

ORDER OF SERVICE

November 21, 2021 - Reign of Christ - Anniversary Sunday

INTRODUCTION

Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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 Reign of the Christ and the 180th anniversary of the parish of St. Paul, L'Amoreaux. Separated physically, we join in spirit, sharing in the joy of the resurrection of our Lord.

Reading the lessons is Olivia Waterman. The anthem is performed by Jocelyn Belfer, accompanied by David McCartney. And the litany is led by Vanessa Cambridge-Smith

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

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King, grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. AMEN.

LESSONS

First Reading

Olivia Waterman
REVELATION 1:4b-8

A READING FROM THE REVELATION TO JOHN

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

THE PSALM

PSALM 132:1-19

Reader: A reading from Psalm 132

Lord, remember David, and all the hardships he endured;

How he swore an oath to the Lord and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:

"I will not come under the roof of my house, nor climb up into my bed;

I will not allow my eyes to sleep, nor let my eyelids slumber;

Until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."

"The ark! We heard it was in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jearim.

Let us go to God's dwelling place; let us fall upon our knees before his footstool."
Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, you and the ark of your strength.
Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; let your faithful people sing with joy.
For your servant David's sake, do not turn away the face of your anointed.
The Lord has sworn an oath to David; in truth, he will not break it:
"A son, the fruit of your body will I set upon your throne.
If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their children will sit upon
your throne for evermore."
For the Lord has chosen Zion; he has desired her for his habitation:
"This shall be my resting-place for ever; here will I dwell, for I delight in her.
I will surely bless her provisions, and satisfy her poor with bread.
I will clothe her priests with salvation, and her faithful people will rejoice and sing.
There will I make the horn of David flourish; I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.
As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame; but as for him, his crown will shine."

GOSPEL READING

JOHN 18:33-37

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

HOMILY

Fr. Dean Mercer

ANTHEM

Jocelyn Belfer, soprano; David McCartney, piano

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Vanessa Cambridge-Smith

THE LORD'S PRAYER & BLESSING

The 180th Anniversary of the Parish of St. Paul, L'Amoreaux

Dedicated - November 18, 1841

by Bishop John Strachan, 1st Bishop of Toronto

Saturday, November 20, 7.00 p.m.

*A celebratory in-person Steel Pan Concert

*A Youtube Recording of parish Musicians

(The video link to the recording will be available here - www.stpl.ca - at 7.00 p.m.)

Attendees at the concert and viewers of the video are encouraged to donate
to the Outreach Program of St. Paul's

Help us through the 4th Quarter - St. Paul's is a strong parish and remains strong due to everyone's faithful support. *Through three quarters of the year, support has been outstanding* at a time when never has it been more important. The 4th quarter is always our largest challenge each year. Your faithful and regular gifts are 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). Gifts can also be made at our website through CanadaHelps: 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 20th 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.

Good News - Safety Guidelines Update - October 15

Two changes have been made to the safety guidelines:

*Soloists and choirs may sing again, though masked and distanced.

*Readers, preachers and intercessors may remove their masks while speaking.

As a result, in addition to its effect in church services, the church will now re-open for Morning Prayer (Tuesday to Friday, 7.30 a.m.), Evening Prayer (Sunday, 6.00 a.m.), and the Friday Bible study (Friday, 7.00 p.m.). All three will also continue to be available on Zoom.

New Attendance Limit - 100 at St. Paul's

On July 16, Ontario entered Stage Three of its re-opening plan. As a result, the Bishops now permit as many people in the church who can maintain "physical distancing of 2 metres". Attendance at church services at St. Paul's has now increased to 100. We give thanks for the hopeful signs, looking forward to the day when the colour changes from Amber to Green.

The 180th Anniversary "Hope Is in the Air"

Last evening (November 20) we enjoyed the in-person 180th Anniversary "Hope Is in the Air" Steel Concert. Also released was a Youtube video of other church musicians, including our re-opened and rejuvenated youth string ensemble. Selections from the Steel Pan concert will be added in the following week. Viewers too are encouraged to donate to Outreach. All donations are welcome and will be gratefully received.

Help us restart our Outreach Program. Join us in this musical celebration of our 180th parish anniversary.

The Sacrament by Christmas - A note from Fr. Dean

With the signs pointing in the right direction, Christmas this year should be a lot more like what we expect than what we experienced last year. For that reason, by Christmas this year I would urge everyone to make plans to receive the sacrament - *at least once* - whether it be by attendance at one of the in-person services or by a request for home communion. Even with the remaining guidelines, that should be more than possible.

The ordinary and grateful obligation of a Christian is to gather on Sundays, to unite in prayer and praise, and to be nourished by both Word and Sacrament. The season of Covid was an exception, not a new normal, and we will work diligently to re-establish the ordinary habits of our Christian life - which is precisely what we are doing now as opportunity permits.

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

Church Calendars 2022

Church calendars have arrived and can be picked up at the Sunday sign-in table or from the office.

St. Paul's Youth Music Program Now On - Pans and Strings

Our parish and community youth music program has re-opened with pan practice on Saturdays at 12.30 pm, and string practice at 4.30. A great group. Our largest string group ever. Registration at practice.

Introduction to Christianity & Simple ESL Class for Adults - Saturdays, 4.30 pm, in the church.

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 Saturday 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 - or here: 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=Q1RIdkxCZXJNTFJJek5tYWpOTzFUT09>

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

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.

Mission Trip to Tanzania 2022

Our incoming honorary assistant Rev. Canon Kim Beard will be leading a work mission trip to Tanzania in 2022. A second information session will be on November 30th, at 2:00 pm. Mark your calendars.

Sunday School Every Sunday at 10.00 on Zoom

Check the church calendar for links and information: www.stpl.ca/calendar.html

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

Contact Sarah for more information: splyouthministry@gmail.com.

Friday Night Bible Study - join us *at the church or online* for a study of the Letters of Peter and Jude following the Bible study guide by Bishop Tom Wright. Study guides are available online (www.amazon.ca or www.parasource.com or www.christianbook.com) or may be ordered through Fr. Dean. The study on Friday, November 26 will be Lesson 6: 2 Peter 2.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/830877703>

Telephone: 647-374 4685, or 647-558 0588; Meeting ID: 830 877 703

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; Church phone: 416-499-1545; Email: stpl@stpl.ca; Fr. Dean Mercer: deanmercercer@hotmail.com; Rectory phone: 416-497-6352.