



St Paul's Anglican Church

December 28, 2025

Christmas 1

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 Holy Eucharist**

Prelude:

Processional Hymn: #123 Once in Royal David's City

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.**

Sentence

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
Colossians 3.15,16

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 have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading – Isaiah 63:7-9

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully," and he became their savior in all

their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm – 148 (said)

1. Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.
 - 2. Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host.**
 3. Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.
 - 4. Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**
 5. Let them praise the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created.
 - 6. He made them stand fast for ever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**
 7. Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps;
 - 8. Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will;**
 9. Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;
 - 10. Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and wingèd birds;**
 11. Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
 - 12. Young men and maidens, old and young together.**
 13. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven.
 - 14. He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**
- Blessed are you, Lord our God, creator of heaven and earth; you open our eyes to see the wonders around us, and our hearts and mouths to praise you. Now give us strength for loving service, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Second Reading – Hebrews 2:10-18

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation

perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.” And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Here am I and the children whom God has given me.” Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn #580 In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy vs 1-2

Holy Gospel – Matthew 2:13-23

Reader The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mathew

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

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled,

because they are no more.” When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gradual Hymn #580 In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy vs 3-5

Homily Rev. Susan Tate

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 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 #145 Good King Wenceslas

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 6

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 It is right to glorify you, Father, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendour of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day, and, beholding your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your name, as we sing

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 acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power; your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Saviour. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, he lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfil

your purpose he gave himself up to death and, rising from the grave, destroyed death and made the whole creation new.

And that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for him who died and rose for us, he sent the Holy Spirit, his own first gift for those who believe, to complete his work in the world, and to bring to fulfilment the sanctification of all. When the hour had come for him to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end: at supper with them he 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."

Father, we now celebrate the memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and descent among the dead, proclaiming his resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting his coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

All We praise you, we bless you, we give thanks to you, and we pray to you, Lord our God.

Celebrant Father, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and this cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ to the praise of your name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

And grant that we may find our inheritance, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with the holy family and all the saints who have found favour with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and 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: #151 All Poor Folk and Humble

Eucharist 2: #48 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Anthem (or extra music fill as needed)

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the 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

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 #138 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Dismissal

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

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude:

Next Week Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

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 musician Myrna Sloboda

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.

Thank You!! To all the volunteers that helped out for another successful **Christmas Day Dinner**. A special shout-out to Paul C and all his team. May you all have a Blessed New Year!
Next up Pancakes!



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.

"Peace on earth will come to stay,
when we live Christmas everyday."
– Helen Steiner Rice



Thank you for
Worshipping with us
Today.



*Please note that all hymns are taken from
Common Praise (1998)
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