



# Harvest Thanksgiving

12 October | 2025 | 9.30am

**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**

# Welcome to St. Christopher's

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Thank you for being here 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.

Washrooms are located off the Great Hall - just ask one of the greeters for directions.

## Children & Families

Children belong in church! We know that children move around, and children make sound - kids are allowed to be kids at St. Christopher's. Programming for children 4 and older takes place with Carrie Ford-Jones in the Youth Room during the 9.30am service. Caregivers, please pick up your children from the Youth Room at the end of the service. Parents are welcome to spend time with their children ages 0-3 in Grannie's Place. Please ask one of our greeters if you need assistance finding your way there.

## 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.

Please remain seated until you are invited up the centre aisle by the greeter. When it's your turn, please hold out your hands and the communion minister will drop the wafer into your hands (without touching you). Once you have received the wafer, you may choose to receive the wine, or simply touch the base of the cup. Please return to your seat by the side aisle. If you are not comfortable receiving the bread or wine, you can come forward to receive a blessing - just cross your arms over your chest; the priest will pray for God's blessing on you (without touching you). If you require gluten-free bread, please ask the communion minister.

## **Sensory Room**

There is a space for you at St. Christopher's! Including a brand new sensory room, located in the South hallway, on the left just beyond the freezers. The sensory room is a space where you can lower or raise sensory inputs - there are blackout curtains so you can control the lighting, mats you can place on the floor, and options for listening to the service, or to enjoy silence. The space is available for people of all ages, although we ask that care givers remain with children who wish to use the sensory room.

## **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 you will encounter God's grace in a way that frees you to experience newness, compassion and hope.

If you are looking for a spiritual home, we have a variety of services and programs to meet your needs. For more information, please visit our website. We are at [www.stcb.ca](http://www.stcb.ca).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Penny'.

Canon Penny Anderson

### **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.*

# Harvest Thanksgiving

## 9.30 am Holy Eucharist

### Prelude

The Happy Farmer

*Robert Schumann (1810-1856)*

### Welcome & Announcements

*Canon Penny*

### 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.

*Please rise in spirit or in body.*

### Opening Hymn: We Plough the Fields and Scatter *Blue book #258*

### The Gathering

*Presider*

Creator of the fruitful earth,  
you made us stewards of all things.  
Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness,  
and steadfast wills to use your bounty well,  
that the whole human family,  
today and in generations to come,  
may with us give thanks  
for the riches of your creation;  
through Jesus Christ,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*All*

**Amen.**

## Hearing God's Word

*Please be seated.*

### **A Reading from the Letter to the Philippians (4.4-9)** *read by Tricia Clarke*

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

*Reader*            Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.  
*All*                 **Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise in spirit or in body.*

### **Before the Gospel: Gift of Finest Wheat**

*Yellow book #254*

*You satisfy the hungry heart  
With gift of finest wheat;  
Come give to us, O saving Lord,  
The bread of life to eat.*

### **The Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John (6.25-35)**

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

*Reader*            The Gospel of Jesus Christ according to John.  
*All*                 **Glory to you, O Jesus Christ.**

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*            The Gospel of Christ.  
*All*                **Praise to you, O Jesus Christ.**

## **After the Gospel: Gift of Finest Wheat**

*Yellow book #254*

*You satisfy the hungry heart  
With gift of finest wheat;  
Come give to us, O saving Lord,  
The bread of life to eat.*

*Please be seated.*

## **Homily**

*Canon Penny*

*Silence for reflection.*

## **Anthem: Look at the World**

*John Rutter*

Look at the world: Everything all around us  
look at the world: and marvel everyday  
look at the world: So many joys and wonders  
So many miracles along our way

*[Refrain]*

*Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation  
give us thankful hearts that we may see  
all the gifts we share and every blessing  
all things come of thee*

Look at the earth: Bringing forth fruit and flower  
look at the sky: The sunshine and the rain  
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains,  
Valley and flowing river field and plain.

*[Refrain]*

Think of the spring, Think of the warmth of summer  
Bringing the harvest before the winters cold  
Everything grows, everything has a season  
Til' it is gathered to the fathers fold  
*[Refrain]*

Every good gift, all that we need and cherish  
Comes from the lord in token of his love  
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty  
His is the earth and his the heavens above  
*[Refrain]*

*Please rise in spirit or in body.*

## **Affirmation of Faith**

*Presider* Let us affirm the faith we share.

*All* **We trust in God,  
who has created and is creating;  
who came to us in Jesus,  
the word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new;  
who works in us and others  
by the Holy Spirit.**

**We believe we are called to be God's people:  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus' death and resurrection  
by word and deed.**

**We live in hope because  
in life, in death, in life beyond death,  
we are not alone:  
God is with us.**

**Thanks be to God.  
Amen.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

*Led by Gary Fisher*

### **The Peace**

*The presider addresses the people.*

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*The members of the community offer signs of peace to one another.*

# The Celebration of the Eucharist

## Offertory Hymn: All Things Bright and Beautiful *Blue book #416*

### The Prayer over the Gifts

*Presider* Source of all life,  
heaven and earth are yours,  
yet you give us stewardship of all things.  
Receive the symbols of our labour and love  
and nourish us to join your work in the world;  
through Jesus Christ,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

### The Great Thanksgiving

*Stephen*

The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff shows the Presider's part for 'May God be with you.' and the People's part for 'And al - so with you.' The second staff shows the Presider's part for 'Lift up your hearts.' and the People's part for 'We lift them to the liv - ing God.' The third staff shows the Presider's part for 'Let us give thanks to the God of the U - ni - verse.' The fourth staff shows the People's part for 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The notation includes various note values, rests, and a final double bar line.

**Presider** May God be with you. **People** And al - so with you.

**Presider** Lift up your hearts. **People** We lift them to the liv - ing God.

**Presider** Let us give thanks to the God of the U - ni - verse.

**People** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Presider* Hearts and minds and souls and voices  
we lift in thanks and praise to you,  
God of heaven and earth.  
You made the earth as a paradise  
for us to enjoy your goodness,  
and yet we consistently turn  
your abundance into our scarcity,  
your elegance into our meanness,  
and your simplicity into corruption.

*Presider*

In Christ you lavish  
every blessing in abundance,  
so that by always having enough of everything,  
we may share generously in every good work.  
And so we lift our voices to praise you,  
joining with all the company of heaven  
to thank you for the indescribable gift of your grace:

*All*

*Stephen*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might.  
Heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry! Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bles-sed is the one who comes in the name of God. Ho-  
sa - na in the high - est! Ho - sa - na in the high - est!

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might.' The second staff continues: 'Heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry! Ho-san - na in the high - est.' The third staff continues: 'Bles-sed is the one who comes in the name of God. Ho-' and the fourth staff concludes: 'sa - na in the high - est! Ho - sa - na in the high - est!' The score ends with a double bar line.

*Presider*

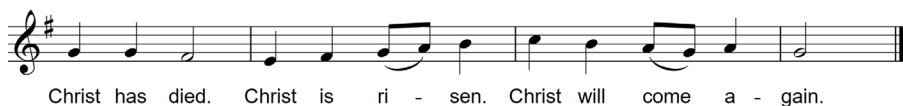
God of abundance,  
you nourish us with the bread of life  
and you renew us with your Holy Spirit.  
Now send your Spirit  
to rest upon your people gathered here,  
that all who eat and drink at your table  
may behold you face to face  
and taste and see that you are good.  
By the same Spirit  
sanctify these gifts of bread and wine,  
that they may be for us the body and blood  
of your beloved one, Jesus Christ;  
who, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks,  
broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,  
"Take, eat: this is my body given for you;  
do this to remember me."

After supper Jesus took the cup.  
Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his friends, saying:  
"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.  
As often as you drink it, do this to remember me."

Great is the mystery of faith.

*All*

*Stephen*

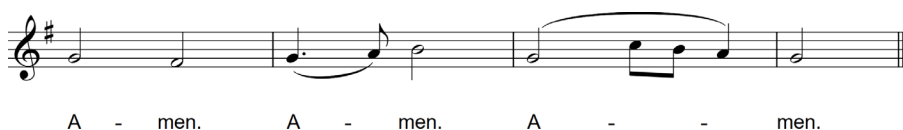


*Presider*

Loving God,  
by worrying, we cannot add even a single hour  
to the span of our lives.  
Pour out your grace for us  
that we may join in working for justice  
for our neighbours  
who are pushed to the limit of their endurance  
by injustice and neglect and cruelty.  
Empower us to join your work of healing  
our stricken world,  
that the groaning of the soil, the seas, and the skies  
may spur in all people  
a longing to safeguard the integrity of your creation,  
and respect, sustain, and renew the life of the earth.  
Hasten that day when your new heaven and new earth  
will engulf the distress and disappointment  
and destruction of your people,  
and you will be all in all,  
O Trinity of peace and love.

*All*

*Stephen*



Presider

We pray as Jesus taught us,

All

Tirro

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-lo-wed be Thy name.  
Thy king-dom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heav-en.  
Give us this day our dai-ly bread, and for-give us as we for-give each oth-er;  
and lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-li-ver us from e-vil;  
for Thine is the king-dom and the po-wer and the  
glo-ry for-e-ver. A-men.

## The Breaking of the Bread

Presider

The body that was broken

All

**has become for us the bread of life!**

## Invitation

Presider

This is God's table  
ready for those who love God  
and those who want to love God more.

So come,  
you who have much faith  
and you who have little,  
you who have been here often  
and you who have never been before,  
You who have tried to follow Jesus  
and you who have failed.

Come, because it is Christ who invites us  
to meet him here.

The gifts of God, for the people of God.

All

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

*All are invited to share in the Holy Eucharist. Please remain seated until you are invited up the centre aisle by the greeter. If you require gluten-free bread, please ask the priest. Please do not dip your bread in the cup of wine.*

## **Songs During Communion**

Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup

*Blue book #63*

For the Fruit of All Creation

*Blue book #259*

*Please rise in spirit or in body.*

## **Prayer after Communion**

*Presider* God of our hope,  
in this eucharist we find  
the source of all your blessings.  
Nourished in these holy mysteries  
may we, with our lives,  
give you continual thanks and praise;  
through Jesus Christ,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
*All* **Amen.**

## **Doxology**

*Presider* Together, we say,  
*All* **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.**

## **Blessing**

## **Closing Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God**

*Blue book #399*

## Dismissal

*Presider* Alleluia! Go forth from this place  
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!  
*All* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Postlude

Nun daket alle Gott (Marche Triomphale), Op. 65

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)*

Refreshments are served in the Atrium.

We invite you to join us,  
or to remain in the church to enjoy the postlude.

The Eucharistic Prayer based on Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher,  
*Eucharistic Prayers.*

**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*



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.