



the Church
of St Peter and
St Simon-the-Apostle

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

Welcome to the Church of St Peter and St Simon-the-Apostle.

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given to the honour and glory of Almighty God
and in thanksgiving from the Emanuel family.*

Holy Eucharist at 9.00 am (in the Chapel)

The service begins on page 67 of the Book of Common Prayer.

Choral Eucharist at 10.30 am

The service begins on page 67 of the *Book of Common Prayer*
or on page 230 of the *Book of Alternative Services*.

Celebrant	The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine
Preacher	The Reverend Canon Michael Burgess
Assisting	Grace Rockett – Student Assistant
Servers	Paul Michell, Fen Nanton, Betty Scantlebury, Celine Wong
Communion Ministers	Gary Toneguzzo, Ted Robinson
Music Ministry	Mervin Fick, Organist & the Parish Choir
Mass Setting	<i>Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena</i> – Healey Willan



The Gathering of the Community

Prelude *Prelude on 'Ave Maris Stella'*

HEALEY WILLAN

Prelude on 'My Soul Magnifies the Lord'

J. S. BACH

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader On this Fourth Sunday of Advent we remember the Blessed Virgin Mary.
The Angel Gabriel visited Mary. He announced that she would be the mother
of Jesus, the Son of God.

Leader Lord Jesus, light of the world, bless us your children
as we wait to celebrate your birth at Christmas. *The fourth candle is lit.*

Leader We wait for your loving kindness O God,
All **In the midst of your temple.**
Leader The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.
All **And all flesh shall see it together.**
Leader Show us your mercy O Lord.
All **And grant us your salvation.**

Hymn 112 *Behold! The Mountain of the Lord*

BISHOPSTHORPE

Collect for Purity & Summary of the Law

Celebrant Almighty God,
All **unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Celebrant Our Lord Jesus Christ said: hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.
All **Lord, have mercy upon us, and write both these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Kyrie Eleison

All Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.
Christ eleison. Christe eleison. Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant Raise up, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Advent Collect

Celebrant Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Lesson Isaiah 7.10-16

Read by Carole Faye-Petricko

Reader A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah* said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman* is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.* ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Reader The word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80.1-7 *Qui regis Israel.*



HEAR, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that ledest Joseph **like** a flock; /
show thyself also, thou that sittest **up**-on the cher-u`bim.

² Before Ephraim, Benjamin, **and** Manasseh, /
stir up thy strength, and come **and** help us.

³ Turn us a-**gain**, O God; /
show the light of thy countenance, **and** we shall be whole.

⁴ O Lord **God** of hosts, /
how long wilt thou be angry with thy **peo**-ple that pray-eth?

⁵ Thou hast fed them with the **bread** of tears, /

and hast given them plen-**teous**-ness of tears to drink.

⁶ Thou makest us a very strife un-**to** our neigh-bours, /
and our ene-**mies** laugh us to scorn.

⁷ Turn us again, O **God** of hosts; / show the light of thy countenance, **and** we shall be whole.

The Epistle *Romans 1.1-7*

Read by Jenn Crawford

Reader A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader The word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn *Your Kingdom Come on Beneded Knee*

IRISH

The Holy Gospel *Matthew 1.18-25*

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

All **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

All Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Homily

Anthem *Song of Mary (for text see Hymn 756, The Magnificat)*

RICHARD SHEPHARD

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant I Believe in one God

All the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Led by Glenna Sims-Bonk

Celebrant *The Intentions are offered.*

In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, "Lord Jesus, come soon!"

Leader O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

All **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

All **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

All **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

All **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

All **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

All **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Leader In a moment of silence we offer other prayers, petitions and thanksgivings.
A moment of silence is kept.

Leader O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us,
Lord our God.

All **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Confession and Absolution

The Celebrant gives the invitation to Confession.

Celebrant Almighty God,

All **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all people: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The absolution is pronounced.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Sentence

Celebrant As we have opportunity, let us do good unto all people; and especially unto them that are of the household of faith. *Galatians 6.10.*

Offertory Hymn 269 *Heavenly Message*

PIED-DE-PORT

Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant God of mercy, receive all we offer this day. May we share with the Virgin Mary the joys of thine eternal kingdom, and live with thee in unending love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All **And with thy spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

All **It is meet and right so to do.**

The Celebrant continue with the Proper Preface. Then all sing:

All **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee, almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again. Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to

them, saying, “Drink ye all, of this; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.” Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy bread of eternal life and the cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded:

All **We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee, and we pray to thee,
Lord our God.**

Celebrant And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

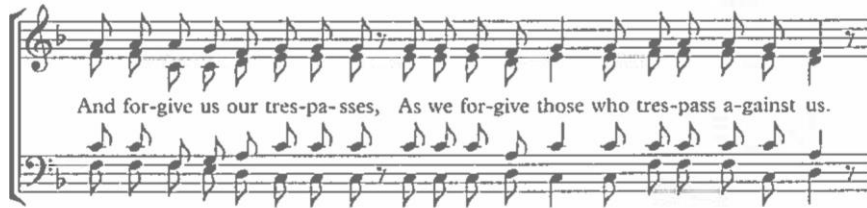
Celebrant And now as our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us, we are bold to pray:



Our Fa-ther who art in heaven, Hall-owed be thy name, Thy king-dom come,



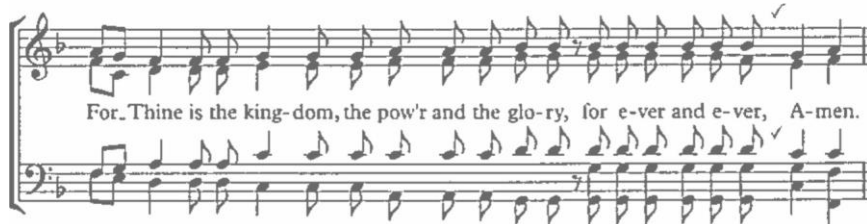
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread.



And for-give us our tres-pa-ses, As we for-give those who tres-pass a-against us.



And lead us not in - to temp-ta-tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For_Thine is the king-dom, the pow'r and the glo-ry, for e-ver and e-ver, A-men.

Celebrant God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

All **Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.**

All **Agnus Dei**

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us Thy peace.

Hymn 117 *Lo, How a Rose*

ES IST EIN' ROSE

Hymn 78 *Deck Thyself*

SCHMÜKE DICH

Post Communion Prayers

Celebrant Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation.

May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to thy will.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All **Almighty God, we thank thee for feeding us with the body and blood of thy Son, Jesus Christ. Through him we offer unto thee ourselves our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of the Spirit to live and work for thy praise and glory. Amen.**

Blessing

Recessional Hymn 114 *Lo He Comes*

HELMSLEY

Dismissal

Celebrant Go forth in the name of Christ.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Fugue on My Soul Magnifies the Lord*

J. S. BACH

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In our Prayers this Week

The Anglican Communion The Anglican Church of Burundi.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer The Anglican Church Women (ACW) – Janice Hodgson, Diocesan President.

Outreach & Advocacy Cycle of Prayer *Pray for* the Parish of Bobcaygeon, Dunsford & Burnt River, its food bank, refugee support, prayer shawl ministry, and support of Sleeping Children Around the World and other outreach initiatives;

for the Parish of Campbellford, Hastings and Roseneath, its school breakfast and lunch programs, its weekly dinners, its Deacon's Cupboard, refugee sponsorship, and support of Warkworth Hospice; *and for* Christ Church, Bolton, its monthly community supper, Circle of Friends outreach to seafarers' ministry, Noah's Ark ministry in Haiti, its interfaith outreach with the Ahmadiyya Muslim community in Brampton, and its support for Caledon Community Services and other local charitable programs.

Parish Cycle Paul Mitchell, Everton Morris, Anthony Morton.

Home Bound Parishioners Marie Adams, Heather Ballon, Alice Fox, Dennis Gittens, Lorraine Griffith, Sabrina Hogan, Marian McPherson, Denise Orioux, Everton Morris, Lucy Simons, Vernita Theobolds, Duncan Towe, Lila Vamosi, Vashti White.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT SPSS

ADVENT IV - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

This afternoon at 4.00 pm...

A Community Carol Celebration

The Parish Choir & Church School
The St Jamestown Community Choir

CHRISTMAS EVE - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

5.00 pm Family Eucharist
10.00 pm Choral Eucharist

CHRISTMAS DAY - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

10.30 am Sung Eucharist

CHRISTMAS I - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

9.00 am Holy Eucharist
10.30 am Sung Eucharist



THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ST. SIMON-THE-APOSTLE

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Clergy, Wardens and Staff

Incumbent Priest	The Reverend Canon Geoffrey Sangwine, ext. 1; incumbent@stpeterstsimon.ca ; Mobile: 416.720.2099
Honorary Assistant	The Reverend Canon Michael Burgess
Music Ministry	Mervin Fick mfick0101@gmail.com
Wardens	David Carrington <i>Rector's Warden</i> dcarrington.omers@sympatico.ca David Rounthwaite <i>People's Warden</i>
Deputy Wardens	Spencer Higgins, Laurie Sanderson,
Caretaker	Daiverzon Guillermo davenguillermo7@yahoo.com
Children's Ministry	Sileen Phillips 647.718.6728 kidscoordinator@yahoo.com
Envelope Secretary	Paul Mitchell pablo51@rogers.com
Parish Administrator	Jessy Balendra ext. 3 office@stpeterstsimon.ca
Church Office Hours	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:30 am to 5:30 pm.

SERVICES

Sunday	9.00 am	Weekly Holy Eucharist (BCP) - In the Chapel of Holy Spirit
	10.30 am	1 st and 3 rd Sundays Choral Eucharist – Traditional BCP Rite
		2 nd Sunday Choral Matins (unless announced)
		4 th Sunday Choral Eucharist – Contemporary BAS Rite
		5 th Sunday & Evensong - As Announced
Wednesday	11.00 am	Weekly Eucharist – Contemporary BAS Rite

We acknowledge that in gathering to worship Almighty God,
we are in the traditional territory
of many First Nations peoples including the Mississaugas of the New Credit,
the Anishinaabe, the Haudenosaunees, and the Huron-Wendat.

"The earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is, the world and all who dwell therein." Psalm 24.1