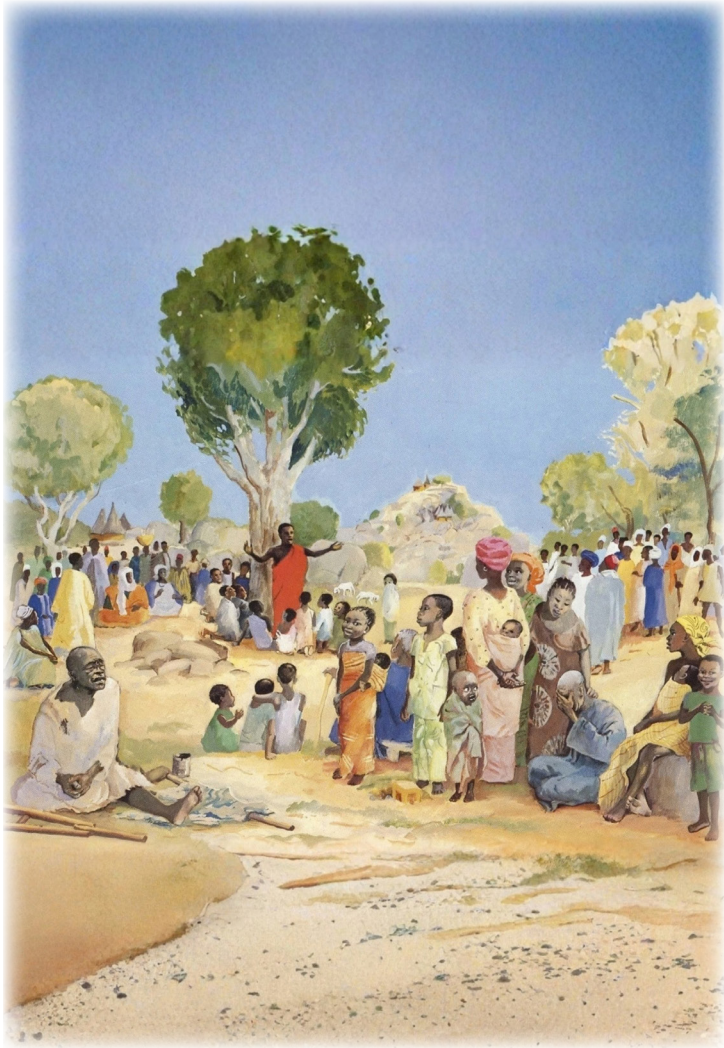




Harvest Thanksgiving

11 October | 2026 | 9.30am

The 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 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. There are also activity kits available in the atrium for those who prefer to remain in church. 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. 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.

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 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.

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.

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.



Canon Penny Anderson

Thought for the Month

"Come let us sing to the Lord
Let us come to him with thanksgiving."

Psalms 95

On the Cover

Created by a Christian Community in Cameroon, this picture represents our reading from Matthew in a central-African context.

Used with permission from the artist.

Harvest Thanksgiving

October 11, 2026

9.30 am Holy Eucharist

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Land Acknowledgement

The Government of Canada launched an independent inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people in June 2018. Commissioners examined and reported on the systemic causes behind the violence that Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people experience, and their greater vulnerability to violence, identifying the patterns and underlying factors that explain why higher levels of violence occur.

The commission's final report finds that persistent and deliberate human and Indigenous rights violations and abuses are the root cause behind Canada's staggering rates of violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ people. The report delivers 231 individual Calls for Justice directed at governments, institutions, social service providers, industries and all Canadians. The report further includes a National Action Plan which lays out a series of goals and short term priorities to assist organizations seeking to embody the Calls for Justice.

The first goal is to achieve transformative changes in attitudes, behaviours, and knowledge within our broader society to prevent and end the root causes of systemic racism, inequality, injustice, and violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people in Canada. One short term priority attached to this goal is to produce public education/awareness campaigns on the issues Indigenous people experience and to challenge the acceptance and normalization of violence.

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

Please rise in spirit or in body.

Opening Hymn: Morning Has Broken

Blue book #3

The Collect of the Day

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 Book of Psalms (65)

Read by Rob Pawson

Praise is due to you,
O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed,
O you who answer prayer!
To you all flesh shall come.
When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us,
you forgive our transgressions.
Happy are those whom you choose and bring near
to live in your courts.
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
your holy temple.

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.

By your strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.
You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.

Those who live at earth's farthest bounds
are awed by your signs;
you make the gateways of the morning
and the evening shout for joy.

You visit the earth and water it;
 you greatly enrich it;
 the river of God is full of water;
 you provide the people with grain,
 for so you have prepared it.
 You water its furrows abundantly,
 settling its ridges,
 softening it with showers,
 and blessing its growth.
 You crown the year with your bounty;
 your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
 The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
 the hills gird themselves with joy;
 the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
 the valleys deck themselves with grain;
 they shout and sing together for joy.

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

Please rise in spirit or in body.

Before the Gospel: Seek Ye First

Blue book #458 vv. 1

1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God
 and God's righteousness,
 and all these things shall be added unto you.
 Allelu, alleluia.
 Refrain
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
 Allelu, alleluia.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Matthew (6.25-34)

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

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

Jesus said, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But

if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

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

Seek Ye First

Blue book #458 vv. 2

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you;
 seek and you shall find;
 knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
 Allelu, alleluia.
 Refrain
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
 Allelu, alleluia.

Please be seated.

Homily

Canon Penny

Silence for reflection.

Anthem: All Things Bright and Beautiful

John Rutter

[Refrain]
All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

Each little flow'r that opens,
each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.

The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden:
He made them every one.

He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well.

Please rise in spirit or in body.

Affirmation of Faith

Presider Let us affirm our faith:

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 Christyn Perkons

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: For the Fruit of All Creation

Blue book #259

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.**

Eucharistic Prayer

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.**

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.
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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of God. Ho-
san - na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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

Christ has died. Christ is ri-sen. Christ will come a - gain.

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 of your people,
and you will be all in all,
O Trinity of peace and love.

All



Presider

We pray as Jesus taught us:

All

Our fa - ther in heav - en hal-lowed be your name, your
king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give
us to-day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the
time of trial, and de - li - ver us from e - vil. For the
king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are
yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider

The body that was broken

All

has become for us the bread of life!

Invitation to Communion

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.**

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 communion minister.

Songs During Communion

God of the Sparrow

Blue book #414

Let all Things Now Living

Blue book #403

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

Dismissal

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

Postlude

Refreshments are served in the Atrium.
We invite you to join us,
or to remain in the church to enjoy the postlude.

Harvest Thanksgiving

The Eucharistic Prayers are based on Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher,
Eucharistic Prayers

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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