



National Indigenous Day of Prayer

June 21 | 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. 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 during the 9.30am service. Parents are always welcome to spend time with their children ages 0-3 in Grannie's Place. There are also activity kits available in the atrium. Please ask one of our greeters if you need assistance at any time during the service.

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, just outside the north entrance to the sanctuary, there is board that allows a \$25 donation, with a tap of your credit card. Scanning the QR code beside it ensures that a receipt will be issued.

Communion

All are invited to share in the Holy Eucharist.

Sensory Room

There is a space for you at St. Christopher's - including a 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 enjoying silence. The space is available for people of all ages, although we ask that caregivers 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 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

'God loved us before he made us,
and his love has never diminished and never shall.'

Julian of Norwich

On the Cover

This photograph by Daiyan Zubaier is titled,
"Sunrise over Lake Ontario."

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National Indigenous Day of Prayer

11.30 am

Welcome!

Canon Penny Anderson

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

Land Acknowledgement

In the appendix to his book, *21 Things You May Not Know About the Indian Act*, author Bob Joseph provides a list of 21 Things You Can Do to Help Change the World. Here are a few of his suggestions:

- Read books by Indigenous authors
- Buy food from an Indigenous food truck; eat at an Indigenous-owned restaurant
- Learn the Indigenous names for where you live and work
- Support Indigenous language revitalization
- Attend an Indigenous film festival
- Attend an Indigenous music festival
- Attend a pow wow

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

Gathering Prayer

Song: Made to Worship

Chris Tomlin and Jesse Reeves

Before the day, before the light,
Before the world revolved around the sun.
God on high, stepped down into time,
And wrote the story of her love for everyone.
She has filled our hearts with wonder,
So that we always remember!

[Refrain]

*You and I are made to worship,
You and I are called to love,
You and I are forgiven and free!
When you and embrace surrender,
When you and I choose to believe,
Then you and I will see,
Who we were meant to be*

All we are, and all we have,
Is all a gift from God that we receive,
Brought to life; we open up our eyes,
To see the one of whom both earth and heaven sing!
She has filled our hearts with wonder,
So that we always remember!

[Refrain]

Even the rocks cry out!
Even the heavens shout!
At the sound of God's holy name.
So let every voice sing out!
Let every knee bow down!
She's worthy of all our praise!

[Refrain]

Listening for God

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (40.25-31)

To whom, then, will you compare me,
or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high and see:
Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name;
because he is great in strength,
mighty in power,
not one is missing.

Why do you say, O Jacob,
and assert, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God"?
Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
He gives power to the faint
and strengthens the powerless.
Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted,
but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.

All

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the Gospel of John (1.1-5, 10-14, 16-18)

First Nations Version

Long ago, in the time before all days, before the creation of all things, the one who is known as the Word was there face to face with the Great Spirit. This Word fully represents Creator and shows us who he is and what he is like. He has always been there from the beginning, for the Word and Creator are one and the same. Through the Word all things came into being, and not one thing exists that he did not create. Creator's life shined out from the Word, giving light to all human beings. This is the true Light that comes to all the peoples of the world and shines into the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it or put it out. He came into the world, and even though he made all things, the world did not recognize him. Even his own tribe did not welcome or honour him. But all who welcome and trust him receive their birthright as children of the Great Spirit. They are born in a new way, not from a human father's plans or desires, but born from above – by the Great Spirit. Creator's Word became a flesh-and-blood human being and pitched his sacred tent among us, living as one of us. We looked upon his great beauty and saw how honourable he was, the kind of honour held only by this one Son who fully represents his Father – full of his great kindness and truth. From the fullness of his being we have all had many gifts of kindness poured out on us. Drawn from the Water (Moses) gave us our tribal laws, but the gift of great kindness and truth came from Creator Sets Free (Jesus), the Chosen One. No one has ever seen the Great Spirit, but the one Son, who is himself the Great Spirit and closest to the Father's heart, has shown us what he is like.

Reader

Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.

All

Thanks be to God.

Homily

Canon Penny

Silence for Reflection

Song: God of Wonders

Marc Byrd, Steve Hindalong

Lord of all creation,
of water, earth and sky,
the heavens are your tabernacle;
glory to the Lord on high.

[Refrain]

*God of wonders beyond our galaxy,
you are holy, holy.
The universe declares your majesty.
You are holy, holy;
Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of heaven and earth.*

Early in the morning,
I will celebrate the light.
And when I stumble in the darkness,
I will call your name by night.

[Refrain]

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 community offer peace to one another.

Song: In Faith

Jamie Barnes

We got one world and one chance.
I got one heart and two hands.
So listen to the creation
of all things big and small
ever expanding around us,
encompassing us all
in peace, in love, in grace.
That's the way we live in faith.

Mother nature is under our fingers,
on the run now, almost extinguished.
You know our people have been there
without any land:
lost together, in the desert,
you'd think we'd understand
in peace, in love, in grace.
That's the way we live in faith.

Gotta act now, get it together.
Share the load now, with each other.
'Cause you know we're lucky and we're blessed
in peace, love and in grace
So we can't sit still, be idle
and live out a faith
of peace, of love, of grace.
That's the way we live in faith.

In peace, in love, in grace,
that's the way we live in faith,
live in faith.

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 Music

Miimii (Mourning Dove)

Barbara Assiginaak

Niimi Aandeg (Crow Dances)

Barbara Assiginaak

Prayer After Communion

Song: Big Yellow Taxi

Joni Mitchell

They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot
With a pink hotel, a boutique
And a swinging hot spot

[Refrain]
Don't it always seem to go
That you don't know what you've got
Till it's gone
They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot

They took all the trees
Put 'em in a tree museum
And they charged the people
A dollar and a half just to see 'em
[Refrain]

Hey farmer farmer
Put away that DDT now
Give me spots on my apples
But leave me the birds and the bees
Please!
[Refrain]

Late last night
I heard the screen door slam
And a big yellow taxi
Took away my old man
[Refrain]

They paved paradise
And put up a parking lot

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

The Eucharistic Prayer is based upon the prayer created
by the St. Christopher's Liturgy Writers for Lent 2024.

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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About the Music in Today's Service

Barbara Assiginaak is an Anishinaabekwe composer and musician whose music has received global attention and national acclamation. She earned a Bachelor's degree in composition from the University of Toronto and a Master's in composition from the University of München, Germany. Her music blends traditional Anishinaabe voice, oral tradition, and instrumentation with classical training.



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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