



ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A National Historic Site: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Sunday Service – First Sunday of Advent & Holy Communion

November 30th, 2025. 11 am

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S

*We are so glad that you've come to worship the Lord with us today, and we hope that you will experience the presence of Christ among us. In the pew are the following tools for participation in this service. The blue "**Book of Praise**" contains our hymns, the red "**Book of Psalms**" contains the responsive psalms, and the blue "**New English Bible**" contains the scripture passages. If an item has an asterisk (*), then please stand if you are able. **Large print Hymnals** are available in the back of the Sanctuary. An usher would be happy to help you. All are welcome to join us for Coffee hour in St. Andrew's Hall, immediately following the service today.*

WE COME TOGETHER BEFORE GOD

Prelude "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray" Harold Rohlig

*Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn **122** "Oh come, oh come, Emmanuel"

Welcome

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness

Gloria Patri

WORD OF GOD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Reader: Debbie Bruce

*Responsive Psalm **122** ref. I

Isaiah **2: 1-5** (page **810**, OT)

Matthew **24: 36-44** (page **35**, NT)

*Reading for Advent 1

*Hymn **124** "People in darkness"

Anthem "O Sacred Feast" H. Willan

Sermon "Salvation Comes to Us Every Day"

Rev. Dr. J. Mark Lewis

Silent Reflection

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD WITH CELEBRATION

Announcements

The Offering

Offertory "Come, O Long Expected Jesus" Robert J. Powell

*The Doxology **830** Book of Praise

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn **543 v. 1-3** "Here, O my Lord, I see thee"

Invitation to the Lord's Table

*Confession of Faith: the Apostle's Creed **539** Book of Praise

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving **564** Book of Praise

(With intercessions added, sung response, & sung Lord's Prayer)

The Breaking of Bread and the Holy Communion

(The inner circle contains juice cups. The outer ring has wine.)

WE GO FORTH IN THE JOY OF THE LORD

*Hymn **543 v. 4-7** "Here, O my Lord, I see thee"

Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude "Saviour of the Nations, Come"

Paul Manz

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

St. Paul's is situated on the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. All peoples have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Land acknowledgments are essential as we move forward on a path to reconciliation and are guided by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action.

AN INCLUSIVE & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

The church is called to be a welcoming, nurturing, loving and supportive community—a true church family. As affirmed by the 2021 General Assembly, all people whatever their sexual orientation or gender identity are equally beloved by God. The Session of St. Paul's endorses these truths and will strive to create a church where all people are included and affirmed.

PLEASE NOTE: GALLERY SEATING IS CLOSED

For insurance reasons, the gallery seating around the top of the sanctuary is not open to the public. Only the individual who is coordinating the live stream will be in the gallery. We invite you to join us in the pews on the main floor of the Sanctuary as you worship with us today. Thank you.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY



An automated external defibrillator is available in the hallway outside the main office.

ST. PAUL'S VISION



St. Paul's Presbyterian Church is a Christian community in downtown Hamilton, embodying Jesus' acceptance and love of all people and supporting the growth of God's people in faith and service.

ST. PAUL'S TEAM

Interim Moderator:	Rev. Dr. J. Mark Lewis
Clerk of Session:	Jer Dubash
Director of Music:	Blair Havers
Chimer:	Branden Moffat
Custodian:	Ruparain Sydney
Office Administrator:	Gordon Swenor (Interim)
Today's Ushers:	Heather Pirie, North Aisle Judith Flaherty, South Aisle

ST. PAUL'S CONTACT INFO

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winter outerwear for our unsheltered neighbours –

Please consider bringing by any adult sized warm outerwear (a special need for men's coats, mitts/gloves, and boots). Many people come to our doors each week looking for warm clothes and I'd love to pass on your donations! Contact Gordon at the office with any questions.



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, November 30th

11:00am: Sunday Service

12:00pm: Coffee Hour

4:00pm: Hamilton Beat Harmonic

Monday, December 1st

Church office is OPEN

7:30pm: Scottish Country Dancing in St. Andrew's Hall

Tuesday, December 2nd

Church office is OPEN

Wednesday, December 3rd

Church office is OPEN

Friday, December 5th

5:30pm: Friday Night Meeting in Centennial Hall

Refugee Committee Update –

Documents have been received and added to the file. The file is ready and will now be sent to the Ministry of Interior (Israel immigration) for travel arrangements. The principal applicant, Sandu, should be contacted regarding the family's departure to Canada shortly.

Books for Bus Tickets Fundraiser –

Our Books for Bus Tickets fundraiser will continue into the fall. Ida has taken over from Lydia. Please visit the book table in St. Andrew's Hall to view the entire collection. Thank you for your generosity and support!

First Sunday in Advent: HOPE

Voice 1: The prophet Isaiah announced that people of all nations will come to the mountain of the Lord and learn God's ways.

Voice 2: When we look at this suffering world, we know we need to follow God's ways.

Voice 1: God will settle disputes among the nations. Weapons will be transformed into tools for planting and growth. Nations will live in peace — no more will they prepare for war.

Voice 2: We cling to that promise and light this candle of hope, inspired by a vision of a world where children grow into adulthood, and parents live to old age.

The candle of hope is lit.

Let us pray together:

Living God, make us more aware of your presence.
We trust your promises and wait with hopeful hearts.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Hope and Education in Pakistan

Twelve-year-old Sapna and her 10-year-old sister Raksha are part of a story that is reshaping their village's future.

Not long ago, the girls' school in their village was closed, leaving many without a chance to learn. But everything changed when PWS&D's partner stepped in and reopened the girls' school. From the moment the doors opened, a new chapter began, not just for Sapna and Raksha, but for every girl in the village.

Now, every morning, the girls eagerly head to school with bright smiles and hearts full of hope.

One of the things they love most is the delicious meals they receive every day at school. Because of these meals, more girls in the village are coming to school. The village has changed because of this project. Enrolment has risen, and the excitement to learn is growing every day.

This Advent season, faithfully respond to help ensure girls have access to education.

WeRespond.ca



Presbyterian World Service
& Development

**Ways St. Paul's Congregation may participate in Mission
during Advent 2025**

1. Donate items of warm winter clothing for people who come to our door in need. Items may be placed in a tote located in St Andrew's Hall.
2. You will have an opportunity to purchase a mission gift for Presbyterian World Service and Development and place a decoration on our Christmas tree in celebration of your gift.
3. Sandu's Apartment - Several more administrative barriers have been cleared and we hope that the family from Eritrea we are helping to sponsor will arrive in Canada shortly. A list of required items is posted on the bulletin board. Donations can be placed in a tote in St. Andrew's Hall, marked Sandu's Apartment.
4. We have set a goal of \$50,000.00 for our Year-End Fundraiser. A portion of the Year-End Fundraiser will go towards offsetting our deficit, and a portion will go to Hamilton Out of the Cold.

Hamilton Out of the Cold is a not-for-profit, non-denominational program that provides meals for those in need in our community from November to March. Their mission is to provide hot nutritious meals served with dignity and compassion. To learn more about their program:

hamiltonoutofthecold.ca/all-about-us/