



**Sunday, December 28, 2025
First Sunday after Christmas
St. Paul's Anglican Church, Uxbridge**



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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.

Prelude

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

(please stand)

Processional Hymn

Good Christians All, Rejoice

CP 153

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, 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.

The Gloria

CP 702

**Glory to God in the highest, 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.**

**Kyrie Lord, have mercy,
 Christ, have mercy.
 Lord, have mercy.**

Collect of the Day

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

(please sit)

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-9

Reader: The First Reading is written in the sixty-third chapter of the Book of Isaiah beginning at the seventh verse

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 favour 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 deal falsely"; and he became their saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. *(Isaiah 63:7-9)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 148 (said responsively)

Reader: Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.
People: **Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host.**

Reader: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.
People: **Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

Reader: Let them praise the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created.
People: **He made them stand fast for ever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

Reader: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps;
People: **Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

Reader: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;
People: **Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds;**

Reader: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
People: **Young men and maidens, old and young together.**

Reader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven.
People: **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.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:10-18

Reader: The Second Reading is written in the second chapter of the Letter to the Hebrews beginning at the tenth verse,

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 be 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. (*Hebrews 2:10-18*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

Gradual

In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy

CP 580

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 Matthew

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 fulfil 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 wise men, 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 wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "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 over 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 Nazorean." (*Matthew 2:13-23*)

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

(please sit)

'Short Devotional'

Moment of Silent Reflection

(please stand)

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all this 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.

(please sit kneel/stand)

Prayers of the People

(please sit/kneel)

Confession and Absolution

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.

Most merciful God, 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.

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. **Amen.**

(please stand)

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

(please stand)

Offertory Hymn

From East to West, from Shore to Shore

CP 155

The Prayer over the Gifts

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 – Eucharistic Prayer 6 (Church of Wales BCP)

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Thank you, Father,
for making us and our wonderful world.
Wherever we are in your world,
we should always thank you,
through Jesus, your Son.

Jesus lived as one of us;
Jesus died on the cross for us;
Jesus is alive because you gave him life again;
Jesus is with us now.
So, with the angels and everyone in heaven,
we say together:

**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.**

Great and wonderful Father,
we remember when Jesus had supper with his friends the night before he died,
he took the bread;
he thanked you, broke it, gave it to his friends and said:
Take this and eat it –
 this is my body, given for you.
Do this to remember me.
After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine;

he thanked you, gave it to his friends and said:
All of you drink from this cup,
because this is my blood –
 the new promise of God's love.
Do this every time you drink it to remember me.

Together we remember that Jesus is always
 with us and *say / sing*:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come in glory.

So loving Father,
remembering how dearly Jesus loves us,
we should love him too.
Send your Holy Spirit, gentle as a dove,
on us and on these gifts,
so that, with everyone who eats and drinks
 this bread and wine,
the body and blood of Jesus,
we may be full of your life and goodness.
Help us all to walk hand in hand with Jesus
and live our lives for him.

All honour and glory belong to you, Father,
through Jesus, your Son,
with the Holy Spirit:
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As Jesus taught us, we pray together

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

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.**

Agnus Dei

CP 747

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.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Communion

During Communion

Of Eternal Love Begotten

CP 132

(please sit)

Prayer after Communion

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.**

The Doxology

Glory to God, 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

Announcements

(stand)

Recessional Hymn

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

CP 136

(please stand)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(please sit)

Postlude

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

If you wish to contact Rev. Johanna, her email is, revjohannapak@gmail.com. For phone contact, please use the church 905-852-7016.

The 2026 Offering Envelopes are available at the back of the church.

Weekly “tidbit”

Stewardship Gospel Tidbit: (Matthew 2:13-23) Once again God speaks to Joseph through dreams. And again, Joseph pays attention to these dreams and bases his actions on them. There is a cost that goes along with this. Joseph and his small family have to leave the familiar and go into the unfamiliar. As a faithful steward, how willing am I to leave what is familiar and go into what may make me feel uncomfortable?

This Week at St. Paul’s

Sunday, January 4, 2026 – The Epiphany of the Lord

- 9:30 am – Choir Rehearsal
- 10:30 am – Eucharist

Readings for Next Sunday

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

Upcoming Events

- **Mid-week Eucharist and Bible Study** will resume on **Wednesday, January 7, 2026**. The Eucharist is at 10:00 am in the church with the Informal Bible Study beginning at 10:30 am in the lounge. All are welcome.

**For the health and comfort of those with allergies
St. Paul’s is a “scent free” facility.**