



Pentecost 23

16 November | 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

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. Also, there is now a tap machine on a stand in the Atrium. You can tap with your credit card or using your mobile phone or watch. Please use your mobile device to scan the QR code if you wish to receive a tax receipt.

Communion

All are invited to share in the Holy Eucharist.

General Health Protocols

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

On the Cover

This “drawing in the style of of an ancient map of Jerusalem”
seeks to communicate peace
among Islam, Christianity, and Judaism.

Used with permission.

Pentecost 23

11.30am

Welcome!

Canon 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 1976, the National Indian Brotherhood (precursor to the Assembly of First Nations) proposed a series of amendments to the *Indian Act*, all of which were rejected by the government.

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: In Christ Alone

Keith Getty, Stuart Townend

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! who came to earth,
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save:

Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The love of God exemplified!
For every wrong on him was laid;
Here in the light of Christ I live.

Listening for God

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (65.17-25)

For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.
But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating,
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy
and its people as a delight.
I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it
or the cry of distress.
No more shall there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime,
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred
will be considered accursed.
They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.
They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat,
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.
They shall not labor in vain
or bear children for calamity,
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord –
and their descendants as well.
Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.
The wolf and the lamb shall feed together;
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,
but the serpent – its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
says the Lord.

Reader
All

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.
Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the Gospel of Luke (21.5-19)

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them. "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

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

Homily

Rev. Wojtek

Silence for Reflection

Song: Far and Wide

Ruth Moody

When I die let me be a bird
So I can fly far from this world
I'll fly so high when I die
Let me be a bird

When I die let there be a home
That's warm and dry that I can call my own
Big enough to share when I get there
Let there be a home

Ooh when I die
Let me be a bird

Ooh when I die
Let there be a home

While I'm alive let there be peace
Let these cries of anger cease
Far and wide before I die
Let there be peace

Ooh when I die
Let me be a bird

Ooh when I die
Let there be a home

Ooh while I'm alive
Let there be peace

Far and wide before I die
Let there be peace

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.**

The Peace

Song: Take This Bread

Sammy Horner

[Refrain]
Take this bread, break it up,
Take this wine, fill your cup;
It's my body, it's my blood,
Shed for you.

Lamb of God my heart will thank you:
Prince of peace, my refuge be.
In my weakness, I will praise you,
As healing streams wash over me,
Healing streams wash over me.
[Refrain]

Lamb of God, in times of trouble,
I will gladly turn to you.
In my pain, O Man of Sorrows,
Healing streams wash over me,
Healing streams wash over me.
[Refrain]

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: Your Labour Is not In Vain

Wendell Kimbrough, Paul Zach, and Isaac Wardell

Your labor is not in vain
Though the ground underneath you is cursed and stained
Your planting and reaping are never the same
But your labor is not in vain

Your labor is not unknown
Though the rocks they cry out and the sea it may groan
The place of your toil may not seem like a home
But your labor is not unknown

[Refrain]

*I am with you, I am with you
I am with you, I am with you
For I have called you, called you by name
Your labor is not in vain*

The vineyards you plant will bear fruit
The fields will sing out and rejoice with the truth
For all that is old will at last be made new
The vineyards you plant will bear fruit

[Refrain]

The houses you labor to build
Will finally with laughter and joy be filled
The serpent that hurts and destroys will be killed
And all that is broken be healed

[Refrain]

Song: Oh Watch the Stars

Traditional

Oh, watch the stars
Oh, watch the stars, see how they run.
Oh, watch the stars, see how they run.
The stars run down at the setting of the sun.
Oh, watch the stars, see how they run.

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

Thought for the Month

Every day, as long as “today” lasts, keep encouraging one another ...

Hebrews 3:13



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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