



St Paul's Anglican Church

December 15, 2024
Advent 3

45 Russell St. W., Lindsay ON K9V 2W8

Tel: (705) 324-4666; Email: office@st-pauls-lindsay.ca

Website: www.st-pauls-lindsay.ca

Incumbent – The Rev. Bonnie Skerritt

Honorary Assistant – The Rev. Canon Greg Physick

Music Director – Arlene Gray

10:00 am **Holy Eucharist (BAS)**

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.**

Prelude

Processional Hymn # 318 Rejoice Today with One Accord

Lighting of the Advent Candle – Peace

Song: Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy, He brings joy to ev'ry heart, He comes! He comes! x2

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 Gathering of the Community (*All stand*)

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.

Kyrie Eleison

All Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

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

The Proclamation of the Word

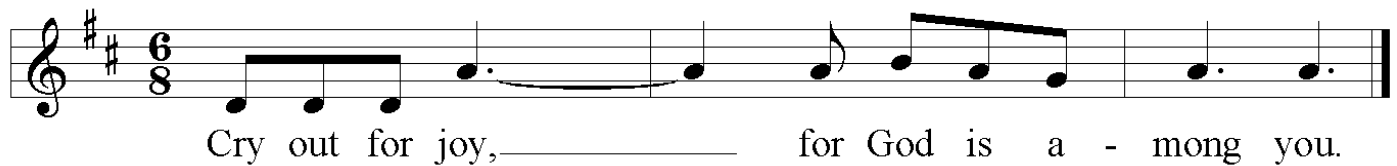
First Reading - Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 3 (Isaiah 12:2-6)



Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defence, and he will be my Saviour. **R**

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on the day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; **R**

Make his deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that his name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, and this is known in all the world. **R**

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. **R**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

Second Reading - Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn # 106 There's a Voice in the Wilderness v 1,2

Reader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Holy Gospel - Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.'

And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gradual Hymn # 106 There's a Voice in the Wilderness v 3,4

Homily Rev. Bonnie Skerritt

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

(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! Amen.

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

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.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory Hymn # 109 When the King Shall Come Again

The 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.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 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: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

All 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.

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 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, and said, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this in 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."

Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come. 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 with suffering, our sisters and our 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,
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.

The 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.**

Agnus Dei

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.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. All others are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

At this time, intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is strictly prohibited for hygienic reason. If desired, you may instead lay your hands on the base of the chalice.

Hymns during Communion

Eucharist 1: # 90 How the World Longs for Your Birth
Eucharist 2: # 95 O Come, Divine Messiah

Anthem: When Will We See the Little One?

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **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

Announcements

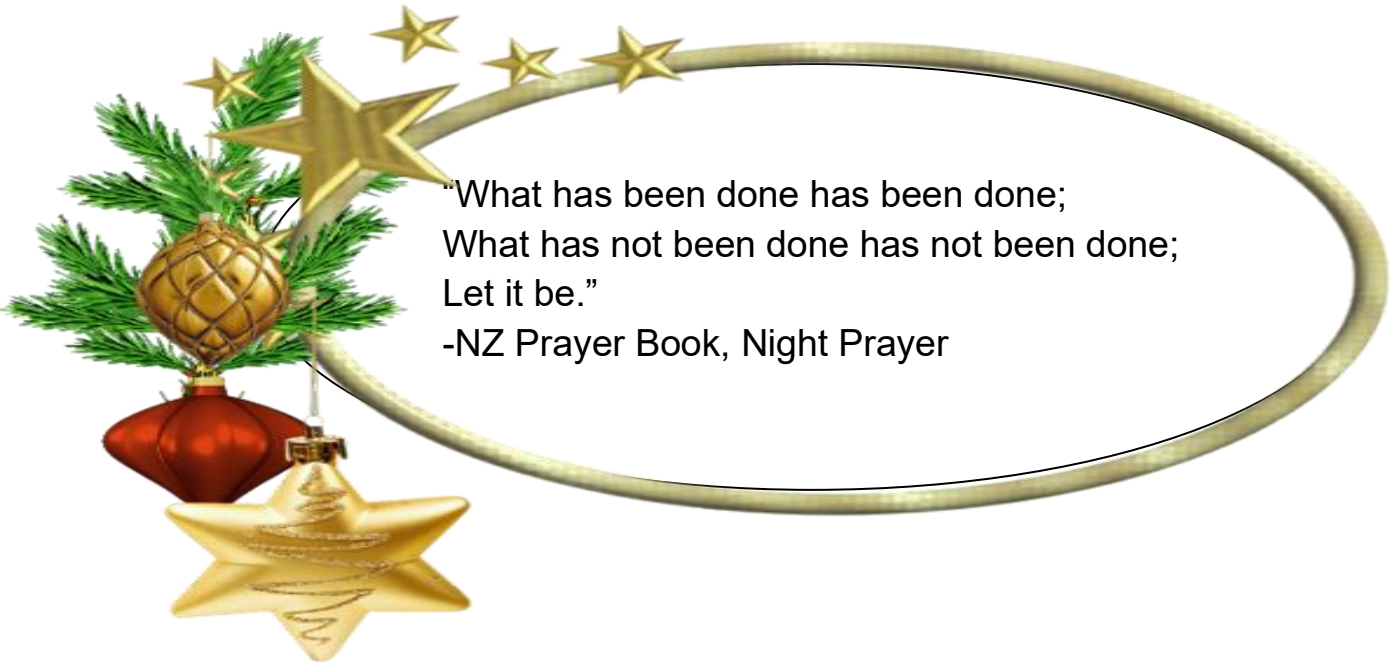
Recessional Hymn # 101 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Dismissal

Celebrant: Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, go, serve the world God loves!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: (Feel free to sit and listen)



LESSONS and CAROLS - next Sunday

Including

The reintroduction of the **St. Paul's Handbells**
Ruth on the violin and special guest soloist.

Next Week's Readings – Advent 4 Love

- 1) Isaiah 11:1-10 (the root of Jesse)
- 2) Micah 5: 2-5a (a ruler from Bethlehem)
- 3) Baruch 4:36-5:9 (the return of scattered Israel)
- 4) Luke 1:26-36 (Jesus' birth foretold)
- 5) Luke 1:39-56 (Mary visits Elizabeth)
- 6) Hebrews 1:1-4 (God spoke by Son)
- 7) Titus 3:4-7 (Saved through Christ)

Announcements

Designated Giving for December #215 will benefit **Kawartha Food Source**. As Christians have always done, we feed the hungry and we know the need this winter is more urgent than ever. Our monetary donations help the Food Source fund nutritious things like fresh produce, milk and eggs and the cost of breakfast programs in schools.

Refreshment Time helpers needed – Over the coming weeks we typically have more folks visiting, please consider taking on a Sunday, maybe with a couple of friends to lighten the load. And thank you to the many folks who do regularly support this important ministry!



Christmas Flowers: If you wish to donate flowers in memory of a loved one for Christmas, please let us know by Dec. 17. Mark your donation envelope: Donation Christmas Flowers

Gift Cards Reminder to help support our Parish consider purchasing these cards and for those who already do, Thanks!

A note: as of January 1st, after discussion and prayer we will be retiring the gift card program. For all those who purchase these cards, we thank you and there are still cards available for your Christmas gifts.



Advent for Everyone continues this coming Tuesday, 7:30 - 8:30 pm with final evening of reflections for Advent 4. A watch party has been organized at St. Paul's facilitated by Rev. Bonnie. It is not necessary to sign up with the diocese to attend but please let Rev. Bonnie know if you are coming. If you would like to attend via Zoom at home, please sign up at www.toronto.anglican.ca/spiritualrenewal.

Sessions for Spiritual Renewal: Renewal begins with prayer. Right across our diocese people are praying for spiritual renewal. Let's make a daily commitment to spend at least a few minutes in prayer, drawing close to God, who promises to draw close to us and be at work in and through us.





“CONNECTIONS”

before Blue Christmas Service @ 7pm
Join with others for dinner at
Symposium Restaurant in Plaza 449 Kent St.
Sunday December 22 @ 4:30 or 5pm
sign-up sheet on bulletin board in main hall
contact person: Donna Gushue

Christmas Letters are ready for pickup. Due to the postal strike, you can lend a helping hand by taking one to a friend who may not be able to get to the church. **Christmas cards from Rev. Bonnie** are now also available for pickup in the hall.

Grapevine Please go to the website <https://st-pauls-lindsay.ca/newsletters> If you want a hard copy, please let the office know. It is 32 pages.

The Offer of a Lifetime for those of us over 50: We are looking for **china teacups** to have on hand for our annual event. *Might you have some you want to go to a good home?*

The Phone system is up and running for you to make your **Christmas Dinner Reservations** and Volunteer to help. Please let your friends and neighbours know.

The **Vestry List** has now been posted in the Main Hall and at the Russell Street doors. Please take a moment to review it. Any errors or omissions can be submitted to any member of the Parochial Tribunal (Rev. Bonnie, Barb Truax, Betty Hooper, Gail Payne). Such submissions need to be received by December 29.

Christmas Tea & Concert Thank You's... Rev. Bonnie & Ray Marshall wish to express their thanks to all those who contributed their time and talent to make the Tea & Concert a wonderful experience. Special thanks to Shirley Williams and her team for the delicious sandwiches & sweets; Paul Carpentier for the fabulous scones; Jo-Anne Burridge and her helpers for decorating the Hall; Myrna Sloboda & “Infinitely More” for blessing us with their musical talent; and Peter Payne for doing the dishes. It is a delight for us to work together to bring this event to you again, and we look forward to what we will offer in 2025. Merry Christmas!

Upcoming Services

Sundays at 10:00 am unless otherwise noted

December 22nd – Advent 4 **Lessons & Carols** – with guests

December 22nd – **Blue Christmas** Evensong (7pm)

Tuesday December 24 **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

- 7pm Holy Communion

Wednesday December 25 - **Christmas Day** - 3:30 Evening Prayer followed by the...**Christmas Day Dinner** (Dine-In only)

Phone to pre-book your sit-down dinner reservation by Dec. 21.

December 29 – Christmas 1

Christmas Happenings

Blue Christmas Service

This is a contemplative service for those who would like a quiet space to celebrate Christmas. Come join us as we reflect on God's compassion and love. 7pm Dec. 22

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

If you are alone on **Christmas Day** or unable to prepare a dinner, we invite you to join us December 25th from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A short **Evening Prayer** service will also be available at 3:30 pm. Along with the meal we have music, and good fellowship.

Weekly Schedule:

Mon.	Community Choir	weekly	7:00 pm	hall
Tues.	ESL*	weekly	9:30 – 11:30	hall
Thurs.	ESL*	weekly	9:30 – 11:30	hall
Thurs.	Sisterhood	weekly	12:00 – 2:00	hall
Thurs.	Handbells	weekly	3:45 pm	upper
Thurs.	Choir Rehearsal	weekly	7:00 pm	sanctuary
Tues. – Fri.	Tai Chi	weekly	9:30 – 11:30	upper
3 rd Friday	Kawartha Food Source		9:00 – 11:30	kitchen
3 rd Tuesday	Horticultural Society		7:00 – 9:00	hall

*English as a 2nd Language



Thank you for Worshipping with us Today.

Please join us after Worship for Refreshments and Fellowship!



*Please note that all hymns are taken from Common Praise (1998) or are printed in the leaflet
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