill will truly transform the world.**

## A CANDLE IS BURNING

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
a candle of hope in December's dark night.  
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,  
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of peace,  
a candle to signal that conflict must cease;  
for Jesus is coming to show us the way,  
a message of hope humbly laid in the hay.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of joy,  
a candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.  
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow  
as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.**

**A candle is burning, a candle of love,  
a candle to point us to heaven above.  
A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,  
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.**

**We honour Messiah with Christ candle's flame,  
our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.  
O come, all you faithful, rejoice in this night,  
as God comes among us, the Christian's true light.**

### THE GREETING

*Celebrant* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
*People* **And also with you.**

### THE GLORIA

*Celebrant* Glory to God in the highest,  
*All* **and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Collect for Christmas

*Celebrant* Eternal God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: bring us, who have known

the revelation of that light on earth, to see the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*Please extinguish your candle and be seated for the readings.*

**First Reading** Isaiah 9:2-7 (Insert Sheet)

**Psalm** 96

*Leader* Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

**All** **Sing to the Lord and bless his name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.**

*Leader* Declare his glory among the nations and his wonders among all peoples.

**All** **For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.**

*Leader* As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but it is the Lord who made the heavens.

**All** **Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence! \*  
Oh, the power and the splendour of his sanctuary!**

*Leader* Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

**All** **Ascribe to the Lord the honour due his name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.**

*Leader* Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before him.

**All** **Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king!  
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity."**

*Leader* Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**All** **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the Lord when he comes, \*  
when he comes to judge the earth.**

*Leader* He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth.

*Leader* **We worship you, God of glory, in the beauty of holiness,  
and we joyfully proclaim your just and righteous rule, established for  
all, through your Son Jesus Christ the Lord.**

Second Reading Titus 3:4-7 (Insert Sheet)

Gradual Hymn O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM  
(Cantor) *(Sung while candles are being lit for the Gospel procession.)*

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering  
love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

*Gospeler* The Lord be with you.  
*People* And also with you.

*Gospeler* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
*People* Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke 2:1-20 (Insert Sheet)

*Gospeler* The Gospel of Christ.  
*People* Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

3. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,  
where meek Souls will receive him  
still the dear Christ enters in.
4. O Holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

HOMILY – The Rev. Canon Gloria Master

ORGAN SOLO: "Sicilienne" (Shepherd"s Song) -- Maria Theresa von Paradis

THE APOSTLES CREED

*Celebrant* Let us confess the faith of our baptism,  
as we say,

*All* I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven  
and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and  
born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He  
descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right  
hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the  
living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the  
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*(Stand, kneel or sit as is most comfortable for you)*

*Intercessor* In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe,  
saying, "Lord, grant us peace."

*Intercessor* By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the  
angel, hear us, O Lord.

*All* Lord, grant us peace.

*Intercessor* By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

*All* Lord, grant us peace.

*Intercessor* By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O  
Lord.

*All* Lord, grant us peace.

*Intercessor* By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds  
and magi, hear us, O Lord.

*All* Lord, grant us peace

*Intercessor* God of darkness and silence, you have pierced the quiet of  
this night by the birth of your Word in our flesh. May our  
words of praise and prayer be strong echoes of your  
Christmas word, so that all might come to the peace you  
promise in Jesus, who is Lord and God this night and for  
ever. Amen.

The Peace

OFFERTORY HYMN

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King,  
peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."

2. **Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail, the incarnate deity, pleased as one of us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."**
3. **Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun if Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."**

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### EUCHARIST PRAYER *(Please stand, kneel or sit)*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.  
*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* We give you thanks and praise, God of life, for on this holy night, you came among us, to show us that you love us so much that you would be human, like us, so that we might learn to be holy, like you.  
In Jesus, your child, you brought light to the world.  
Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we raise our voices to say  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

We give you thanks and praise, loving God because in sending Jesus, your child, to us, you sent us a new sign of love and peace for the world.

On the night before he died, at supper with his friends, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it

to them, saying, "Take this all of you and eat it. This is my body which is given for you."

After Supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said, "Drink this, all of you. This is my blood, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sin. Whenever you gather, do this for the memory of me."

God of life, with this bread and wine, we celebrate the birth and life of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him. Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts and make them holy, so that we, your people, being fed by holy things, may take light and hope, love and peace into the world. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*Celebrant* We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.  
*All* **God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.**

*We invite and welcome all who have been baptized to come forward for communion. Everyone is welcome at the altar to receive a Christmas blessing. Please stand or kneel as you prefer.*

### Communion Hymns sung by Gordon Brown

"Song of the Nuns of Chester" --arr. by GB  
"In the Bleak MidWinter" -- Harold Darke.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Father of all, tonight you have united heaven and earth in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted holy things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

### THE DOXOLOGY

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

**SILENT NIGHT** (*By candle light*)

1.

Silent night! Holy Night! All is  
calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in  
heavenly peace!

2.

Silent night! Holy Night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight:  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ, the Saviour, is born!  
Christ, the Saviour, is born!

3.

Silent night! Holy Night! Son of God love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus Lord, at thy birth!

**Celebrant:** The Dismissal

**People:** Thanks be to God.