



St Paul's Anglican Church

December 25, 2025
Christmas Day

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

3:00 pm - BAS Holy Eucharist

Prelude:

Processional Hymn: #153 Good Christians All, Rejoice

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 Candles

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

Refrain:

**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. *Refrain***

**3. Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born. *Refrain***

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

**5. The Christ-child is born in the still of the night,
Giving the gift of life and light. *Refrain***

Sentence

I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour, Christ the Lord. *Luke 2.10–11*

The Gathering of the Community

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.

Glory to God

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest,
All and peace to his 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.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading – Isaiah 62:6-12

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored, but those who harvest it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, “Look, your savior comes; his reward is with him and his recompense before him.” They shall be called, “The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord,” and you shall be called, “Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.”

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm – 97 (said)

1 The Lord is king; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.

2 Clouds and darkness are round about him, righteousness and justice are the foundations of his throne.

3 A fire goes before him and burns up his enemies on every side.

4 His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees it and is afraid.

5 The mountains melt like wax at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

6 The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

7 Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Bow down before him, all you gods.

8 Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgements, O Lord.

9 For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

10 The Lord loves those who hate evil; he preserves the lives of his saints and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.

11 Light has sprung up for the righteous, and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

12 Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name.

Almighty God, your whole creation declares your glory. May we perceive you in all your works and live in the light of your righteousness, through him who is the light of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Second Reading – Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn #143 Angels, From the Realms of Glory vs 1-2

Holy Gospel – Luke 2:8-20

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.

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gradual Hymn #143 Angels, From the Realms of Glory vs 3-5

Homily Rev. Bonnie Skerritt

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess our faith, as we say,

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he

rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People Litany 13

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

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

Lord, grant us peace.

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

Lord, grant us peace.

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

Lord, grant us peace.

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

Lord, grant us peace.

By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace. 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 #128 The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God of peace, your Son Jesus Christ has reconciled us to you. May all we offer you today renew us as members of your household. We ask this in his name. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 3

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, because in the mystery of the Word made flesh you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give knowledge of salvation in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Now with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven, we lift our voices 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 We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days, you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, 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, Father, according to his command,

All **we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Celebrant and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, 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 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.

The Communion

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 by kneeling and crossing their arms over their chest.

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. Gluten free bread available upon request.

Hymns during Communion

Eucharist 1: #139 The First Nowell

Eucharist 2: #140 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Father of all, the child born for us is the Saviour of the world. May he who made us your children welcome us into your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns with you 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

May the God of infinite goodness scatter the darkness of sin and brighten your hearts with holiness; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Announcements

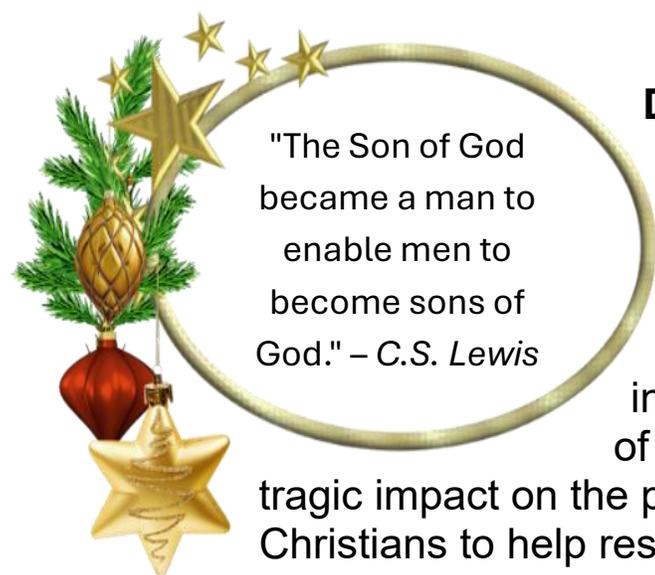
Recessional Hymn #120 O Little Town of Bethlehem

Dismissal

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

All: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Postlude:



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.

Thank you to our guest musicians Myrna Sloboda (service) & Ruth Fallding (meal)

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

We are delighted to announce that our own **Dr. Gail Payne** will receive the **Order of the Diocese of Toronto** on Jan 1st, 2026 at the Bishop's Levee. All are welcome to attend the service at the cathedral or watch online.

Information regarding the Levee is below:

The College of Bishops will offer best wishes and prayers for the New Year at the Bishops' Levee on Jan. 1 at St. James Cathedral, including:

- Said Eucharist at 12:15 p.m.
- Receiving line and reception from 1:30-2:45 p.m. with the ringing of the Bells of Old York
- Festive music at 3 p.m.
- Choral Evensong at 3:30 p.m. with presentations of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto

Evensong will also be livestreamed on the diocesan YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/tordio135>). All are welcome.



*Thank you for
Worshipping with us Today.*

The Christmas Dinner will follow the service

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