



**St. Paul's Anglican Church
Advent 3 - December 17th, 2023**

Indigenous Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this church is situated upon traditional Indigenous territory. We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples connected to and on this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather on this territory and we commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Creator, let us be of Good Mind to reconcile the mistreatment of this land and to those who have been displaced. With thankful and respectful hearts we pray in Your name, Your Son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.

**Incumbent – The Rev. Bonnie Skerritt
Honorary Assistant – The Rev. Canon Greg Physick
Music Director – Diane Stecher**

**45 Russell St. W., Lindsay ON K9V 2W8
Tel: (705) 324-4666 Email: office@st-pauls-lindsay.ca
Website: www.st-pauls-lindsay.ca**

*Please note that all hymns are taken from
Common Praise (1998) or are printed in the leaflet
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10.00am Holy Eucharist (BAS)

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Processional Hymn CP #486 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Light the Advent candle, three:
Think of heavenly harmony:
Angels singing "Peace on earth"
At the blessed Saviour's birth.
*Candle, candle, burning bright,
shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle, burning bright,
fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

Sentence The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has
anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted. *Isaiah 61.1*

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.**

Celebrant: Almighty God

All: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you
no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly
love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Collect of The Day

All: **God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate
the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder
love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe
and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Upcoming Services

December 21st - 11:00 am Blue Christmas, with luncheon
December 24th, 10.00am Lessons & Carols,
December 24th, 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Eucharist
December 25th 10:00 am Christmas Day Eucharist
December 31st 10.00 am BAS Morning Prayer with Carol-Sing
January 7th, 10:00 am Epiphany

Did you hear? Our own Ethel Morris has been named to the Order of the
Diocese of Toronto. Congratulations! The award will be presented at the
Bishop's New Year's Day Levée at St. James Cathedral. Please consider
making the trip to the cathedral to support Ethel on January 1st.

Recessional Hymn CP # 109 When the King Shall Come Again

The Dismissal



Please join us after the service for refreshments.

Announcements

Next weeks Readings: Isaiah 62:6-12, Psalm 97, Titus 3:4-7, Luke 2:1-20

2024 Church Calendars are now for sale for \$7.00. Please see Phyllis Carpentier or Shirley Hanes to purchase yours.

Christmas Flowers – If you would like to provide a flower memorial at Christmastime, please contact Marg Brohm or the Office. If needed, flower donation envelopes are available in the Main Hall by the Flower Chart.

Memorial Angel Tree - this year angels are being sold in memory of loved ones, with proceeds going to support St. Paul's pantry, for a **minimum donation of \$5**. During Advent, you can purchase an angel, and the name of your loved ones will be attached to it on a tag. Then the angel will be placed on the Christmas tree at the front of the nave. In Epiphany, angels can be collected and taken home.

Our annual Christmas Day Dinner – This year's dinner is planned to be in-house with basic Covid protocols in place. There will be 10 tables on both the main and upper halls to avoid crowding. As usual, we will be offering a turkey and ham dinner with all the trimmings. The dessert table will abound with assorted Christmas squares, cookies and other delectable treats.

Reservations – please call into the church (705-324-4666) and select option #6

Volunteers – please call into the church and select option #7

How can you help with this event?

- Bake a few extra of your family's favourite Christmas desserts to donate
- Offer to assist with set-up, advance prep and/or serving dinner
- Cash donations to help offset the costs
- Spread the news and invite people to the event

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2,8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and release to the prisoners;
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins,
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.

For I the Lord love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.
I will greatly rejoice in the Lord,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.
Reader The word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

Psalm 126

1 When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, * then were we like those who dream.

2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, * and our tongue with shouts of joy.

3 Then they said among the nations, *” The Lord has done great things for them.”

4 The Lord has done great things for us, * and we are glad indeed.

5 Restore our fortunes, O Lord, * like the watercourses of the Negev.

6 Those who sowed with tears * will reap with songs of joy.

7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, * will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

Praise to you, God of our salvation. Your generous gifts surpass all that we can ask or imagine. You have delivered us from the exile of sin and restored us to new life in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Glory and honour and praise to you for ever and ever. Amen.

2nd Reading: 1Thessalonians 5: 16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Reader The word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn CP# #111 Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement v.1,2

The Holy Gospel – John 1:6-8,19-24

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All: Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God (sung)

All: Jesus Lamb of God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world, give us your peace, give us your peace.

Hymns during Communion

CP #89 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

CP #117 Lord, How a Rose E're Blooming

Prayer After Communion

Celebrant: Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. Amen.

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,

All 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.

The Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be amongst you this day and every day. **Amen.**

through the wilderness into the promised land. When your people were taken into exile you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home

People: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Celebrant At the right time you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed. Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them.
He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life. Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love.
On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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 and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."
Therefore we proclaim our hope.

People: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Celebrant: Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters and brothers. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

People: Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Celebrant Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

Gradual Hymn CP #111 Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement v.3,4

Homily Rev. Bonnie Skerritt

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 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.

Prayers of The People - Litany #12

In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!")
O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.
Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept

Celebrant: Most merciful God,

All: we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you

Offertory Hymn CP #101 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer Over the Gifts

Celebrant: God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer Supplemental #2

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 Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world. When those we trust betray us, unfailingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to the paths of righteousness. You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone, whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first. Therefore we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and singing:

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.

Celebrant Blessed are you, O Holy One: when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope. When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good. When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them