St. Philip's Anglican Church, Etobicoke

6th Sunday of Easter May 25, 2025 10:30 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.

Baptized persons of any Church are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer not to drink the wine, simply return to your seat having received the fullness of Communion in the bread alone. The Diocese of Toronto does not permit dipping the wafer into the cup (intinction).

If you prefer not to receive Communion but would like a blessing, please cross your hands over your chest when you come forward to indicate this to the priest.

Gathering of the Community

Welcome - Land Acknowledgement and Thanksgiving

Ferns hanging in the Lych-gate are in memory of family and friends from the Hillis family.

Three Rose bushes for the Memorial Rose Garden are in memory of Alan McClain, Garry McIntaggart and Jim John Hunt.

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

342 We praise you, O God

 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring; we lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.

- 2. We wo rship you, God of our fathers and mothers; through life's storm and tempest our guide you have been; when perils o'ertake us, you never forsake us, and with your help, O Lord, our battles we win.
- 3. With voices united our praises we offer, our songs of thanksgiving to you we now raise; your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us, to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

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.

Collect of the Day

Let us pray.

Holy One,

you breathe the word of love and the promise of new creation into the secret places of our lives.

Teach us the costly way of fearless love and priceless peace;

through Jesus Christ, who dwells in us. Amen.

Breaking Open the Word

Acts 16:9-15 Reader: Peter Satya

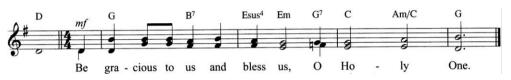
During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony.

We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67



Be gracious to us and bless us, O Holy One. (repeat)

O Holy One,

be gracious to us and bless us;

let your face shine among us so your way may be known in the world, your saving help among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God.

Indeed, let all peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge with truth and justice, and guide the nations of the world.

Let the peoples praise you, Holy One. Indeed, let all peoples praise you.

May the earth yield its harvest.

May the Holy One, our God, bless us.

May God bless us,

and all the ends of the earth revere the Holy One.

Be gracious to us and bless us, O Holy One. (repeat)

And in the spirit, an angel carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day - and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Reader: Frances Clarkson

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

The Holy Gospel: John 14:23-29

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus answered, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me. I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe."

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Sermon: The Reverend Mike Stuchbery

Affirmation of Faith

Alleluia, we believe!

And, believing, we sing "Alleluia!"

In the God of life and goodness, In the Christ who brings us home, In the Spirit who comforts and keeps us, Alleluia, we believe!

And, believing, we sing "Alleluia!"

In our many gifts for serving, In the call of each disciple, In the church whose work is love, Alleluia, we believe!

And, believing, we sing "Alleluia!"

In the saints who pray for us,
In the scriptures that bring us truth,
In the sacraments that give grace,
Alleluia, we believe!

And, believing, we sing "Alleluia!"

In the hope of resurrection, In the rising to eternal life, In the dawning of God's reign, Alleluia, we believe!

And, believing, we sing "Alleluia!"

May we ever be true to all we believe,

And, our song ever be "Alleluia!" Amen.

Prayers of the People

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Leader: Maddy MacGregor

A brief silence.

Unite your people with communities of faith throughout the world. Further cooperation between people of different faith traditions and bless our non-Christian neighbours, that we learn and grow in deeper relationship. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bless the earth with fresh water, clean air, and rich soil. Nurture growing crops and encourage communities developing sustainable farming practices. Help us to live in balance and harmony with your good creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Reconcile nations and communities suffering from violence and conflict. Protect refugees, asylum-seekers, and all who flee their homes seeking safety and security, especially those in our own congregation who are starting new lives here in Canada. Make all nations safe for both migrants and residents. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Sustain all who are in need, especially individuals and families struggling with trauma or addiction. Support caregivers, especially nurses, doctors, counselors, and social workers. Come alongside all who are coping with urgent medical issues: Christine, Carolyn, Kathy, Myrna, Nancy, Jill, Gloria, Shirley H., Emmanuel, Tim, Ruth, Benjamin, Rick, and Patricia; and for those living with ongoing issues: Danny, Derek, Carley, Penny, Elizabeth, Chris, Geoff, Teslyn, Grayson, Bryce, Bill, Ken, Patrick, and Dave. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the ministry of Deacon Greg, carried out in the wider community; for his spiritual care of the residents at Wesburn Manor and Castleview Wychwood Towers. We also pray for the congregation we serve with our monthly Eucharist at the Village of Humber Heights. Bless all those in these residences that we serve and with whom we worship and share the gospel of Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give you thanks for all your saints raised to new life in Christ, especially those we have known and loved. Gather us, with them, into the peace only you can give. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Saviour. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

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

Silence is kept.

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 Peace

This is the Good News – the grave is empty, Christ is risen.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

This is the Good News – the light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never put it out.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

This is the Good News – once we were no people, now we are God's people.

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Christ is our peace,

the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

The peace of the Lord be always with you!

And also with you!

The Offertory

Hymn **397** *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

- Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.
 Praise the one who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.
 Praise the one who preached the Gospel, healing every dread disease,
 Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.
- Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.
 Praise the one who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.
 Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.
 From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.
- 3. Praise the one true love incarnate:
 Christ who suffered in our place.
 Jesus died and rose for many
 that we may know God by grace.
 Let us sing for joy and gladness,
 seeing what our God has done.
 Praise the one redeeming glory,
 praise the One who makes us one.

Prayer over the Gifts

Let us pray,

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and 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.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you.

By your power you sustain the universe.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family. Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we sing,

You are holy, you are whole.
You are always ever more
than we ever understand.
You are always at hand.
Blesséd are you coming near.
Blesséd are you coming here
to your church in wine and bread,

You are holy, you are wholeness, you are present.
Let the cosmos praise you, Lord!
Sing hosanna in the highest!
Sing hosanna!
Sing hosanna to our God!

raised from soil, raised from dead.

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us. He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love. On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death.

By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven.

Do this in memory of me."

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

Father, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Glory to you for ever and 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

Lord, we died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

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: Maddy MacGregor / Areana Maina

Communion Assistant: Andrew Batte

Hymn Peace for the Children

- Peace for the children, peace peace.
 Peace for the children we pray.
 Following the path of One of peace, we work for healing, we work for peace; peace for the children today.
- Peace for the mothers, peace peace. Peace for the mothers we pray. Following the path of One of peace, we work for healing, we work for peace; peace for the mothers today.
- 3. Peace for the fathers, peace peace.
 Peace for the fathers we pray.
 Following the path of One of peace,
 we work for healing, we work for peace;
 peace for the fathers today.
- Peace for the families, peace peace.
 Peace for the families we pray.
 Following the path of One of peace, we work for healing, we work for peace; peace for the families today.
- 5. Peace for the nations, peace peace. Peace for the nations we pray. Following the path of One of peace, we work for healing, we work for peace; peace for the nations today.
- 6. Peace for the creatures, peace peace. Peace for the creatures we pray. Following the path of One of peace, we work for healing, we work for peace; peace for the creatures today.
- 7. Peace for the planet, peace peace. Peace for the planet we pray. Following the path of One of peace, we work for healing, we work for peace; peace for the planet today.

- 8. Peace in the universe, peace peace.
 Peace in the universe we pray.
 Following the path of One of peace,
 we work for healing, we work for peace;
 peace in the universe today.
- 9. Hummed without words...
- 10. Peace in the souls, peace peace. Peace in the souls, we pray. Following the path of One of peace, we work for healing, we work for peace; peace in the souls today.

Hymn 368 He Came Down

Why did he come? —

- He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love, Hallelujah forevermore.
- 2. He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace, Hallelujah forevermore.
- 3. He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy, he came down that we may have joy, Hallelujah forevermore.

I Multi-Lingual Grace

Miigwech Gan xie ni Ekele Asante (Repeats)

For justice, peace, and freedom
Thank you, Lord
For reconciliation
Thank you, Lord!
For joy, and pain, and caring
Thank you, Lord!

For your abundant blessings

Thank you, Lord!

Miigwech (Repeats)

Olw' ebirunji byonna (For all the beautiful things) **Webale (thank you)**

Olw'o okwagala kwo gwe (For your endless love) **Webale (thank you)**

Olwa Famire zaffe (For our families)

Webale (thank you)

Olw'emikwano gyaffe (for our friends)

Webale (thank you)

Miigwech (Repeats)

Olw'emirimu gyaffe (for our jobs)

Webale (thank you)

Olwa obulamu bwaffe (for our lives)

Webale (thank you)

Olwa amagezi gonna (for all the wisdom)

Webale (thank you)

Olw' ebirunji byonna (For all the beautiful things) **Webale (thank you)**

Miigwech (Repeats)

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, so that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Announcements

- Jazz Vespers (Today) Sunday, May 25 @ 4pm Featuring Scott Marshall
 saxophone, Robi Botos Piano, Dave Young Bass. Pay-what-you-can.
- St. Philips Spring Tea Saturday June 21st from 1.30pm to 3.30pm For info call Donna 416-901-3558
- Eucharist & Bible Study Every Wednesday 10.00 to 12pm in the Church
- Centering Prayer Every Friday 9.30am Via Zoom
- St. Philip's Community Garden Cultivating a culture of abundance and reciprocity. Want to be a part of the team?
 Contact Tracy Stuchbery – 647-270-7257 or tracy.stuchbery@gmail.com
- We would like to remind you that you can place memorial flowers at the church on Sundays in honor of your loved ones. 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.
 - ✓ Alternatively, you can purchase the flowers yourself and bring them to the church by Saturday morning.
- If you're looking for a venue for a special occasion, our parish hall is available for rent! For more information or to book your event, please contact church office 416-247-5181

Final Blessing

May Christ who by death has destroyed death, give you all courage and joy in believing and the blessing of God our Creator,
Redeemer and Giver of Life, be with you always.

Amen.

- 1. God of mercy, God of grace, show the brightness of your face; shine upon us, Saviour, shine, fill your church with light divine; and your saving health extend unto earth's remotest end.
- 2. Let the people praise you, Lord; be by all that live adored; let the nations shout and sing glory to their Saviour King; at your feet their tribute pay, and your holy will obey.
- 3. Let the people praise you, Lord; earth shall then its fruits afford. God to us all blessings give, we to God devoted live: all below and all above one in joy and light and love.

Alleluia!

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

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia!

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Psalm Refrain: *Songs for the Holy One*.