



Sunday January 26, 2025  
Third Sunday after Epiphany

St. Paul's Anglican Church, Uxbridge



Prelude

*How Brightly Shines the Morning Star*

Distler

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Processional Hymn

*Hark the Glad Sound! The Saviour Comes*

CP 98

## Land Acknowledgement

It is a great privilege to gather, share stories of faith and worship God on this beautiful territory, which we now know as Township of Uxbridge but which has been the site of human activity – and therefore storytelling and worship – for many thousands of years. We wish to honour the ancestral guardians of this land and its waterways: the Huron-Wendat, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississauga and Chippewa (Anishinaabe) people. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today many Indigenous peoples, including the Metis Nation continue to call this land home and act as its stewards, and this responsibility extends to all peoples, to share and care for this land for generations to come.

**Welcome** ... Good morning. My name is Robin Dhillon. I will be officiating for our worship this morning. I invite us to take a moment of silence to prepare ourselves to enter into our worship as we ask God to quiet our souls that we may hear Him speaking to us.

*Moment of quiet*

## Call to Worship

**Officiant:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with each of us this day and always. **Amen**

**Officiant:** As we begin our worship this day we remember what brings us here.

**All:** **We come seeking peace, hope and a renewing of our faith and God's Spirit in us.**

**Officiant:** This is the house of the Lord. Here we will find what we seek.

**All:** **Help us to open our hearts to God's words and will for us.**

**Officiant:** When we ask for God's help - it will be given to us.

**All:** **Praise be to God who loves and cares for us.**

### **Opening Prayer**

**Officiant:** God of Hope, we have come this day asking for your mercy. Grant us your pardon. We have come this day seeking peace in our lives. Teach us how to be compassionate disciples for you. We ask this in Christ's name. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Officiant:** Let us offer our prayer of confession, saying together

**All:** **God of mercy and compassion, we come before you in honesty about ourselves and our lives. We know we have been unfaithful to you and have not always lived out our baptismal covenant. For our wandering, wayward ways, hear our confessions of sin and selfishness and offer us your forgiveness. We ask for forgiveness and the strength to live each day as your children, as your very people, the Church. We pray to Christ our redeemer as we confess our need in the hope of our salvation and redemption. Amen.**

### **Words of Assurance**

**Officiant:** Jesus said, "Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. Ask and it will be given to you. God has promised us grace and forgiveness in the love of Jesus Christ. May we receive God's mercy and live the life God desires. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

### **Collect Prayer**

**Officiant:** Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

**Officiant:** God of wisdom, as we listen to the Scriptures today, fill our hearts and minds with your living Word, so that our faith in Christ will grow stronger as we build our lives on him. **Amen.**

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**First Reading**      A Reading from the Book of Nehemiah

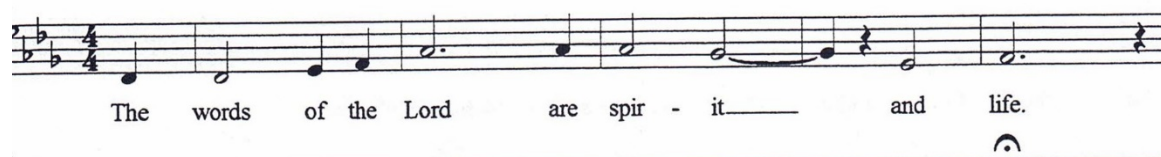
All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel.

Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." (*Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10*)

**Reader:** May we hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

**People:** Thanks be to God

## Psalm 19



## Second Reading A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we

think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. *(1 Corinthians 12:12-31A)*

**Reader:** May we hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Gradual Hymn**

*God, You Have Caused to Be Written*

**CP 476**

**Gospel Reading** – A reading from the Gospel of Luke

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." *(Luke 4:14-21)*

**Reader:** May we hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Reflection**

**The Apostles Creed**

**Officiant:** Let us confess the faith of our baptism saying,

**All:** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into**

Heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence He shall come 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 life everlasting. **Amen.**

Choir Anthem

*A Joyful Psalm*

Perry

## Prayers of the People

### The Lord's Prayer

**Officiant:** As Jesus taught us, we pray together

**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

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

CP 484

### Offertory Prayers

**Officiant:** God responds to our needs and requests with great generosity. Such is God's great love. Let us share God's love with others through the offering we present this day.

Let us pray

Generous God, we give you our gifts, thankful that your love is overflowing. Bless our offerings so that your love will flow through them to meet the needs of those who cry out to you and to us, in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

### Closing Prayer

**Officiant:** Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will hear their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

### Blessing

**Officiant:** As we conclude our worship today, may we know that we have been

given the blessing of God's unfailing love. As we leave this time together, may we feel God's strength within us to face the challenges of the coming week. As we return to our daily lives, may we be committed to the pursuit of peace, revealing to all the world that we are all God's beloved children.  
**Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn**

*Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun*

**CP 383**

**Dismissal**

**Officiant:** Beloved of God, we are healed and forgiven by God's grace and mercy. God has poured His love upon us that we may be faithful disciples, offering healing love and compassion to all we meet. May we go in peace and may God's peace always be with us.

Let us bless the Lord.

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

**(to be sung by all)**

*Go Now in Peace*

Besig

**Go now in peace ... never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen.**

1988 Harold Flammer, a division of Shawnee Press

**Postlude**

Beaudoin

*If you have another commitment today,  
and need to depart the church during the postlude, feel free to do so quietly.*

**\*\*Many of us enjoy "Coffee and Conversation" after the service but we are in need of a few more volunteers to help. It is a simple task, made easier if there are two people per week. Coffee, tea and sugar are supplied, there are written instructions in the kitchen, and we are happy to teach you the routine. Please contact the church office or Mary Ann Eastman [maryann902@icloud.com](mailto:maryann902@icloud.com).\*\***

**Stewardship Gospel Tidbit: (Luke 4:14-21)** The role of the steward has not changed over the centuries. Jesus claims that the same task which was Isaiah's is also his. And even to this day the task remains the same: to care for everything and everyone.

### **This Week at St. Paul's**

#### **Thursday, January 30, 2025**

- 7:30 pm – Choir practice

#### **Sunday, February 2, 2025 – Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple**

- 10:30 am – Eucharist

#### **Readings for Next Sunday**

- Malachi 3:1-4
- Psalm 84
- Hebrews 2:14-18
- Luke 2:22-40

### **Upcoming Events**

- **The Annual Vestry Meeting** of St, Paul's will be held on **Sunday, February 23, 2025**. The Vestry Booklet will be prepared for distribution on February 16, 2025. If you are responsible for preparing a report to vestry please ensure that it is received by the Church Office no later than **Sunday, February 9, 2025**. Thank you for your cooperation.
- **Friday, January 31, 2025 - 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm** - Free Community Supper in the Lower Hall
- **Saturday, February 15, 2025 – 7:00 pm** -Music at St. Paul's presents **Music in the Silent Films of Uxbridge & Environs**

