



Easter 6

10 May | 2026 | 11.30am

Rev. Canon Dr. Penny Anderson - Rector

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.

Communion

All are invited to share in the Holy Eucharist.

General COVID-19 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



On the Cover

Frank Wesley titled this painting, "The Holy Spirit."
Wesley was born in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh into a fifth generation
Christian family of Hindu and Muslim descent.

Used with permission from the artist.

Thought for the Month

"We seek the presence of God
.... as the restoration of human dignity
the reclamation of our joy
and the liberation of all
it is the gravitas of presence
incarnated in our flesh and bones."

From 'Gravitas', by David Gate

Easter 6

11.30 am

Welcome!

Canon Penny Anderson

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 November 2015, a plaque at Ottawa’s Beechwood Cemetery honouring Duncan Campbell Scott as a Confederation Poet was modified to include information about his role in expanding the Indian Residential School system, and implementing a policy of cultural assimilation within those schools.

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

Song: A Refuge for the Poor

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves

A refuge for the poor,
A shelter from the storm:
This is our God.
She will wipe away your tears
And return your wasted years:
This is our God.
Oh this is our God.

A parent to the orphan,
A healer to the broken:
This is our God
He brings peace to our madness
And comfort in our sadness:
This is our God.
Oh this is our God.

[Refrain]

*This is the one we have waited for,
This is the one we have waited for,
This is the one we have waited for,
Oh this is our God.
Oh this is our God.*

A fountain for the thirsty,
A lover for the lonely:
This is our God.
She brings glory to the humble
And crowns for the faithful:
This is our God.
Oh this is our God.

[Refrain]

Listening for God

A Reading from the Gospel of John (14.15-21)

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says,

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

Homily

Canon Penny

Silence for Reflection

Song: Holy Mother

Eric Clapton

Holy Mother, where are you?
Tonight I feel broken in two.
I've seen the stars fall from the sky.
Holy Mother, can't keep from crying

Oh I need your help this time,
get me through this lonely night.
Tell me please which way to turn
to find myself again.

Holy Mother, hear my prayer,
somehow I know you're still there.
Send me please some peace of mind;
take away this pain.

I can't wait,
I can't wait,
I can't wait any longer.

I can't wait,
I can't wait,
I can't wait for you.

Holy Mother, hear my cry,
I've cursed your name a thousand times.
I've felt the anger running through my soul;
all I need is a hand to hold.

Oh I feel the end has come,
no longer my legs will run.
You know I would rather be
in your arms tonight.

When my hands no longer play,
my voice is still, I fade away.
Holy Mother, then I'll be
lying in, safe within your arms.

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

The members of the community offer peace to one another.

Song: Child of God

Mark Miller

No matter what people say,
Say, or think about you,
You are a child,
You are a child of God.

No matter what the world says,
Says, or thinks about you,
You are a child,
You are a child of God.

No matter what the church says,
Decisions, pronouncements on you,
You are a child,
You are a child of God.

And there is nothing or no one who can separate,
They can't separate you from the truth that
You're someone, you are family,
You are meant to be a child, a child of God!
You are a child, a child of God!

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.**

Invitation

Presider The gifts of God, for the people of God.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Sharing Bread and Wine

As we serve one another:

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

Communion Song: Love

City Harmonic

Love
Seems like such a tricky thing
It can find us in the gutter
And it can make us feel like kings
I could give away the whole wide world
But if I never had it
I never really had a thing

[Refrain]
*God is love,
God is love,
God is love.*

Love
Love is patient love is kind
Love it doesn't envy
Love it never suffers pride
It doesn't keep your wrongs in mind
Cause it is not the selfish type
Yeah you know that's love
[Refrain]

God is love.

Prayer After Communion

Song: You'll Be in My Heart

Phil Collins

Come stop your crying; it will be all right.
Just take my hand, hold it tight.
I will protect you from all around you.
I will be here; don't you cry.

For one so small, you seem so strong.
My arms will hold you, keep you safe and warm.
This bond between us can't be broken.
I will be here; don't you cry.

'Cause you'll be in my heart,
Yes, you'll be in my heart
From this day on, now and forever more.
You'll be in my heart, no matter what they say.
You'll be here in my heart, always.

Why can't they understand the way we feel?
They just don't trust what they can't explain.
I know we're different but deep inside us
We're not that different at all.

And you'll be in my heart,
Yes, you'll be in my heart
From this day on, now and forever more.

Don't listen to them, 'cause what do they know?
We need each other to have, to hold.
They'll see in time, I know.

When destiny calls you, you must be strong.
I may not be with you, but you've got to hold on
They'll see in time, I know.
We'll show them together

'Cause you'll be in my heart.
Believe me, you'll be in my heart.
I'll be there from this day on,
Now and forever more.
You'll be in my heart
No matter what they say.
You'll be here in my heart, always.

Always
I'll be with you.
I'll be there for you always,
Always and always.
Just look over your shoulder.
Just look over your shoulder.
Just look over your shoulder;
I'll be there always.

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

Unless otherwise attributed, the music is drawn from:

*The Anglican Church of Canada Book of Common Praise, 2000
Sing Your Praise, September 2007*

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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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