

St. Philip's Anglican Church, Etobicoke  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent – December 1, 2024  
10:30am Holy Eucharist



*We welcome you to worship this morning. Our celebration is joyful, reflective, playful and reverent, as we thank God for new life through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

*"St. Philip's lives out the gospel call of Christ by worshipping, praying, asking questions, learning together and loving one another as we offer ourselves in service to the world in Jesus' name."*

*We invite you to be part of a community that seeks to grow in faith, deepen our understanding, and share Christ's love through worship, prayer, and service.*

## Gathering of the Community

Welcome - Land Acknowledgement and Thanksgiving

Creator, you made all people of every land in your image,  
and entrusted them with the care of the earth.

**It is our responsibility to give thanks and respect  
to those who first occupied this land we are upon.**

**We give thanks to the Huron-Wendat,  
Haudenosaunee, and Anishinabek Nations,  
and the Mississauga of the Credit First Nation:  
the first peoples of this land.**

**We offer our respect to those ancestors  
who may be buried in this land.**

**We are also thankful for the gifts of the people of the land.**

**Creator let us be of good mind  
to reconcile the mistreatment of this land  
and those who have been displaced.**

**We give thanks for indigenous voices  
in our Anglican Church of Canada.**

**Give us attentive ears to hear them,  
and sincere and open hearts  
that we may embrace the work of reconciliation  
to which you call your Church.**

**With thankful and respectful hearts, we pray in Your name,  
Your Son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. Amen.**

*The prayer bell calls us to silent preparation*

Hymn 97 *Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring*

1. **Jesus came, the heav'ns adoring,  
came with peace from realms on high;  
Jesus came for our redemption,  
humbly came on earth to die;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
came in deep humility.**
2. **Jesus comes again in mercy  
when our hearts are worn with care;  
Jesus comes again in answer  
to an earnest, heartfelt prayer,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
comes to save us from despair.**

3. **Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing,  
bringing news of sins forgiv'n;  
Jesus comes with words of gladness,  
leading souls redeemed to heav'n.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Hope to all the world is giv'n.**
  
4. **Jesus comes on clouds triumphant  
when the heav'ns shall pass away.  
Jesus comes again in glory;  
let us, then, our homage pay,  
Alleluia! ever singing  
till the dawn of endless day.**

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.**

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.

*Lighting of Advent Wreath*

The evening of the year is upon us.

**We enter the darkness and wait for light's return.**

We light one candle to remind us of God's light  
which has come to us all through the Christ.

**We open our hearts to that light,  
and ask for help to shine with the brilliance of love.**

*We light the first Advent Candle as we sing together*

♪ **Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
leading us on till the morning is bright.**

**When God is a child  
there's joy in our song.  
The last shall be first  
and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.**

All of our waiting is a waiting for God.  
**God of our hearts, we wait for you alone.**

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

God of justice and peace,  
from the heavens you rain down mercy and kindness.  
Raise our heads in expectation,  
so that we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord  
and stand without blame before your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

## **Breaking Open the Word**

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Reader: *Chiagozie Azuh*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25. 1 – 9

We sing the Refrain twice through at the beginning and the end, once elsewhere



♪ Glorious Majesty, - to you we lift up our hearts. *(repeats)*

Holy One, to you I lift up my soul.

**I trust you! Do not let me be shamed.**

**O my God, do not let my enemies rejoice over me.**

Truly, all who wait on you are never shamed.

**Empty, treacherous people are shamed!**

Make your ways known to me, Holy One,  
and teach me your paths.

**Direct me in your truth! Teach me!**

You are indeed my saving, helping God.

**I long for you all day long**

**because of your goodness, Holy One.**

Remember your acts of mercy  
and your enduring, faithful love!

**Do not remember my youthful sins**

**nor my transgressions,**

**but be mindful of your faithful love.**

♪ Glorious Majesty, - to you we lift up our hearts.

The Holy One is good and upright,  
teaching sinners the way they should go,

**Guiding the humble with true justice,  
and teaching them the right way.**

All God's ways are loving, faithful, and true  
for those who keep the holy covenant and decrees.

**For your name's sake, Holy One,**

**pardon my iniquity, which is great.**


♪ Glorious Majesty, - to you we lift up our hearts. *(repeats)*

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

 **Prepare the way of the Lord, - prepare the way of the Lord, - and all people will see the salvation of our God.** (*repeats*)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glorify to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.

For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Gospel of Christ.

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



**Prepare the way of the Lord, - prepare the way of the Lord, - and all people will see the salvation of our God. (repeats)**

Sermon: The Rev. Mike Stuchbery

## Affirmation of Faith

Let us stand and affirm our faith in this Advent season.

We believe in God, who bends and kneels toward our world, drenching it with love, making it new with every breath.

**We believe!**

We believe in Jesus, God become human, who brought the divine into this world of the flesh.

**We believe!**

We believe in the Spirit, hovering God, present among us, abiding, upholding, awaking all things to her grace.

**We believe!**

We believe we are called to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God and each other, ready for God's reign, awake and alert, as we work to bring it near.

**We believe!**

We believe we are called, as Christmas comes close, to lift up our hearts in hope and in love, seeking God's advent in each moment and person, each challenge and heartache, each blessing and joy.

**We believe!**

This we promise to do. Keep us faithful, Lord Jesus, and come soon.

**Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

Leader: Janet Churchill

*We sit or kneel as we are most attentive for prayer.*

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*

God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Make ready the hearts of all those in positions of leadership in the Church, especially Greg, our deacon; Mike, our Incumbent; Kevin, Ryscilla and Andrew our Bishops; and Anne our Metropolitan and Acting Primate.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering especially Ruth I, Patrick, Ron, Bryce, Carolyn, Shelly, and Patricia. In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Sustain our care for one another and bless those in our congregation celebrating birthdays this month: Mark Jones, Dana Williams, Patricia Jensen, Victoria Wanjiru, Josh Weerasinghe, Dhammika Weerasinghe, Carolyn Pratt, Ros Chahal, Rachel Sunda, Denise Williams, Barbara Young, Liana Njau, Carolyn Pratt and Jocelyn Barrows; and those celebrating anniversaries: John and Shannon Green, David and Kathleen Kidd, and Mike and Tracy Stuchbery.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died, especially those we have loved. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life.

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**



## Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
welcoming sinners  
and inviting us to this table.  
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

*The prayer bell calls us into silence*

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.**

## The Rededication and Blessing of the Sacristy

*Celebrant* As we prepare to ask God to bless this new sacristy, we remember with thanksgiving those past and present, who by their faithfulness, generosity, and hard work have diligently cared for the sacred vessels, linens, frontals and hangings of this parish and have week by week prepared the altar and this sanctuary for worship; and we pray that God will bless them.

*All* **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Heavenly God, we gather each week as a community to share in worship and praise for all you have given us. We also come to be blessed by your very presence in us as we share in the bread and the wine – the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ.

You have given us gifts of sacred vessels, linens, altar frontals, hangings, candles and more for our use in celebrating this great feast. In the name of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless this newly renovated sacristy as we rededicate it as the place where our holy items are kept, prepared, and lovingly cared for.

All

**Amen.**

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

## The Offertory

Hymn 476 *God, You Have Caused to Be Written*

1. **God, you have caused to be written your word for our learning;  
grant us, that hearing, our hearts may be inwardly burning.  
Give to us grace,  
that in your Son we embrace  
life, all its glory discerning.**
2. **Now may our God give us joy, and all peace in believing  
all things were written in truth for our thankful receiving.  
As Christ did preach,  
through all the world love must reach:  
grant us each day love's achieving.**
3. **Lord, should the powers of the earth and the heavens be shaken,  
grant us to see you in all things, our vision awaken.  
Help us to see,  
though all the earth cease to be,  
your truth shall never be shaken.**

Prayer Over the Gifts

Let us pray.

God of love and power,

your word stirs within us

the expectation of the coming of your Son.

Accept all we offer you this day,

and sustain us with your promise of eternal life.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# The Great Thanksgiving

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.

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.

Sussex Carol

*♩. = 52*  
*4/4* All *f*

*Introduction* Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly Lord, Ho - ly God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo - ry to You, O Lord most high.  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

*mf* *f*

**Broadly**  
*rit. ff* *molto rit.*

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 for ever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## Breaking of the Bread

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

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

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Those worshipping at home are invited to pray the Prayer for Spiritual Communion:*

Jesus, I believe that you are present with us  
in the sacrament of bread and wine.  
I love you and I desire your presence afresh in my life.  
Since I cannot now receive the bread and wine of the altar,  
come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you and unite myself to you;  
never let me be separated from you. Amen.

Server: Bawo Bawo – Oteri / Andrew Batte

Communion assistant – Andrew Batte

### *Lamb of God*



*mf*  
O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin — of the world;  
Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

*mf*  
O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin — of the world;  
Have mer - cy, have mer - cy, have mer - cy on us.

*mf*  
O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin — of the world;  
Lul - lay, lul - la, thou lit - tle tin - y child; *rall.* *mp* *p* Grant — us your peace. *pp*

Hymn 494 *Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels*

1. **Not for tongues of heaven's angels,  
nor for wisdom to discern,  
not for faith that masters mountains,  
for this better gift we yearn:**

*Refrain*

**may love be ours, Lord;  
may love be ours.  
May love be ours, O Lord.**

2. **Love is humble, love is gentle,  
love is tender, true, and kind;  
love is gracious, ever patient,  
generous of heart and mind:**

*Refrain*

3. **Never jealous, never selfish,  
love will not rejoice in wrong;  
never boastful nor resentful,  
love believes and suffers long:**

*Refrain*

4. **In the day this world is fading,  
faith and hope will play their part;  
but when Christ is seen in glory,  
love shall reign in every heart.**

*Refrain*

94 *Wait for the Lord, Whose Day Is Near*

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.  
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart. (repeats)**


Prayer After Communion

God for whom we wait,  
in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day  
when the hungry will be fed with good things.  
Send us forth to make known your deeds  
and to proclaim the greatness of your name,  
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

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.**

 *Multi-Lingual Grace*

*Refrain* **Miigwech  
Gan xie ni  
Ekele  
Asante (x2)**

For everything you give us

**Thank you, Lord**

For people who surround us

**Thank you, Lord!**

For ever lasting kindness

**Thank you, Lord!**

And for your faithful presence

**Thank you, Lord!**

*Refrain X2*

Olw' ebirunji byonna

**Webale**

Olw'o okwagala kwo gwe

**Webale**

Olwa Famire zaffe

**Webale**

Olw'emikwano gyaffe

**Webale**

*Refrain X2*

Mak' umu aka anyi nile

**Ekele**

Mak' ezi n' ulo anyi nile

**Ekele**

Mak' umu nne n'umunna

**Ekele**

Mak' ikwu n'ibe anyi nile

**Ekele**

*Refrain X2*

For all the beautiful things

**Thank you Lord**

For your endless love

**Thank you Lord**

For our families

**Thank you Lord**

For our friends

**Thank you Lord**

For all our children

**Thank you Lord**

For all our families

**Thank you Lord**

For all our siblings

**Thank you Lord**

For all our relatives

**Thank you Lord**



## Announcements

*On this first Sunday of the month, we share news of December birthdays: Mark Jones, Dana Williams, Patricia Jensen, Victoria Wanjiru, Josh Weerasinghe, Dhammika Weerasinghe, Carolyn Pratt, Ros Chahal, Rachel Sunda, Denise Williams, Barbara Young, Liana Njau, Carolyn Pratt and Jocelyn Barrows; and those celebrating anniversaries: John and Shannon Green, David and Kathleen Kidd, and Mike and Tracy Stuchbery.*

### music 14

**God give you many, many years  
To give thanks for your blessings here;  
And many, many, many more  
To see the good God has in store.**

- Eucharist & Bible Study – Wednesday, December 04<sup>th</sup> , 2024 – 10.00 to noon in the Church
- Centering Prayer – Every Friday – 9.30am – Via Zoom
- Choir Practices – Every Saturday from 3.00pm to 5.00pm.
- We are accepting donations for (WAES). If you'd like to give, please drop your donations in the boxes.
- Advent quiet day – Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 10.00am to 3.00pm. – Please Sign up.
- Christmas Jazz Vespers – December 15<sup>th</sup> at 4.00 pm - Featuring Michael Occhipinti, Roberto Occhipinti and Giancarlo Occhipinti.
- “Advent for everyone” - The four-part series, called Advent for Everyone, will be held on Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m., starting Nov. 26. Led by the bishops, the gatherings will give Anglicans a chance to pause, connect and deepen their spiritual journey during this holy season.
- We would like to remind you that you can donate flowers for Christmas in honor of a loved one. There are two ways you can do this:
  - ✓ You can make a donation, and we'll take care of purchasing the flowers for you. Just write your preferences on the sheet provided, and we'll handle the arrangements.

- ✓ Alternatively, you can purchase the flowers yourself and bring them to the church by Saturday morning, and we will be happy to set them up for you. If you'd like, you can also help with the arrangement process!

- **Christmas Services**

- ✓ December 18, 7.30pm Blue Christmas
- ✓ December 22, 10.30am Lesson + Carols
- ✓ December 24, 4.00pm Family Christmas Eve
- ✓ December 24, 8.00pm Sung Eucharist for Christmas Eve
- ✓ December 25, 10.00am Sung Eucharist for Christmas Day

### Final Blessing

May Christ be our new beginning,  
the hope and salvation of the world,  
and the blessing of God  
our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life  
be with you always. **Amen.**

### Hymn 560 *God, Whose Almighty Word*

- God, whose almighty Word  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight:  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day,  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light!**
- Saviour, who came to bring  
on your redeeming wing  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight to the inly blind:  
now for all humankind  
let there be light!**

3. **Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving, holy Dove,  
speed on your flight!  
Move on the water's face  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light!**
4. **Gracious and holy Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
wisdom, love, might,  
boundless as ocean's tide  
rolling in fullest pride:  
through the world far and wide  
let there be light.**

Dismissal

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

**Thanks be to God.**

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