



**Sunday December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of Advent
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

Coming of Strangers Noel

Daquin

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

(please stand)

Processional Hymn

“Your Kingdom Come” – On Bended Knee

CP 116

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Celebrant: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way for the kingdom of heaven is near. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

Hymn

Christ, Be Our Light!

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Chorus: Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Chorus: Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.

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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.**

Kyrie Eleison *Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)*
 Christe eleison (Christ, have mercy)
 Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

(please sit)

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

Reader: The First Reading is written in the eleventh chapter of the Book of Isaiah beginning at the first verse

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. *(Isaiah 11:1-10)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19



Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

Reader: The Second Reading is written in the fifteenth chapter of the Letter of Paul to the Romans beginning at the fourth verse,

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has

welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. *(Romans 15:4-13)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

Gradual Hymn

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

CP 106

Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

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**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." *(Matthew 3:1-12)*

Reader: The Gospel of Christ

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

(please sit)

Homily

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, stand)

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 stands)

The Peace

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

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

(please stand)

Offertory Hymn

Behold! The Mountain of the Lord

CP 112

The Prayer over the Gifts

God our strength, we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 3

The Lord be with you

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus

CP 689

*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.

(please sit)

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

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 forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As Jesus taught us, we pray together

Our Father, who art in heaven ...

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All: **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei

CP 690

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace

Communion

During Communion

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour

CP 84

Anthem

Let the Christ Child In

Althouse/Albrecht

please sit)

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; 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

(please stand)

Recessional Hymn

God, My Hope on You Is Founded

CP 529

(please stand)

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(please sit)

Postlude

Shepherd's Noel

Charpentier

*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.

Christmas Communion – if you know of someone who would like Christmas Communion brought to them at home, please speak to Evelyn, by December 7.

Stewardship Gospel Tidbit: (Matthew 3:1-12) Like so many prophets before him, John the Baptist called on people to change their ways. And the proof of these changes would be seen in the fruit borne out in their lives. Simply saying that we are stewards isn't enough, is it? It will be seen in the fruit of our own lives. What kind of fruit do others see from the way you live?

This Week at St. Paul's

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

- 10:00 am – Mid-week Eucharist
- 10:30 am – Informal Bible Study in the Lounge

Sunday, December 14, 2025 – Third Sunday of Advent

- 10:30 am – Service of Lessons and Carols

Readings for Next Sunday

- Genesis 3:1-5
- Isaiah 40:1-8
- Zechariah 9:9-10
- Haggai 2:6-9
- Isaiah 35:1-6
- Luke 1:26-56
- Mark: 1:1-15

Upcoming Events

- **Mid-week Eucharist and Bible Study** continues on Wednesdays. 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.
- **Memorial Flowers** – if you wish to have flowers in the church for Christmas please fill in the Christmas Flower Offering envelope at the back of the church and place on the offering plate.
- **Canadian Church Calendar 2026** – calendars are available at the back of the church. The calendars are \$7.00 each.

**For the health and comfort of those with allergies
St. Paul's is a "scent free" facility.**