



St Paul's Anglican Church

December 21, 2025
Advent 4 – Love
Lessons and Carols

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

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Incumbent – The Rev. Bonnie Skerritt

Honorary Assistants – The Rev. Canon Greg Physick

– The Rev. Susan Tate

Music Director – Arlene Gray

10:00 am **BAS**

Prelude: “Sing of Mary Pure and Lowly” – Ruth and Arlene

Processional Hymn: #89 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
vs 1-4 (Baritone Horn solo to start)

Indigenous Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this church is situated on the traditional territory of the Mississauga peoples and is covered by the Williams Treaties. 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 First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. Creator, let us be of Good Mind to reconcile ourselves, and to work for justice and reconciliation with the peoples and the land. With thankful and respectful hearts, we pray in Your name, Your Son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. **Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle – Love

1. Hope is a star that shines in the night Leading us on till the morning is bright

Chorus: When God is a child there's joy in our song The last shall be first And the weak shall be strong And none shall be afraid

2. Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth Giving a promise of safety and worth

3. Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn Telling the world that the Savior is born

4. Love is a flame that burns in our heart Jesus has come and will never depart

Introductory responses - Advent

Celebrant: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;

All: **Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

Celebrant: Will you not give us life again,

All: **That your people may rejoice in you?**

Celebrant: Show us your mercy, O Lord,

All: **And grant us your salvation.**

Celebrant: Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

All: **Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.**

Canticle 18 “The Song of Mary” #757 (Cantor/Choir)

MY SOUL proclaims the greatness of the Lord my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for you, Lord, have looked with favour on your lowly servant. FROM THIS day all generations will call me blessed; you, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name. YOU HAVE mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation. YOU HAVE shown strength with your arm and scattered the proud in their conceit, CASTING down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly. YOU HAVE filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. YOU HAVE come to the aid of your servant Israel to remember the promise of mercy THE PROMISE made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children for ever. GLORY to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: AS IT was in the be-ginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

A Bidding Prayer

Celebrant: My sisters and brothers in Christ,
In this season when we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let it be our duty and delight to hear once more the message of the angels and go in heart and mind to Bethlehem to see the Son of God lying in a manger.

As we hear the reading of God's holy word, let us:

find new hope in the promise that God is with us; join with Mary, the favoured handmaid, and offer ourselves in service to God's holy and saving purpose for the world; and raise our voices with the messenger who announces good news of great joy to all people.

As we mark once more the mystery of the Word made flesh, let us join with the song of angels and saints and make this place ring with our carols and hymns of praise.

But first, let us remember the poverty of the birth of the Prince of Peace, and pray for the poor, the cold, the hungry, and those among us who find that there is no room for them at the inn.

Let us remember the flight of the Holy Family into Egypt, and pray for the oppressed, refugees, the isolated, and those on the edges of our society.

Let us remember that the Lord of Glory experienced the pain of life and death, and pray for the sick, the anxious, the weary, and the bereaved.

And remembering the promise that he shall reign for ever and ever, let us pray for the rulers of the nations, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church, that we may be a sign of the age to come.

With longing in our hearts for God's reign of peace, let us hear again the story of Christ's coming, and join with Mary and Joseph, prophets and apostles, and all our forebears in faith, in offering our worship.

A brief silence.

Lesson #1 – Micah 5:2-5a

Read by Ethel Morris

Carol #1 Handbells “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Lesson #2 – Isaiah 40:1-11

Read by Tom Ross

Carol #2 – “Go Tell It on the Mountain” VU 43

Lesson #3 – Isaiah 9:2-7

Read by Suzanne McAllister

Choir Anthem #3 – “When Will We See the Little One”

Lesson #4 – Luke 1:5-20, 24-25

Read by Paul Carpentier

Carol #4 – #101 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

Lesson #5 – Luke 1:26-38

Read by Rev. Bonnie Skerritt

Quartet #5 – “Mary Did You Know”

Lesson #6 – John 1:1-14

Read by Kenneth Gray

Carol #6 – #132 “Of Eternal Love Begotten” vs 1,3,4,6

Lesson #7 – Hebrews 1:1-4

Read by Paul Carpentier

Carol #7 – Handbells “There’s a Song in the Air”

Advent Litany #12

Leader: (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.

All: 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.

All: 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.

All: 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.

All: 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.

All: 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.

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

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

All: Lord Jesus, come soon!

Silence may be kept.

Collect for Advent 4

All: Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: With joy in our hearts, let us gather our prayers in the words our Saviour taught us:

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.

Offertory Hymn #143 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" 1-4

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Blessing

Celebrant: Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Recessional Hymn #153 “Good Christians All, Rejoice “

Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: “Christmas Medley” - Ruth and Arlene

Memorial Christmas Flowers

The flowers around the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of:



*Ian Russell Tate
Barry and Rev. Susan Tate*

*Parents - Percy & Gertrude Lamb
By Sandra, Jo-Anne & Milburn & families*

*Our parents
By Peter & Gail Payne*



*Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, love divine;
Love was born at Christmas –
Star and angels gave the sign.
Christina Rossetti*



*Lottie O'Brien
Sharon Worsley &
family*

*Our parents and
Grandparents
Rev. Bonnie &
Michael*

Special Music Guests

Violin: Ruth Fallding

Baritone Horn: Diane Stecher

St. Paul's Bell Quartet: Kenneth & Arlene Gray, Yasmine Kherraji, Diane Stecher

Vocal Quartet: Kenneth & Arlene Gray, Yasmine Kherraji, Dereck Roche

Upcoming Readings

Christmas Eve: Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96, Titus 2:11-14,
Luke 2:1-14

Christmas Day: Isaiah 62:6-12, Psalm 97, Titus 3:4-7,
Luke 2:8-20

December 28th: Isaiah 63:7-9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:10-18,
Matthew 2:13-23

Upcoming Services

Sundays at 10:00 am unless otherwise noted

December 24th **Christmas Eve Service**
- 7pm Holy Eucharist

December 25th **Christmas Day - 3:00 Holy Eucharist**
followed by the... **Christmas Day Dinner** (Dine-In only)

December 28th **Christmas 1 Holy Eucharist**

Thank you to guest musicians

Christmas Eve Laurel Robinson-LaChance

Christmas Day Myrna Sloboda and Ruth Fallding (meal)

Christmas 1 Myrna Sloboda

Announcements

Designated Givings #215 for December will benefit **ALONGSIDE HOPE** (formerly P.W.R.D.F), the Anglican relief organization working with overseas partners to make a difference in a very troubled world. Massive cuts to international aid and development by some of the world's richest countries are having a tragic impact on the poorest. Alongside Hope allows us as Christians to help restore the balance.

Refreshment Time helpers: The sign-up sheet is up on the board. Thank you to the many folks who do regularly support this important ministry!

Envelopes for 2026 are now available at the back of the church. Questions? please call Marg Brohm (705) 324-0624 Thank you.

Pantry Call We need canned meat, pasta noodles and soup for the pantry. Other foodstuffs gratefully received as well. Thanks!

Grapevine: January 5th is the deadline. Please send to Diane photos or snippets of positive memories of our Christmas events that you may have to share.

Office Hours The Office is closed Dec. 24th – Jan 6th but the phones will be monitored. Rev. Bonnie will be away Dec. 30th – Jan 1st. Rev. Susan will cover any pastoral emergencies.

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 Holy Eucharist service** will also be available at 3:00 pm.

Please call 705 324 4666 and follow the prompts to register.

A reminder to wear **nametags** to help others know who you are.
We Strive to be a Scent free space



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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