



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

Sunday Service – Second Sunday after Christmas

January 4th, 2026. 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 "French Noëls" Lergue, Chauvet & Franck

*Call to Worship

*Opening Hymn **173** "We three kings"

Welcome

Prayer of Approach and Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Response to Forgiveness

Gloria Patri

WORD OF GOD READ AND PROCLAIMED

Reader: Trish Haycock

*Responsive Psalm **72**, ref. I, v. **1-14**

Isaiah **60: 1-6** (page **894**, OT)

Matthew **2: 1-12** (page **4**, NT)

*Hymn **175** "Brightest and best of the stars of the morning"

Anthem "Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies" Keith Bissell

Sermon "Resetting the Algorithm of your Soul"

Rev. Dr. J. Mark Lewis

Silent Reflection

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD WITH CELEBRATION

*Hymn **145** "In the bleak mid-winter"

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer **831** *Book of Praise*

Announcements

The Offering

Offertory "The Three Kings" G. Young

*The Doxology **830** *Book of Praise*

Prayer of Dedication

WE GO FORTH IN THE JOY OF THE LORD

*Hymn **151** "Lo, how a rose e'er blooming"

Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude "Noël #12" Louis Claude Daquin

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:	Judith Flaherty Trish Haycock

ST. PAUL'S CONTACT INFO

Website:	www.stpaulshamilton.ca
Email:	info@stpaulshamilton.ca
Phone:	905-522-2792
Mail:	70 James St. S. Hamilton, ON L8P 2Y8

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 Offering Envelopes –

Offering envelopes for 2026 are available to be picked up in the pews at the front of the sanctuary near the piano. Please take the box that is labelled with your name and envelope number.

If you don't see your name on any of the envelope boxes but are interested in receiving a box of offering envelopes, please reach out to Gordon in the office.

Sanctuary flowers –

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God, and in loving memory of Wilma Irene Havers who passed away on January 6, 2020. From Blair and family – always in our hearts.

St. Paul's 2025 Community Care Program –

2025 was a wonderful year for St. Paul's Community Care Program!

This year your generosity provided **650** bus tickets and over **\$700** in cash to those in need who came to our door. You also gave winter clothing items, providing some of our most vulnerable community members a sense of relief from the cold.

Our neighbours greatly appreciate this type of outreach and with this help they're able to access the resources they need, it provides some security during uncertain times, and it empowers them to proactively seek and retain opportunities related to employment and volunteering.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, January 4th

11:00am: Sunday Service

12:00pm: Coffee Hour

4:00pm: Hamilton Beat Harmonic

Monday, January 5th

9am-3pm: Church office is OPEN

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

Tuesday, January 6th

9am-3pm: Church office is OPEN

Wednesday, January 7th

9am-3pm: Church office is OPEN

Friday, January 9th

5:30pm: Friday Night Meeting in Centennial Hall

Refugee Committee Update –

Sandu's arrival date is scheduled for January 10, 2026.

Yesterday, January 3rd, the items that you generously donated were taken to Sandu's apartment in preparation for their arrival. Thanks to your help St. Paul's was able to provide all of the listed donations items that were requested. Please reach out to Ida deJong with any questions you may have regarding Sandu's family and their arrival.

Books for Bus Tickets Fundraiser –

Our Books for Bus Tickets fundraiser will continue into the new-year. Please visit the book table in St. Andrew's Hall to view the entire collection. Thank you for your generosity and support!

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, Ontario
January 2026 Worship Theme
Resetting the Algorithm of Your Soul in the New Year

Google, Facebook, Instagram and X have got you all figured out. They know what you want to see, they know what you will click on...they can read your mind! They have created an algorithm for you and use it every day to show you precisely what you want to see and keep you coming back. Sadly, this system reinforces false perceptions and favours content creators with nefarious motives. In truth, the social media platforms don't know anything about the real you. You are so much more than the sum of your algorithm. God know who you really are. God knows the depth and complexity of your soul. Start the new year by rejecting the two-dimensional version of you that the internet has created. Reset your algorithm and become the fully alive and beautiful soul that God know you are.

January 4 – 2nd Sunday of Christmastide

Sermon – Resetting the Algorithm of Your Soul
Psalm 72:1-14 (refrain 1), Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12

January 11 – Baptism of the Lord

Sermon – Resetting When You Are Unsure
Psalm 29:1-11 (refrain 1), Isaiah 42:1-9, Matthew 3:13-17

January 18 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon – Resetting When Your World Has Been Shaken
Psalm 40:1-11 (refrain 2), Isaiah 49:1-7, John 1:35-42

January 25 – Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Sermon – Resetting After You Have Failed
Psalm 27:1-10 (refrain 1), Isaiah 9:1-4, Matthew 4:12-23

*For we are what he has made us,
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand so that
we may walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10)*

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