



Harvest Thanksgiving

12 October | 2025 | 11.30am

The Rev. Canon Dr. Penny Anderson - Rector

The Rev. Wojtek Kuzma - Priest Associate

Andy Elmhirst - Director of Music

Carrie Ford-Jones - Children's & Youth Ministry Coordinator

On the Cover

Peter Koenig painted the “Cross of the Eucharist”
for the Parish of St. Edward in Kettering, UK.

Used with permission from the artist.

Welcome to St. Christopher's

Thank you for being with us this morning! We hope that this will be a meaningful time of worship for you! Please be assured that we are continuously evaluating and adapting our liturgical customs and hygiene practices to protect the health and safety of all.

About the Service

Everything you need for the service can be found in this booklet and large print copies are also available. You may take this service bulletin home with you or discard it in the blue box as you exit.

Children & Families

Please enjoy being together throughout the service. Programming for children, 0-3 years (Grannie's Place) takes place at 9.30am. Children aged 4+ meet in the preschool room during the 9.30am service with Carrie Ford-Jones. Should you require assistance at any time during the service, please let one of the greeters know and they will be happy to assist you.

Audio Loop

If you use a hearing aid with a "T" setting, you can take advantage of our audio loop in the main section (Nave) of the church.

"Collection"

We don't pass the collection plate at St. Christopher's. Instead, if you wish to make a financial contribution to support our ministries, there are donation boxes just inside the door into the worship space.

Communion

All are invited to share in the Holy Eucharist.

General Health Protocols

Mask use is not required. As always, if you are feeling unwell please stay home.

We encourage you to sanitize your hands frequently and there is sanitizer in many places throughout the church.

You may signal your preference to share the Peace in a distanced manner by crossing your arms over your chest, or by raising your hands, palms together. We ask you to check with your neighbours before making physical contact at the Peace.

Blessings

None of us comes to church by accident and each of us brings the rest of our lives with us. No matter what joys, burdens or dilemmas you bring with you today, we pray that this time will be a gift to you; that God's grace will touch you with hope and energy to live your life with greater depth, integrity, compassion, and courage.

Canon Penny Anderson



Thought for the Month

Interdependence over Independence:
Christian theology values interdependence, mutual care, and shared vulnerability over the modern ideal of self-sufficiency.

*One of the "Ten Tenets of Disability Theology",
From *The Disabled God* by Nancy Eiesland*

Harvest Thanksgiving

11.30 am

Welcome!

Cannon Penny

You belong here!
Everyone is welcome at the table.
No fussy rules.
No exceptions.

Land Acknowledgement

John Edmond, an Ottawa lawyer who practiced constitutional and Indigenous law, compiled a chronology of the Indian Residential Schools. Author Bob Joseph says Edmond compiled the chronology “to convey, by historic milestones, how the Indian residential school system came to be, how it embodied attitudes of its time, how critics were dismissed, and how, finally, the deep harm it did to many members of generations of Indian children was exposed in the course of a reconciliation process that continues.”

In one such historic milestone, in 1969, the Department of Indian Affairs took over sole management of residential schools from churches. Then Indian Affairs Minister Jean Chrétien produced an assimilationist “White Paper” to abolish Indian status, a document strongly opposed by Indigenous organizations. For instance, the Alberta Indian Association responded with Citizen Plus, known as the “Red Paper.” Chrétien’s “White Paper” was retracted two years later.

May we who gather for worship on the territory of the Anishinaabeg and the Haudenosaunee peoples commit ourselves to learning our history, and to engaging in reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

Gathering Prayer

Opening Song: All Creatures - No. 2

David Crowder

All creatures of our God and Lord,
Lift up your voice with one accord,
O praise God, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam;
O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise God, Alleluia!
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening find a voice,
O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness,
O praise God, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Maker, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One.
O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

Listening for God

A Reading from the Gospel of John (6:25-35)

When they found Jesus on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' " Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Reader
All

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.
Thanks be to God.

Homily

Canon Penny

Silence for Reflection

Song: Ordinary Miracle

Sarah McLachlan

It's not that unusual
When everything is beautiful
It's just another ordinary miracle today

The sky knows when it's time to snow
Don't need to teach a seed to grow
It's just another ordinary miracle today

Life is like a gift they say
Wrapped up for you everyday
Open up and find a way
To give some of your own

Isn't it remarkable?
Like every time a rain drop falls
It's just another ordinary miracle today

Birds in winter have their fling
But always make it home by spring
It's just another ordinary miracle today

When you wake up everyday
Please don't throw your dreams away
Hold them close to your heart
'Cause we're all a part
Of the ordinary miracle

It seems so exceptional
That things just work out afterall
It's just another ordinary miracle today

Sun comes up and shines so bright
And disappears again at night
It's just another ordinary miracle today

The Prayers of the People

Please add your own prayers, ending with,

One God is good,
All **Thanks be to God.**

or

One God of love,
All **Hear our prayer.**

All **Amen.**

The Peace

Song: Crowded Table

The Highwomen

You can hold my hand
When you need to let go
I can be your mountain
When you're feeling valley-low
I can be your streetlight
Showing you the way home
You can hold my hand
When you need to let go

[Refrain]

*I want a house with a crowded table
And a place by the fire for everyone
Let us take on the world while we're young and able
And bring us back together when the day is done*

If we want a garden
We're gonna have to sow the seed
Plant a little happiness
Let the roots run deep
If it's love that we give
Then it's love that we reap
If we want a garden
We're gonna have to sow the seed

[Refrain]

The door is always open
Your picture's on my wall
Everyone's a little broken
And everyone belongs
Yeah, everyone belongs
[Refrain]

Prayer over the Bread and Wine

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider May God be with you.
All **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.
All **We lift them to the living God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the God of the universe.
All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The eucharistic prayer is spoken in the moment.

All **Holy, holy, holy,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in God's name.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The eucharistic prayer continues.

All **Amen.**

Presider We pray as Jesus taught us:
All **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.**

Sharing Bread and Wine

As we serve one another:

All **The body of Christ.
The blood of Christ.**

Communion Song: Enough

Louie Giglio and Chris Tomlin

[Refrain]

*All of you is more than enough for all of me,
for every thirst and every need.*

*You satisfy me with your love,
and all I have in you is more than enough.*

You're my supply, my breath of life;
still more awesome than I know.
You're my reward, worth living for;
still more awesome than I know.

[Refrain]

More than all I want, more than all I need,
you are more than enough for me.
More than all I know, more than I can say,
you are more than enough.

[Refrain]

Blessing

Closing Song: Everything Glorious

David Crowder

The day is brighter here with you.
The night is lighter than its hue
would lead me to believe,
which leads me to believe:

[Refrain]

*You make everything glorious,
you make everything glorious,
you make everything glorious, and I am yours.
What does that make me?*

My eyes are small but they have seen,
the beauty of enormous things.
Which leads me to believe
there's light enough to see, that:

[Refrain]

From glory to glory
you are glorious, you are glorious.
From glory to glory,
you are glorious, you are glorious.
Which leads me to believe,
why I can believe that:

[Refrain]

We invite you to join us for refreshments in the Atrium
following the service.



We are a dynamic, inclusive, diverse community
rooted in the life-giving, life-affirming, life-changing love of God
reaching beyond ourselves
caring for creation
making a difference with others.

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HARVEST FEST 2025

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23 · 6:30PM

Paradiso



A meal to support **Open Doors**, Burlington's vital community hub offering free, wraparound services to those in need.

Enjoy a three-course prix fixe dinner at Paradiso, complete with red and white wine pairings, all for \$150 per person.

Live music, door prizes, and the joy of giving back.