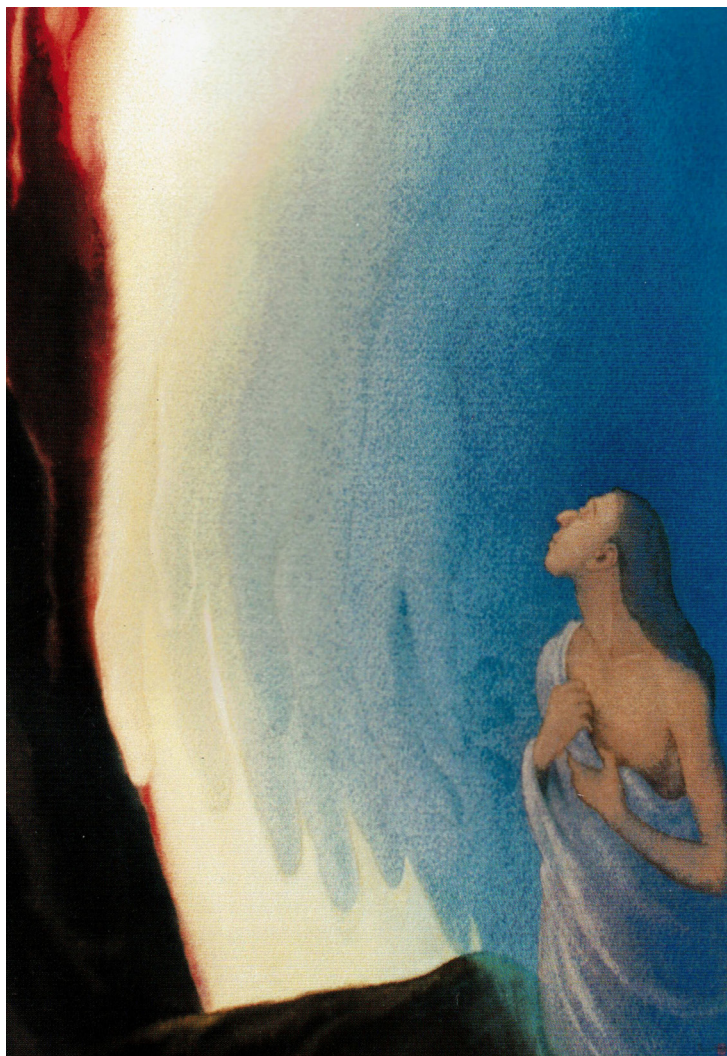




Pentecost 21

18 October | 2026 | 11.30am

The Rev. Canon Dr. Penny Anderson - Rector

Andy Elmhirst - Director of Music

Carrie Ford-Jones - Children's & Youth Ministry Coordinator

On the Cover

Frank Wesley's painting, "The Hand of God is My Refuge," is inspired by this morning's first reading. Wesley was born in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh into a fifth generation Christian family of Hindu and Muslim descent. Wesley's Moses is certainly trying to get a good look!

Used with permission from the artist.

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 Health 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



Thought for the Month

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

Psalm 95

Pentecost 21
October 18, 2026
11.30 am

Welcome!

Canon Penny

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

Land Acknowledgement

The Government of Canada launched an independent inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ people in June 2018. 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 provide trauma-informed training for those who work with Indigenous people on topics such as history, culture, anti-racism, anti-sexism, anti-homophobia, and anti-transphobia.

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.

Prayer

Song: Your Grace Is Enough

Matt Maher

Great is Your faithfulness, oh God.
You wrestle with our troubled hearts,
you lead us by still waters into mercy,
and nothing can keep us apart.

[Refrain]

*So, remember your people,
remember your children,
remember your promise, oh God.*

*Your grace is enough,
your grace is enough,
your grace is enough for me!*

Great is your love and justice, God.
You use the weak to lead the strong,
you lead us in the song of your salvation,
and all your people sing along.

[Refrain]

Listening for God

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew (22.15-22)

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?' But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, 'Whose head is this, and whose title?' They answered, 'The emperor's.' Then he said to them, 'Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.' When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the reader says,

<i>Reader</i>	Holy Word. Holy Wisdom.
<i>All</i>	Thanks be to God.

Homily

Canon Penny

Silence for Reflection

Song: Lovers in a Dangerous Time

Bruce Cockburn

Don't the hours grow shorter as the days go by
You never get to stop and open your eyes
One day you're waiting for the sky to fall
The next you're dazzled by the beauty of it all
When you're lovers in a dangerous time
Lovers in a dangerous time

These fragile bodies of touch and taste
This vibrant skin -- this hair like lace
Spirits open to the thrust of grace
Never a breath you can afford to waste
When you're lovers in a dangerous time
Lovers in a dangerous time

When you're lovers in a dangerous time
Sometimes you're made to feel as if your love's a crime -
But nothing worth having comes without some kind of fight -
Got to kick at the darkness 'til it bleeds daylight
When you're lovers in a dangerous time
Lovers in a dangerous time
And we're lovers in a dangerous time
Lovers in a dangerous time

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: 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]

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 God Bless the Child

Billy Holiday and Arthur Herzog Jr.

Them that's got shall have
Them that's not shall lose
So the Bible said and it still is news

[Refrain]

*Mama may have, Papa may have
But God bless the child that's got his own,
That's got his own*

Yes, the strong get smart
While the weak ones fade
Empty pockets don't ever make the grade

[Refrain]

Money, you've got lots of friends
They're crowding around the door
But when you're gone and spending ends
They don't come no more

Rich relations give crusts of bread and such
You can help yourself, but don't take too much

[Refrain]

*Mama may have, Papa may have
But God bless the child that's got his own,
That's got his own*

Prayer After Communion

Song: Give A Little Bit

Supertramp

Give a little bit,
give a little bit of your love to me.
I'll give a little bit,
I'll give a little bit of my love to you.

There's so much that we need to share,
so send a smile and show you care.

I'll give a little bit,
I'll give a little bit of my life for you.
So give a little bit,
give a little bit of your time to me.

See the man with the lonely eyes?
Oh, take his hand; you'll be surprised.

Give a little bit,
give a little bit of your love to me.
I'll give a little bit,
I'll give a little bit of my life for you.

Now's the time that we need to share,
so find yourself; we're on our way back home.
Oh, goin' home.
Don't you need, don't you need to feel at home?
Oh, yeah we gotta sing.

Blessing

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

Service Music

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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