St. Philip's Anglican Church, Etobicoke

1st Sunday in Advent – November 29, 2026

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

The flowers in the church today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones given by Susie Lawrie.

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 **89** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

1. **O come, O come, Emmanuel,**
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Refrain
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

2. **O come, O Wisdom from on high,**
who order all things mightily;

to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go.
Refrain

3. **O come, Desire of nations, bind**
in one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our bitter conflict cease,
and be for us our Prince of Peace.
Refrain

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

♫ **Advent is a time to wait,**
Not quite time to celebrate.
Count the candles one by one,
Until Advent time is done.
Day by day we work and play,
To prepare for Christmas Day!

1. **Hope is our first candle here,**
in this Advent time of year.

Hope will shine for us today
as we gently light the way.
Hope is our first candle here,
in this Advent time of year.

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 unveiled truth,
in times of darkened sun and waning moon,
lift up our hearts and waken our love
to announce the coming dawn of unexpected peace;
through Jesus Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen.**

Breaking Open the Word

Isaiah 64. 1-9 Reader: *Frances Clarkson*

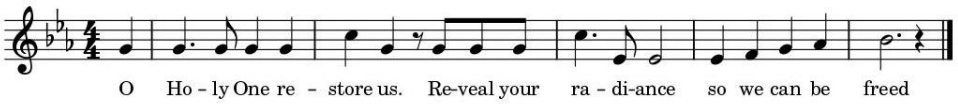
O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,

and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

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

Psalm 80.1-7, 16-18

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



♫ **O Holy One restore us. – Reveal your radiance so we can be freed.**
(repeat)

Israel's Shepherd, please, oh please listen!
Joseph's guide, enthroned on cherubim,
flash forth in splendour on your people!
Rouse your boundless powers!
Come, set us free!

♫ **O Holy One restore us. – Reveal your radiance so we can be freed.**

Sovereign God, how long?
How long will you fume at your people's prayers?
You fed us misery for bread;
You made us drink overflowing tears.
You made us fair game for our neighbours;
our enemies sneer in our faces.

♫ **O Holy One restore us. – Reveal your radiance so we can be freed.**

You plucked a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the peoples, planted a vine.
May your arms support the people of your right hand,
those made strong for yourself.
Then we will never desert you.
Give us life!
We will always call upon you.

♫ **O Holy One restore us. – Reveal your radiance so we can be freed.**
(repeat)

1 Corinthians 1. 3-9 Reader: *Peter Lee*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - ♫ **Deus de Deo**

The Holy Gospel: Mark 13. 24-37

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and

commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - ♫ Deus de Deo

Sermon: Robbie Walker

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: Oghogho Bawo-Oteri

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

In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Strengthen your church in this season of anticipation. Nourish all people who gather around word and water, bread and cup. Reassure any whose faith feels dry that you are always near. Renew the strength of our lay leaders here at St. Philip's and give them the wisdom to guide us, praying especially for our wardens, Rosalind, Ashani, Debbie and Andrew; our staff, Tracy, Amanda and Charles. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Come and restore the earth. Give rest to weary lands and renewed life to species at risk. Make us wise stewards of the places we call home. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Bring peace among all nations and communities. Embolden leaders to seek creative and sustainable resolutions to war and conflict. Show us new possibilities in places where peace has been elusive, especially this time of year in The Holy Land. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Sustain all who are heavy with weariness, grief, illness, or worry. Comfort families who are estranged from one another and any who are separated from loved ones. Here in our own congregation we pray for those who are currently experiencing serious health issues and have asked for our prayers; for Emmanuel, Brenda M., Robbie, James, Naume, Bridget, Sheri B., Jean, Jackson, Patricia R., and Carolyn. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Inspire liturgists, preachers, musicians, and all who lead our worship and prayer, praying especially for Greg, our deacon; Mike, our Incumbent; Kevin, Ryscilla and Andrew our Bishops; Anne our Metropolitan; and Shane our Primate. May we be prepared as we await Christ's coming this Advent season. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Bless our Lay Pastoral Care Team who offer God's compassion and love to those in particular need on behalf of this congregation. Bless 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 your blessing on the congregation we serve with our monthly Eucharist at the Village of Humber Heights; and for the congregation at Centennial Park Place, and for Peter Lee who leads them in prayer at their services. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

You embrace all the saints from the far reaches of the earth. We remember with care all who have died and now abide in their eternal home, especially Ronald Thomson. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Saviour. **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 Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Offertory

Hymn **446** *Word of God, come down on earth*

1. **Word of God, come down on earth,**
   living rain from heaven descending;
   touch our hearts and bring to birth
   faith and hope and love unending.
   Word almighty, we revere you;
   Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

2. **Word eternal, throned on high,**
   Word that brought to life creation,

Word that came from heaven to die,
crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.

3. **Word that caused blind eyes to see,**
speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be;
loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
heal the world, by sin now broken

4. **Word that speaks God's tender love,**
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Prayer Over the Gifts

Let us pray.
God of abundance,
we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation,
and with them our very lives.
Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need
until the coming of your Son, 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.

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.

♫ **Holy, holy, holy,**
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full,
are full of your glory.

Hosanna! Hosanna!
Hosanna in the highest! 2x

Blessed, blessed, blessed,
blessed is the one
coming in the name,
the name of the Lord.

Hosanna! Hosanna!
Hosanna in the highest! 2x

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, Breaking of Bread

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray in the language closest to our hearts.
**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.**

God of promise,
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.
**Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Server: Bawo-Bawo-Oteri

Communion Assistant : Janet Churchill

♫ Tar a thighearna (Come, Lord, Come Thou Being)

Tahr a heer—nah____ 3x
Tahr____ah__hee.

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)*

♫ **Keep Your Lamps Trimmed**

Keep your lamps
trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps
trimmed and burning, *2x*
Keep your lamps
trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.

Children don't get weary,
Children don't get weary, *2x*
Children don't get weary till your work is done.

Keep your lamps
trimmed and burning,
Keep your lamps
trimmed and burning, *2x*
Keep your lamps
trimmed and burning,
The time is drawing nigh.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray,
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.

Announcements

- Jazz Vespers - **TODAY** at 4pm. – Featuring - Tom Reynolds (piano) with George Koller (bass) & Lorne Nehring (drums) – Pay what you can – All are welcome
- 🎄 A Charlie Brown Christmas Concert – December 6!
  Join us on Sunday, December 6, at 4:00 PM for a festive Christmas concert! Tickets: Adults $30 | Students $20 | Family $60 (2 adults and up to 3 children) | Children under 12 FREE. Hot chocolate and Christmas cookies following the concert! Mark your calendars.
- 🎄 First Day of Christmas – An Evening with Lester McLean
  Join us at St. Philip's for an early evening of Christmas spirit and fun with Lester McLean, featuring his original Christmas compositions and some beloved traditional classics! Sunday, December 13, 2026
  5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
  Admission: Pay What You Will (Suggested donation: $10)
  Guests are also encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for WAES.
- WAES Food Drive - Parishioners are encouraged to donate non-perishable food items to support this important cause. Thank you for your generosity and continued support!
- **Thank You – Christmas Market**
  A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our Christmas Market a success! We are grateful to all the volunteers who generously gave their time and energy for organizing, setting up, baking, selling and cleaning up.
  Thank you also to everyone who donated items and came out to support this event. Your generosity, dedication and fellowship are truly appreciated!
- Advent Bible Study - Join for a four-week Advent Bible study exploring the names attributed to the Messiah in Isaiah 9: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Based on the book by Walter Brueggemann, this study offers an opportunity for reflection and discussion during the Advent season.
  Dates: Tuesdays, December 1, 8, 15 & 22, 2026
  Time: 7:00–8:00 p.m.
  Location: In the Church

To sign up, please add your name to the list at the back of the church, email **staffstphilip@gmail.com**, or call **416-247-5181**. All are welcome!

- **Advent & Christmas Services at St. Philip's – 2026**

  - December 20th: 8:30am Advent 4 Eucharist
  - December 20th: 10:30am Words & Music for Christmas (no Eucharist)
  - December 23rd: 2:00pm Carol Sing **@ Village of Humber Heights** (2245 Lawrence Avenue)
  - December 24th: 11:00pm Midnight Mass for Christmas
  - December 25th: 8:30am Holy Eucharist for Christmas Morning
  - December 25th: 10:30am Sung Eucharist for Christmas Morning

Final Blessing, Hymn & Dismissal

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 **97** *Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring*

- **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.

- **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.

- **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.

- **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.

Dismissal

Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit,
serve the world God loves!
Thanks be to God.

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Come, O Come, Emmanuel Text and Music: Public Domain

Advent Is A Time To Wait by Alexandra Montano, additional verses by Tracy Stuchbery, Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Word of God, come down on earth Text: James Quinn Music: Melody Johann Rudulph Ahle © 1625-1673 Geroge Herbert Palmer

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring Text : Godfrey Thring and Music: Melody John Francis Wade

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Service Music *Gospel Acclamation* - traditional liturgical, Iona Community
Keep Your Lamps Trimmed And Burning - Words and music: African American Spiritual