

St. Philip's Anglican Church, Etobicoke

Christmas Morning Eucharist, 2025



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 this community in Christ as we dwell together in God's love.

Gathering of the Community

Welcome

A boy has been born for us;
a child has been given to us.
And his name shall be called
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, the Prince of Peace.
Once we were no people;
now we are God's people.
Once we walked in darkness;
now we have seen a great light.

Hymn 123 *Once in Royal David's City*

1. **Once in royal David's city**
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.
2. **He came down to earth from heaven**
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall.
With the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.
3. **Not in that poor lowly stable,**
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high,
when like stars, his children crowned
all in white shall gather round.

Prayer for Christmas Morning

Son of Mary, Son of God,
may we, for whom the heavens have opened
never lose that heavenly vision.
May we, who like the shepherds,
Have seen in your birth a new kind of love,
Witness to that love in our lives.
Welcome, welcome, Jesus Christ our infant saviour,

baby who makes every birth holy.
 May we, who like the shepherds
 have witnessed in the stable a new kind of love
 return to our work with joy.
 May we, for whom the heavens have opened
 to proclaim that God is with us,
 we who have fed on living bread
 and drunk the wine of heaven,
 go out to be instruments of your peace, day by day.

Father and Mother of all,
 the child born for us is the Saviour of the world.
 May the One who made us your children
 welcome us into your kingdom,
 where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever.

Amen.

As we continue standing, we light the Christmas Candle,

Let us pray.

We thank you, Heavenly Father, for the gift of your Son, who brings
 light into the world and light into our lives. May we be a light to all
 whom we encounter as we share the good news of the Christ Child.
 We light this Christmas Candle as a sign of that light.

Amen.



2. Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;

Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God, Have mer - cy on us and re - ceive our prayer. *repeat Refrain*

3. For You a - lone are the One most Ho - ly, You a - lone are the Lord most high

Je - sus Christ with the Ho - ly Spi - rit In the glo - ry of God. A - men. *repeat Refrain*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God whose Word became flesh,
 breathe a new song of joy and praise into the world,
 so that we may bear the good news of your salvation
 and proclaim your promise of peace to the ends of the earth;
 through Christ the Word. **Amen.**

Breaking Open the Word

Isaiah 52.7–10

Reader: Frances Clarkson

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns.’

Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98

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



Sing to the Holy One, sing a new song!

The One who has done marvelous things!

Your right arm and your holy arm gave you victory.

You announced the victory

and declared true justice to the nations.



Sing to the Holy One! Sing a new song!

You remembered the covenant of love and fidelity
toward the house of Israel.

All the nations of the world have seen your victory, O God.



Sing to the Holy One! Sing a new song!

Let the whole world shout to the Holy One,

and break into joyful shouts and songs of praise.

Sing to the Holy One on the harp,

with the harp and lovely song,

with trumpets and horn;

shout joyfully to our sovereign, the Holy One!



Sing to the Holy One! Sing a new song!

Let the sea roar and all its creatures
the whole world and all its peoples.

Let the rivers clap their hands

and the mountains shout together

before the Holy One,

who is coming to judge the world.

The Holy One will judge the world with true justice

and its peoples with integrity.



Sing to the Holy One! Sing a new song! (repeats)

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

As the Gospel comes among us we stand and sing



We turn and face the Gospel

The Holy Gospel: John 1.1—14

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.

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The Word was with God in the beginning. Everything came into being through the Word, and without the Word nothing came into being. What came into being through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light. A man named John was sent from God. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the light. He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light. The true light that shines on all people was coming into the world. The light was in the world, and the world came into being through the light, but the world didn't recognize the light. The light came to his own people, and his own people didn't welcome him.

But those who did welcome him, those who believed in his name, he authorized to become God's children, born not from blood nor from human desire or passion, but born from God. The Word became flesh and made his home among us. We have seen his glory, glory like that of a father's only son, full of grace and truth

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



We sit for the Homily: Rev. Mike Stuchbery

We stand and affirm our Faith

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

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

Christmas Intercessions

Leader: Chiagozie Azuh

On this Christmas morning, as we celebrate the birth of God into our flesh, let us pray saying: "Holy One, fill our hearts with your love."

May there be harmony in all our relationships. May sharp words, envious thoughts, and hostile feelings be dissolved.

We pray

Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.

May we give and receive love generously. May this love echo in our hearts like the joy of church bells on a clear December day.

We pray

Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.

May each person who comes into our lives be greeted as another Christ. May the honour given the baby born in Bethlehem be that which we extend to every guest who enters our presence.

We pray **Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.**

May the hope of this sacred season settle in our souls. May it be a foundation of courage for us when times of distress occupy our inner land. We pray **Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.**

May the wonder and awe that fills the eyes of children be awakened within us. May it lead us to renewed awareness and appreciation of whatever we too easily take for granted.

We pray **Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.**

May the bonds of love for one another be strengthened as we gather with family and friends around the table of festivity and nourishment.

We pray

Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.

May we daily open the gift of our lives and be grateful for the hidden treasure it contains.

We pray

Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.

May the coming year be one of good health for us all. May we have energy and vitality. May we care well for ourselves: body, mind and spirit. We pray

Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.

May we keep our eyes on the star within us and trust this Luminescent Presence to guide and direct us each day.

We pray

Holy One, fill our hearts with your love.

May we go often to the Bethlehem of our hearts and visit the One who offers us peace. May we bring this peace into the world.

All this we pray in the name of the One born this day: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;

welcoming sinners and inviting them to this table.

Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

The Prayer Bell calls us to silent reflection

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

We stand, as able, to share Christ's peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Preparation of the Gifts

*Gifts of bread, wine, and of our own riches are gathered and brought to the altar.
As we are able, we stand to sing and remain standing*

Offertory Carol **118** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* **vs. 1, 2, 3, 4**

1. **O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the king of angels;**

Refrain

**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

2. **God of God, Light of Light!
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created:**

Refrain

3. **Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest:**

Refrain

4. **See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps.**

Refrain

Prayer Over the Gifts

Good and loving God,
we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,
who came among the poor
to bring the riches of your grace.
As you have blessed us with your gifts,
let them be a blessing for others.
With the trees of the field,
with all earth and heaven,
we should for joy at the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

As able, we continue standing together in thanksgiving before God.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to offer 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 mystery of his incarnation
was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother;
in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory.
Therefore, with all the angels of heaven,
we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise
to proclaim the glory of your name.

$\text{♩} = 52$
 $\frac{4}{4}$ 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.
mf Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
Broadly
rit. ff san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!
molto rit.

We remain standing

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.**

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**



**Yea, Lord we greet thee,
born this happy morning.
Jesus to thee be glory given:
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.**

Refrain

**O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*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. Dipping the wafer into the cup
(intinction) is not permitted for health reasons. 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.*

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 / Communion Assistant - Andrew Batte

Communion Music

Hymn 148 *See Amid the Winter's Snow*

1. **See amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see, the tender Lamb appears,
promised from eternal years!**

Refrain

**Hail, thou ever blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

2. **Lo, within a manger lies
he who build the starry skies,
who enthroned in height sublime
sits amid the cherubim**

Refrain

3. **Say, ye holy shepherds, say
what your joyful news today;
wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep.**

Refrain

4. **"As we watched at dead of night,
lo, we saw a wondrous light;
angels, singing 'Peace on earth'
told us our the Saviour's birth.**

Refrain

5. **Sacred infant, al divine,
what a mighty love was thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this!**

Refrain

Hymn 137 *What Child Is This?*

1. **What child is this, who laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?**

Refrain

**This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe the son of Mary.**

2. **Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.**

Refrain

3. **So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh:
come peasant, king to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.**

Refrain

Radiant God,
with our eyes we have seen your salvation,
and in this meal we have feasted on your grace.
May your Word take flesh in us,
so that we may be your holy people,
revealing your glory made known to us in 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, forever and ever.**
Amen.

Blessing for Christmas

Christ, who by his incarnation,
gathered into one all things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with joy and peace.
And the blessing of God our Creator,
Redeemer and Giver of life be with you always.
Amen.

Hymn 153 *Good Christians All, Rejoice*

1. **Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Listen now to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow
and he is in the manger now!
Christ is born today;
Christ is born today!**
2. **Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Hear the news of endless bliss;
Jesus Christ was born for this;
he has opened heaven's door
and we are blessed forevermore!
Christ was born for this;
Christ was born for this!**
3. **Good Christians all, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save:
come at his most gracious call
to find salvation one and all!
Christ was born to save;
Christ was born to save!**

Dismissal

Go with hope, peace, joy
and love in your hearts,
to serve the incarnate God who is born into this world
and into our lives today.

Thanks be to God.

Christmas Memorials

Flowers have been given to the honour of God:

- In loving memory of Larry Drebert by Charles, Sue, Chen Ling
- In loving memory of Sydney Williams, Dottie Andrews, Horace Andrews by Denise, Dana and Mark Williams.
- In loving memory of beloved husband, Ian Clarkson, given by Frances.

Cuetlaxochitl (Poinsettia) have been given to the honour of God:

- In loving memory of Edith and Frank Taylor and Edith, Marjorie & Ernie Well, George Berry given by Debbie, Peter, Bryce(Matthew), Taylor (Catherine) and Reed Schubert
- In loving memory of Ed Wiseman given by his wife Mae & family.
- In loving memory of husband and father Ron Nagy, brother Hughie McNally, son-in-law, Scott Collie, parents and grandparents given by Ruth and Dianna
- In loving memory of Richard and family members donated by Jean Smyth

Christmas plants in the urn inside the church have been given to the honour of God:

- In thanksgiving for all the blessings received given by Rosalind Chahal & family.

The Christmas Tree

The Christmas tree at the front of the church is given in loving memory of Graham and Malynda by their daughter Thana , her husband Marcus Fingerle and their daughter Paige and son Miles.

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Wood Lake Books

Upcoming Services

Sunday December 28 *Christmas 1*

8.30am and 10.30am Holy Eucharist

Staff 'down time'

The Office will be closed from Thursday, December 25, until Friday, January 2.

If during that time you need to drop off an envelope, please post it through the mail slot in the left-hand door of the Rectory entrance way.

Merry Christmas