



Pentecost 19

4 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

This painting by Peter Koenig is titled
"My Vineyard."

Used with permission from the artist.

Thought for the Month

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

Psalms 95

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



Pentecost 19
October 4, 2026
11.30 am

Welcome!

Canon Penny

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

Land Acknowledgement

At this year's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation ceremony here in Burlington I was moved to hear Indigenous speakers talking about their family members who survived the Indian Residential schools. Their witness to loss and resilience was powerful.

Our local event was a marked contrast to events that took place in British Columbia last weekend. That's where members of a white nationalist group gathered on the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc reserve, wearing masks to conceal their identities. Their apparent motivation was to instil fear and promote their ideology, which includes denying the deaths linked to Indian Residential Schools.

Their claims are debunked by the knowledge of Residential School survivors, and the findings of archaeological investigators. More than that, their racist views are reprehensible and their goal of instigating violence is criminal.

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

Prayer

Song: This Is Our God

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 Letter to the Philippians (3.4b-14)

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

At the conclusion of the reader the reader says,

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

A Reading from the Gospel of Matthew (21.33-46)

Jesus said, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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: It Could Happen To You

Jim Cuddy, Greg Keelor

They broke off the locks and they opened the doors,
pushed out the windows and painted the floors,
grew a little garden outside in the rust and sand.

Raised up the roof 'till it touched the sky,
picked up the pieces that were left to die.
Brought this this building back with a healing hand.

When you see trouble,
you're bound to move it on the double
'cause you leave your mark upon everything,
in your head those liberty bells still ring,
But we know that you don't even mean a thing you say.

So you brought in the army to do your job,
Of kicking in doors and swinging their clubs,
Back in the morning to watch themselves on the news.

You're doing the bidding of the money men,
If it turns out right they'll call you friend,
One little favour how could you really refuse?

Oh my heart is sinking,
the same old useless worn out thinking,
You live your life in the court of kings,
Bow to the ruler and kiss the ring,
But we don't even understand a thing you say.

It could happen to you,
It could happen to you
It could happen to you sometime when you least suspect it.
Done by the ones that you never suspected,
All your bills come due, it could happen to you.

You really gotta wonder what you did it for,
'Cause you don't need an army to move out the poor,
You brought it once I know you could bring it again.

Oh my heart is sinking,
It's the same old useless worn out thinking
That you live your life in the court of kings
Count your money as the raven sings
Safe and sound as the wrecking ball swings
But all your riches won't mean a thing someday

It could happen to you,
It could happen to you,
It could happen to you,
It could happen to you.

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 Christ Alone

Keith Getty and 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.

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: All Creatures No. 2

David Crowder

All creatures of our God and Lord,
Lift up your voice with one accord,
O praise God, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam;
O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise God, Alleluia!
Thou rising moon in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening find a voice,
O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship God in humbleness,
O praise God, Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Maker, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in One.
O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

Prayer After Communion

Song: One of Us

Joan Osborne

If God had a name what would it be
And would you call it to his face
If you were faced with him in all his glory
What would you ask if you had just one question

[Refrain]

*And yeah, yeah, God is great
Yeah, yeah, God is good
Yeah, yeah, yeah-yeah-yeah*

What if God was one of us
Just a slob like one of us
Just a stranger on the bus
Tryin' to make his way home

If God had a face what would it look like
And would you want to see
If seeing meant that you would have to believe
In things like heaven and in Jesus and the saints
And all the prophets
[Refrain]

[Instrumental]

[Refrain]

Just tryin' to make his way home
Like a holy rolling stone
Back up to heaven all alone
Just tryin' to make his way home
Nobody callin' on the phone
'Cept for the Pope maybe in Rome

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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