



St Paul's Anglican Church

March 15, 2026
Lent 4

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 **Holy Eucharist BAS**

Prelude Pastorale – George Blake

Processional Hymn # 1 Holy, Holy, Holy

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.**

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 Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People His mercy endures for ever.

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.

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 God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

People Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty God, through the waters of baptism your Son has made us children of light. May we ever walk in his light and show forth

your glory in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading – 1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.” Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely his anointed is now before the Lord.” But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, “Rise and anoint him, for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm – 23



The Lord has an - oint - ed his ser - vant with oil.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **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 – Ephesians 5:8-14

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn # 612 Healer of Our Every Ill

Reader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

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

People Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Holy Gospel – John 9: 1 – 41

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so

that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to

Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

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

Gradual Hymn # 612 Healer of Our Every Ill

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

Intercessor Let us pray for the Church and the world, saying “God of justice, hear our prayer.”

Intercessor For the Church of Christ in every place, for our bishops, priests, and deacons, that our fasting may be faithful, our prayer sincere, and our worship expressed in lives of mercy, generosity, and truth. God of justice,
All Hear our prayer.

Intercessor For the nations of the world and those in authority, that the bonds of injustice may be broken, the voices of the poor heard, and policies shaped by compassion, peace, and the common good. God of justice,
All Hear our prayer.

Intercessor For all who hunger or thirst, for food, dignity, safety, or hope, and for those who are oppressed, excluded, or forgotten, that they may find relief, and restoration. God of justice,
All Hear our prayer.

Intercessor For this community and all whom we serve, that our almsgiving may be generous, our prayer humble, and our lives a sign of your healing love in the world. God of justice,
All Hear our prayer.

Intercessor For the sick, the weary, and the grieving, for those burdened by anxiety or loss, and for all who long for light in times of darkness, that your presence may renew and strengthen them. God of justice,
All Hear our prayer.

Intercessor For those who have died, and for all the faithful departed, that they may rest in your peace and rise in the fullness of your promise. God of justice,
All Hear our prayer.

Intercessor God of justice, receive these prayers we offer, and shape us by your Spirit to live the fast you choose, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Offertory Hymn # 505 Be Thou My Vision

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God of light, your Word brings to us a new vision of your

glory. Accept our offering of praise and thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic 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, evermore praising you and singing.

People Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, 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 We break this bread,

All **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

Celebrant Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

All **If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.**

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. Currently, 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: # 62 When We Must Bear Persistent Pain

1 When we must bear persistent pain
and suffer with no cure in sight,
come, Holy Presence, breathe your peace
with gifts of warmth and healing light.

2 Support us as we learn new ways
to care for bodies newly frail.
Help us endure, and live and love.
Hear our complaint when patience fails.

3 We thank you for the better days
when we may smile to greet the sun,
to do your work with clearing mind,
and bless your name when day is done.

4 In ease or pain, in life and death,
to you our fragile lives belong,
and so we trust you in all things.
You are our hope, our health, our song.

Text: Ruth Duck, 2004, © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: William Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835; harm. David N. Johnson, 1968.

Eucharist 2: # 179 Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery v 1-5 & 6e

Anthem: Psalm 23

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant Holy Father, through your goodness we receive your Son in word and sacrament. May we always have faith in him, 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

Celebrant May Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross and follow him; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you and remain with you today and every day. **Amen**

Announcements

Recessional Hymn # 560 God, Whose Almighty Word

Dismissal

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

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.** *(no "Alleluias!" in Lent)*

Postlude: God Walks Beside Me – Lani Smith

Those who wish anointing or healing prayer are encouraged to join Gail by the font after the Postlude.



Next Week's Readings

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

Peace begins
with a smile.
Mother Teresa

Announcements

Anyone wishing to donate for **Memorial Flowers** for Easter
Please have your request into the Office by Tuesday March 31/2026.

The Designated Giving for March # 215 will benefit **THE ANGLICAN COUNCIL OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**. Fully Anglican, fully independent and incorporating Indigenous spiritual identity, the Council represents a new partnership with the Canadian and world-wide Anglican community. Our donations will support clergy needs and speak clearly of our desire for mutual respect and healing.

Dramatic Reading Rehearsal: Sunday March 15 (today) will be a rehearsal for the dramatic reading of the Passion. We will gather in front of the altar after the service.

Lenten Study & Morning Prayer for March 18 is cancelled. We will resume on the 25th.

St Paul's Anglican Church

46 Russell St W

Holy week Services

Palm/Passion Sunday

March 29th, Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist 10:00 am

Holy Tuesday

March 31st, Adelaide Place 10:30 am

Holy Wednesday

April 1st, Morning Prayer 9:30 am

Maundy Thursday

April 2nd, Agape Meal, 12 noon

Maundy Thursday

April 2nd, Holy Eucharist with Hand/Foot Washing 7:00 pm

Good Friday

April 3rd, 11:00 am
Celebration of the Lord's Passion,

Easter Sunday

April 5th, Holy Eucharist, 10:00 am

Spring Thaw - delicious Dinner, Loonie and Silent Auction

Save the Date and Save your Loonies

Saturday, April 25, 2026; Tickets: \$40

For further information, please call Linda Todd at 705-324-7439

Thank you for
Worshipping with us
Today.

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



Please note that all hymns are taken from Common Praise (1998) or are printed in the leaflet Music used with permission, CCLI #11236091 Streaming License #CPSL 162909