

ORDER OF SERVICE  
Baptism of Our Lord - January 9, 2022

INTRODUCTION

John answered . . . by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Good morning everyone. This is Fr. Dean Mercer and I welcome you as the parish of St. Paul's gathers to mark the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord. Separated physically, we join in spirit, sharing in the joy of the birth of our Lord.

Reading the lessons is Linda Esty. The anthem is performed by Jocelyn Belfer, accompanied by David McCartney on piano. And the litany is led by Jacqueline Abel.

So let us hear Holy Scripture, reflect and pray together, and open our hearts to the Living Word, Jesus Christ - our risen Saviour and Lord.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit, keep your children, born of water and the Spirit, faithful to their calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN.

LESSONS

First Reading

Linda Esty  
ACTS 8:14-17

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ACTS

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

THE PSALM

PSALM 29

Reader: From Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice, the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendour.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire; the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"  
The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.  
The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

GOSPEL READING

LUKE 3:15-17, 21-22

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

HOMILY

Fr. Dean Mercer

ANTHEM

Jocelyn Belfer, soprano; David McCartney, piano

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jacqueline Abel

THE LORD'S PRAYER & BLESSING

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***Safety Guidelines Update - Modified Stage Red***

Due to spiking infection rates, on Wednesday (January 5) it was announced by the Bishops of Toronto that Anglican Churches in Toronto have been returned to modified Stage Red guidelines. As a result, all church services will be online and congregations of any size will not meet in person. The churches were encouraged to begin applying them immediately. This we will do. There will be no in-person services at the church beginning this Sunday, January 9.

These guidelines will be reviewed at the end of January.

That said, there are two noticeable changes. The in-person Sunday services are temporarily suspended and Morning Prayer will resume on Sunday mornings as was the case at the time of the first lockdown in March, 2020. All other online programs continue as they were.

For those finding the isolation particularly hard, consider joining the services of Morning Prayer, or Evening Prayer on Sundays at 6.00 pm, or the playback of the Sunday recording on Zoom at 11.15 a.m. on Sundays. In addition to prayer, there is the chance to join the congregation in the cloud.

Information about all the services is available on the online church calendar or here:

<https://stpl.ca/services.html>.

***Vestry Report Deadline:*** The 2022 Meeting of Vestry (annual general meeting) is by Zoom on Sunday, January 23, at 12.00 noon. Reports from all parish officers are now due for distribution on January 16.

***The Spiritual Companions Program*** - is a companionship program to encourage spiritual growth. Open to those who are 22 years or older, companions are placed in groups of two, committing themselves to meet weekly for reflection and prayer. Those couples may include married and dating couples. The materials for reflection are agreed on by the pair and may be a reading or Collect from Morning Prayer, from Our Daily Bread, or from another devotional source. Guided by respect, honesty and confidentiality, pairs will agree to a convenient date and time and may meet in person, over the phone, or on Zoom. For a copy of the manual and application, call the office (416-499-1545) or check online:

<https://stpl.ca/spiritual-companions-program.html>

Questions - contact Carol Shih (Wycliffe student) - [carol.shih@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:carol.shih@mail.utoronto.ca)

### ***Morning Prayer on Zoom - Password Added***

Morning Prayer is said Monday to Saturday at 7.30 a.m.. Tuesday to Friday mornings, it is live-streamed from the church. For that reason there is now a password for those attending Morning Prayer on Zoom. Join us for prayer, Monday to Sunday morning at 7.30 a.m.:

Computer Access Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/397231088?wd=ekhBRm9XcDRmWXo5Z0Via2dyY2tpUT09>

Telephone Access - (647) 374 4685, or (647) 558 0588

Meeting ID: 397 231 088; Password: 549300

### ***Schedule***

The full schedule of in-person and online services and programs can be found on the online church calendar - [www.stpl.ca/calendar.html](http://www.stpl.ca/calendar.html) - or here: [www.stpl.ca/services.html](http://www.stpl.ca/services.html). This is the quickest and easiest way to get service and program information.

### ***Sunday Services by Phone on Zoom***

The weekly Sunday recording can be heard by phone on Zoom. (It can also be viewed on Zoom, but the quality is diminished.)

Zoom Invitation: *By Phone:* 647 374 4685; 647 558 0588;

Meeting ID: 854 0290 8277; Passcode: 970844

Computer link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85402908277?pwd=Q1RlckxCZXJNTFJk5tYWpOTzlfUT09>

***Ontario COVID-19 Vaccine Booking*** - You can currently book an appointment at a mass vaccination clinic through the provincial online vaccine booking system (<https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>) If you prefer to schedule an appointment by phone, call the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line at 1-833-943-3900 (TTY 1-866-797-0007). This line is available 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week. Information is available in more than 300 languages. *If St. Paul's can be of any help to you in this process, please let our office know.*

***IMARA Generation Project Taibu Community Health Centre*** is conducting a consultation for parents and other concerned adults regarding Black youth and their mental health. For more information or to participate, please contact [coladehinde@taibuchc.ca](mailto:coladehinde@taibuchc.ca)

### ***New Honorary Priest at St. Paul's***

Effective December, 2021, The Rev'd Canon Kim Beard has been appointed by Bishop Robertson as honorary priest at St. Paul's, L'Amoreaux. Canon Beard is the recently retired priest of St. Paul on the Hill, Pickering. We welcome Canon Beard who is our preacher today.

### ***Mission Trip to Tanzania Rescheduled: July 2023.***

Fr. Kim Beard will be leading a work mission trip to Tanzania, now re-scheduled for 2023. Look for an information session this coming March.

### ***Sunday School Every Sunday at 10.00 on Zoom***

Check the church calendar for links and information: [www.stpl.ca/calendar.html](http://www.stpl.ca/calendar.html)

**S.P.Y. - St. Paul's Youth** - Friday nights at 7 pm.

Contact Sarah for more information: [splcyouthministry@gmail.com](mailto:splcyouthministry@gmail.com).

**Friday Night Bible Study** - join us *at the church or online* for study, following the Bible study guides of Bishop Tom Wright. The study guides are available online ([www.amazon.ca](http://www.amazon.ca) or [www.parasource.com](http://www.parasource.com) or [www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com)) or may be ordered through Fr. Dean. We are now on Christmas break, resuming Friday, January 14, and beginning a study of Ephesians - 15 copies are available from Fr. Dean for \$11. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/830877703>  
Telephone: 647-374 4685, or 647-558 0588; Meeting ID: 830 877 703

**The Annual Stewardship Letter and 2022 Pledge Card** is now available - from the church office or online: <https://stpl.ca/give.html>

**The 2022 Offering Envelopes are Now Available for Pickup at the Church**

**Thank you for your Faithful Gifts and Offerings** - St. Paul's is a strong parish and remains strong due to everyone's faithful support at a time when never has it been more important. Gifts can be dropped off at the church or sent by mail. Kindly ensure that your name and envelope number is included. Or, members may wish to sign up for the Pre-Authorized Giving Program (contact the office). Members who use online banking can now make E-transfers (instructions here: [www.stpl.ca/give.html](http://www.stpl.ca/give.html)). Gifts can also be made at our website through CanadaHelps: [www.stpl.ca/give.html](http://www.stpl.ca/give.html).

NOTE: Of the various means for online giving, we recommend *The Pre-Authorized Giving Program*. It is regular, matching the regular responsibilities of the parish, and once initiated all it takes is a phone call or e-mail to increase, decrease, or cancel the donation. The monthly amount is withdrawn on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, and the cost to the church is 50 cents per transaction, irrespective of the amount of the gift. This makes the PAG the most economical of all the online and electronic methods.

**Contact** - The clergy of St. Paul's are all in the vicinity and visiting in homes again, abiding by diocesan safety guidelines. Don't hesitate to call or write. Website: [www.stpl.ca](http://www.stpl.ca); Church phone: 416-499-1545; Email: [stpl@stpl.ca](mailto:stpl@stpl.ca); Fr. Dean Mercer: [deanmercercer@hotmail.com](mailto:deanmercercer@hotmail.com); Rectory phone: 416-497-6352.