

ORDER OF SERVICE

THE HOLY SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Sunday, September 20th, 2026
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion



Welcome and Announcements

Children and youth head directly to the Parish Hall upon arrival.

Processional: I Sing the Mighty Power of God

Call to Worship

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

All: And also, with you.

Priest: There is one body and one Spirit,

All: There is one hope in God's call to us;

Priest: One Lord, one faith, one baptism

All: One God and Father of all.

Collect of the Day (*together*)

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth, and ourselves in your image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

God invites us to hear His word.

First Reading: Exodus 16:2-21

Reader: Gideon Exeter

After the reading, the reader says:

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Reader: Susan Scott

Reader: The Lord be with you

All: And also, with you

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

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

After the reading, the reader says:

The Reader: The Gospel of Christ

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Sermon: Canon Stephanie

THE PRESENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CANDIDATES

The candidates are presented by their parents and sponsors as follows:

Parents and sponsors: I present Liyani Nemira Weerasekera to receive the sacrament of Baptism.

Priest: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is nurtured in the faith and life of Christian community?

Parents and sponsors: I will, with God's help.

Priest: Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and sponsors: I will, with God's help.

Then the celebrant asks the following questions of the parents and sponsors who speak on behalf of the infants and younger children.

Question: Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Answer: I renounce them.

Question: Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Answer: I do.

Question: Do you promise to obey him as your Lord?

Answer: I do.

Priest: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

All: We will.

Priest: Let us now pray for those who are to receive the sacrament of new life.

The Intercessions:

Led by Jan Couto

Leader: Deliver them O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Send them into the world in witness to your love.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Sunday School children join us to witness the baptism.

Hymn: Faithful, Forever You are Faithful

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Priest: We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the

Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who are here cleansed from sin and born again, may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BAPTISMAL COVENANT

Priest: Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Priest: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Priest: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Priest: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Priest: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

All: I will, with God's help.

Priest: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and whenever you fall into sin, repent, and turn to the Lord?

All: I will, with God's help.

Priest: Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?

All: I will, with God's help.

Priest: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

All: I will, with God's help.

Priest: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

All: I will, with God's help.

Priest: Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain, and renew the life of the earth?

All: I will, with God's help.

THE BAPTISM

The candidates are baptized. After the baptism the priest says the following:

Priest: Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy
and wonder in all your works. **AMEN.**

THE GIVING OF THE LIGHT

Priest: Receive the light of Christ, to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

All: Let your light so shine before others that they may see
your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Priest: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

All: We receive you into the household of God. Confess the
faith
of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with
us in his eternal priesthood.

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you!

All: And also, with you!

Offertory: Goodness of God

Celebration of the Eucharist

God invites us to join Him at the table of the Lord.

*Prayer and anointing are available every Sunday in the lobby during
communion.*

Welsh Rite

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And also, with you

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic prayer....

The Lord's Prayer (*Sung*)

Breaking of the Bread

Priest: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

All: We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one
bread.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Communion Hymns:

1. Table of Grace

2. He Knows My Name

3. What a Faithful God Have I

Prayer after Communion:

Priest: Glory to God,

All: Whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God, from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

Closing Blessing

God sends us into the world, under His blessing.

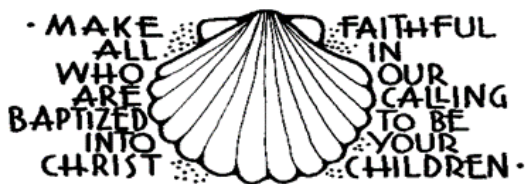
Recessional: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

CP 425

Priest: Let us bless the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

We rejoice today with Liyani Nemira Weerasekera who is receiving the sacrament of baptism.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help for a Family in Crisis Due to Domestic Violence

A family in our community has fled their home with almost nothing and is currently staying in a shelter. We are seeking donations (gently used clothing is welcome as well) to help provide the following:

For a boy:

Clothing size: **9/10 or Youth Medium** | Shoes: **Youth 2**

Tops, pants, sweaters and fall/winter jackets are needed. Socks and underwear have already been purchased.

For a girl:

Clothing size: **14/16 or Youth Large** | Shoes: **Youth 4**

Tops, pants, sweaters and fall/winter jackets are needed.

School Items:

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to provide the backpacks and lunch bags! We are still looking for volunteers to provide **2 thermoses**.

Please **sign up in the narthex** if you are able to help with a thermos.

Donations may be dropped off at the church, and Canon Stephanie will deliver them to the family. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Lemonade on the Plaza

♥☐👤 Thank you to Thomson and Hannah Thomson for serving this Sunday!

Today marks our final Lemonade on the Plaza of the summer. Thank you to everyone who volunteered throughout the season and helped

make these Sundays possible. We are very grateful for your time, hospitality, and support!

Frauds and Scams Presentation

September 24 | 10:15am | Upstairs Board Room

Women at St. Paul's will host a presentation by **EAPO (Elder Abuse Prevention Ontario)** on frauds and scams. This informative session will offer practical guidance to help protect yourself and your loved ones. **This event is open to all seniors, both men and women are warmly welcome.** Cookies and juice will be provided, and a \$2 donation is warmly appreciated.

To **RSVP**, please email **women@stpaulsonthehill.com** or call the church office at **905-839-7909**.

Ministry Fair – Sep 27, during and after the 10 AM service

Called to serve, gifted to build! Come and discover how you can use your gifts, get involved, and be part of our church community in this new season!

Canon Stephanie will preach on this theme and give a brief introduction to the different ministries at our church during the service. After the service, everyone is invited to join us in the Parish Hall for our annual BBQ and meet our ministry leaders to explore the many ways you can participate, connect, belong, and serve in the year ahead.

It will be a wonderful time of fellowship, connection, and discovering new ways to be part of the life of our church. Face painting and games will also be available for the kids!

Please mark your calendar—we hope to see you there!

Women at St. Paul's: Mugs, Muffins and More

Saturday, October 3 | 9:30am | Parish Hall

Women at St. Paul's invite you to a morning of fellowship and conversation with **Dr. Yennie Rodriguez, a cardiologist specializing in women's cardiac health**. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions.

Tea, coffee and muffins will be provided. **Please bring your own mug.** Invite a friend, neighbour or family member! A \$5 donation is appreciated to help cover event costs.

To **RSVP**, email **women@stpaulsonthehill.com** or call the church office at **905-839-7909**.

Blessing of Animals Service

Sunday, October 4th | 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Outdoors at St. Paul's (Rain or shine!)

Join us for a short and joyful service celebrating all God's creatures. The service will be approximately 10 minutes, followed by a special blessing for every pet.

Each pet will receive a Certificate of Blessing!

Bring your pet and join us as we give thanks for the animals who bring so much joy to our lives.

Alpha Is Coming This Fall

Saturdays, October 17 – November 28

9:00–12:00pm | Parish Hall | Breakfast included

Alpha is for anyone curious about the Christian faith. Meet new people, explore life's big questions, and join in open conversation. No judgment, no pressure.

Know someone who might be curious? Invite them to Alpha!

Invitation cards are available in the narthex. Share it with someone who may be interested.

Would you pray for Alpha? We are looking for people to pray for the course and those who attend. If you would like to support Alpha through prayer, please let us know.

Planning to attend Alpha? Registration is required. A minimum of **12 participants** is needed. Register in the narthex or on our website stpaulsonthehill.com.

St. Paul's Food Bank – Thanksgiving Food Drive

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and once again we are using this opportunity to support the Food Bank. In August, there were

913 client visits to the Food Bank. So many families in our community are in need of food assistance.

If you bring your donations to the church before **Thursday, October 8th**, we will use them to decorate the church for Thanksgiving.

The donations will then be blessed before being passed on to the Food Bank.

The church is open to accept donations Monday to Friday, 9am–12pm and 1–4pm, and on Sunday morning. There will be bins available in which to place your items.

Check out the Pickering Food Bank website for a guide to items needed. No perishable items. We look forward to a harvest this year as we bless those who are less fortunate and experiencing hardships.

Questions? Contact Brenda McCawley at 905-831-2176.

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are given by Dorothy and Rainford Reid, giving God praise and glory for the opportunity to celebrate 62 years of marriage.

If you would like to **celebrate a special occasion or remember a dear loved one** by sponsoring the flowers at the altar, please contact Barb Thompson at 289-923-0045 or barbthompson@rogers.com. **The cost is \$75.**