Welcome to St. Philip's on-the-hill! SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024 – THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to his word."
(Luke 1.38)

10:00 A.M. LESSONS AND CAROLS WITH SUNG EUCHARIST

Musical Setting for the Holy Eucharist is by William Mathias, McNeil Robinson (The Lord's Prayer) & Michael Leach (Gospel Acclamation)

PRELUDE: BEHOLD, A ROSE IS BLOOMING

composed by JOHANNES BRAHMS, arranged by ALAN RIDOUT

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL V 1,3,4 118

Text: St. 1, 2, 3, and 5, John Francis Wade (1711-1786); st. 4, Étienne-Jean-François Borderies, 1822; st. 5a, *Thesaurus Animae Christianae*, 1850?; st. 1, 2, 3, and 5, tr. Frederick Oakley (1802-1880); st. 4 and 5a, tr. William T. Brooke (1848-1917). Music: Melody attrib. John Francis Wade (1711-1786), alt; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

Reader One: Praise to you, O God, who lives with us, sharing our flesh and bones.

Reader Two: As Mary waited and Joseph dreamed, so we dream and wait for

you.

Reader One: Bless us and let your face shine upon us, more radiant than these

candles, and more dear than all else we seek.

Reader Two: Restore us O Lord. Fill us with your love and banish all our

fears.

Reader One: We pray in the name of Emmanuel, your promised child and our

Saviour.

All: Amen.

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Song: A Candle is Burning (Tune: Away in a Manger) Words: Sandra Dean

A candle is burning, a candle of love, a candle to point us to heaven above. A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,

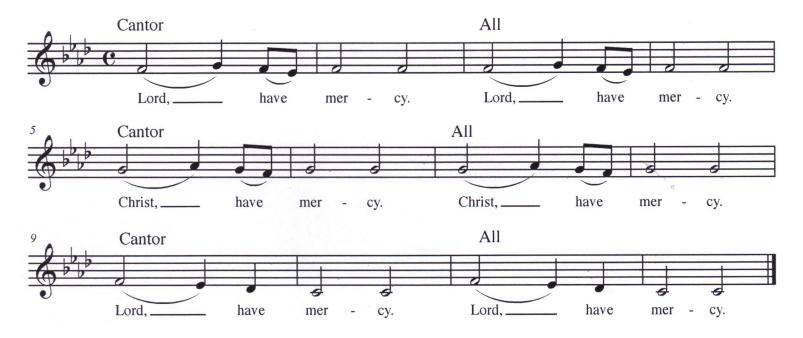
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant: Almighty God,

All: to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE



THE COLLECT FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All:

Heavenly Father, who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD THROUGH DRAMA

LESSON 1: A Monologue from the Book of Exodus

Carlynn Reed

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' ⁴When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' ⁵Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' ⁶He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.(*Exodus 3:1-6*)

HYMN: OF ETERNAL LOVE BEGOTTEN V 1,2,6 CP 132

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-413?); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.Music: Melody plainsong, Mode 8 (12th cent.?);adapt. Piae Cantiones, 1582; harm. Healey Willan (1880-1968). Harm. © Estate of Healey Willan.

LESSON 2: A Monologue from the Book of Isaiah

Chelsea Risk

Comfort, O comfort my people,

says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem

and cry to her

that she has served her term,

that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,

and every mountain and hill be made low;

the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.'

⁶A voice says, 'Cry out!'

And I said, 'What shall I cry?'

All people are grass,

their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,

when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;

but the word of our God will stand for ever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good tidings;

lift up your voice with strength,

O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,

'Here is your God!'

¹⁰See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him:

his reward is with him.

and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;

he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,

and gently lead the mother sheep.

(Isaiah 40:1-11)

HYMN: HARK, A HERALD VOICE IS SOUNDING CP 108

Text: Latin (Vox clare, 10th cent.); tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878), alt.

Music: William Henry Monk (1823-1889).

LESSON 3: A Monologue from the Book of Isaiah Chelsea Risk

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains

are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,

who brings good news,

who announces salvation.

who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'

**Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

**Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

**The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

(Isaiah 52:7-10)

CHOIR ANTHEM DING DONG MERRILY ON HIGH

Words by G.R. WOODWARD

Arranged by DAVID WILLCOCKS

LESSON 4: A Monologue from the Book of Malachi Anne Kern

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

(Malachi 3:1-5)

SONG: "PURIFY MY HEART" BRIAN DOERKSEN (B. 1965)

Purify My heart, let me be as gold and precious silver. Purify my heart, let me be as gold, pure gold.

Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord. I choose to be holy, set apart for you, my master, ready to do your will.

Purify my heart, cleanse me from within and make me holy. Purify my heart, Cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

LESSON 5: A Monologue from the Letter of Paul to the PhilippiansCarlynn Reed

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (*Philippians 4:4-7*)

HYMN: *JOY TO THE WORLD V 1,2,4* 154

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Music: Melody George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); adapt. William Holford, Voce de Melodia, 1835; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872).

LESSON 6: A Monologue from the Gospel of Luke *Anne Kern*

\$\footnote{1}\$ 39 In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, \$^{40}\$where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. \$^{41}\$When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit \$^{42}\$and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. \$^{43}\$And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? \$^{44}\$For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. \$^{45}\$And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.' (Luke 1:39-45)

Lesson 7: The Magnificat HYMN: TELL OUT, MY SOUL CANTICLE 18 362

Text: Song of Mary (Luke 1.46-56_; para. Timothy Dubley-Smith (1926-). Para. © 1962, renewal 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Music: Walter Greatorex 1877-1949); desc. David Iliff (1939-); altern. Harm. Derek Holman (1931-) ©. Melody and harm. © Oxford University Press. Desc. ©1982 Hope Publishing Co. OneLicense #A-713246

REFLECTION: The Rev. Stephen Kern

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Common Worship: Times and Seasons)

Celebrant: Let us declare our faith in God:

All: We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us sit or kneel to pray.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Heavenly Father, it is only because of your promises of light in Christ Jesus that we come before you, pleading for mercy.

All: Forgive the darkness within me, and the darkness that surrounds me.

Celebrant: Forgive my many failures to shine with Christ's love and live as the light of the world.

All: Forgive the harsh judgments I make of others, and the leniency I show myself.

Celebrant: Forgive the lies I tell others and the truths I avoid for myself.

All: Forgive the pain I cause others and the indulgence I show myself.

Celebrant: Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and by the Light of Christ keep you in eternal light, now and forever more.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Arise, shine, for your light has come!

All: And the glory of the Lord has risen upon us!

THE PEACE:

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: and also with you.

You are invited to greet your neighbour saying: "Peace" or "Peace be with you." You may shake hands or flash the peace sign.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN: THE VIRGIN MARY HAD A BABY BOY 128

 $Text: Frieda\ Major\ (1891-1976).\ Copyright\ St.\ Luke's\ Anglican\ Church,\ Winnipeg.\ Used\ by\ permission.$

Music: Robert J.B. Fleming (1921-1976). Copyright 1976 Margaret Fleming.

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Celebrant: Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

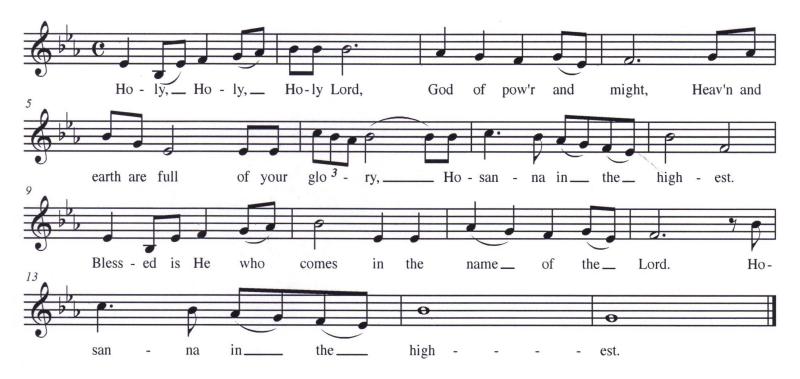
Please take a posture of prayer, sitting, standing or kneeling.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



Celebrant: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

SANCTUS:



Celebrant: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;

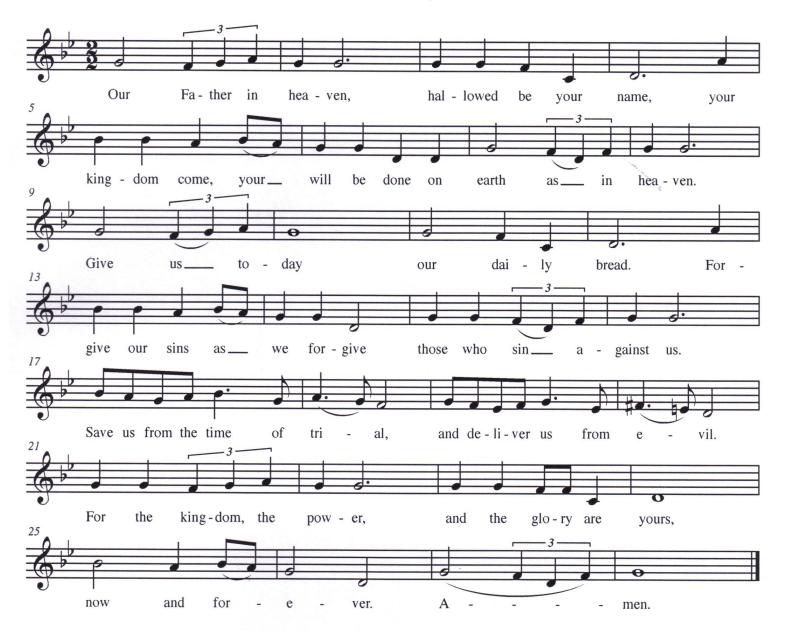
Celebrant: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all

creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant: As our Saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray

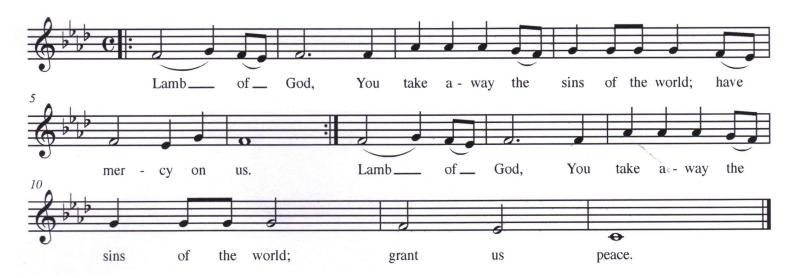


THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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.

AGNUS DEI:



THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

All are welcome at the table of Our Lord – any for a blessing, the baptized for Communion. To receive a blessing, fold your arms across your chest. Please use the side aisles to return to your seat. Please signal the communion minister if you would like a gluten-free wafer. If taking the Cup, guide it to your lips with both hands.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion for those worshipping at home

Celebrant: Dear Friends in Christ,

The Eucharistic Liturgy is our great act of obedience to the Lord who told us "Do this in remembrance of me." It is a sacramental communion with God the Father through the Son Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit. For those of you watching who are unable to be physically present in church to receive the sacrament, there is a Spiritual Communion in and with Jesus Christ. Please join with me in the following prayer for spiritual communion.

Let us pray.

All: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You anew into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN 1: IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR 140

Text:Edmund Hamilton Sears(1810-1876), alt. Music; Richard Storrs Willis(1819-1900).

Communion Hymn 2: DECK YOURSELF, MY SOUL, WITH GLADNESS 78

Text: Johann Franck (1618-1677); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878); rev. Hymns for Today's Church. © 1982 Hope Publishing Co.Music: Melody Johann Crüger (1598-1662); harm. The English Hymnal 1906. *CCLI License #11066253*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation. May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand.

THE DOXOLOGY

Celebrant: 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.

BLESSING

Celebrant: Christ be the light in your eyes and in your looking,

All: Christ be in our ears and in our listening,
Celebrant: Christ be in your hands and in your making,
All: Christ be in our minds and in our thinking,

Celebrant: Christ be in your hearts and in your loving.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you

and remain with you always. Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: THE FIRST NOWELL (VV. 1-4, 6) 139

Text: English trad.Music: Melody English trad. (17th cent.?), alt.; arr. John Stainer (1840-1901), alt.

THE DISMISSAL:

Celebrant: With love and compassion,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: With judgement and mercy,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: In power and glory,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: In wisdom and truth,

All: come, Lord Jesus.

Celebrant: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

POSTLUDE: Dix "FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH" setting by CHARLES CALLAHAN

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Be Scent-Free Please – A number of parishioners have a severe response to scented products. To ensure a safe environment for all, please avoid the use of scented products, such as shampoo, fabric softener, aftershave, perfume, etc.



Please turn off cell phones in the sanctuary. Thank you.

MINISTERING IN THE SERVICES TODAY

10.00 am

CELEBRANT: The Rev. Stephen Kern PREACHER: The Rev. Stephen Kern

LITURGICAL ASSISTANT: Hortense Anglin MINISTER OF MUSIC: Isaiah Yankech CANTOR: Choir Team

DRAMA TEAM Anne Kern, Carlynn Reed, Chelsea Risk

BREAD: The Rev. Stephen Kern

The Rev. Esther Deng

CHALICE ADMINISTRATORS: The Rev. Lorraine Runza

Hortense Anglin

LAY ANOINTERS: Esther Jesuvant READERS: Pres Harrison PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Gail Dickie

TECH TEAM: Andrew Estabrooks

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Tracy W

GREETERS: Ivor Pavamani

Jenny Brunt

CHANCEL GUILD: Judith Prentice,

Judith Brunton,

Connalyn Willoughby

HAPPENINGS ON-THE-HILL Week of December 22 to 28, 2024

TODAY

The Fourth Sunday of Advent Lessons & Carols

Prayers for the Week

Household Prayer: Morning

Thank you, good and gracious God, for the morning light, for another day in which to live out what it means that you have magnified my soul and the souls of those around me in this world. Teach me the meaning of "Let it be." Show me how to trust; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Good and gracious God, we give you thanks that you have made incarnate in your world the breath of life, the life of hope. Keep us safe throughout the night that in the morning we may again rejoice and live in peace with all creation; in Jesus' name. Amen.

(from Feasting on the Word, Year C, Vol.1)

A Prayer for the Mission of the Church

Draw your Church together, O Lord, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love on every continent and island. We ask this in his name and for his sake. Amen.

THIS WEEK @ ST. PHILIP'S

December 24th Christmas Eve services-

Family service 5:00 PM

Traditional service7:30 PM

December 25th Christmas Day service English with Mandarin translation, 10:00 AM

December 29 Sung Eucharist

Supporting Our Uni-Students

"We know this time of year can be lonely, stressful, dark, and cold. Many students are writing final papers and studying for final exams. That's why this year we are preparing Christmas cards for all university-college students from St. Philip's on-the-hill! Due to the postal strike, we will be needing you to deliver the cards if possible. Please contact Rev. Stephen or Pastor Kenny with the names of the students in your life so we can write them a message and send them a gift.

Thank you!"

You Are CARE 'N SHARE ANGELS!

What a remarkable response from St. Philip's for our Markham community!

In very short time you have contributed \$3425.00 to families in need. Amazing! Deputy Warden Connalyn dropped off the cheque to St. Justin Martyr on Thursday. Well done team SPOTH. May all who are generous, be generously blessed.

Remember, any donations received after the deadline will be directed to the Incumbent's Discretionary fund which is used to offer support to those in need, usually through grocery gift cards.

Thank you for your generosity!

Doris Chiu and Jo Anne Carlisle - Outreach

A YEAR END WARDEN'S REQUEST...

Peace be unto you our sisters and brothers in Christ! As we celebrate this Advent season and prepare for Christmas, we thank God for the many blessings bestowed on us and His church. You are a wonderful congregation, and we thank you for the financial contributions during 2024 and for your generosity in giving over the past years.

As we approach another financial year end, our financial reports at the end of October indicate our envelope and other offerings which provide our main income, are currently 61.58% of our total budgeted for the year 2024. We are asking for your help once again as much as you can so we can finish the year strong as in years past.

Inflation is affecting every Canadian household, including our church. Your support assists with the increasing cost of maintaining our church and providing a place where we all can worship and be proud. A special heart-felt thanks to our members who are on fixed incomes, and others with

mortgages to pay. We recognize the challenges and with gratitude ask you to give what you can, not what is beyond your means. As a church we are one body, together.

Thank you for your attention and consideration. God Bless you abundantly.

Your Warden team.

Please note that the deadline for 2024 church contributions is Sunday, December 31, 2024. Any donations received after Dec. 31 will be receipted for 2025, in order to comply with CRA rules.

Vestry Reports are due in the office on January 13, 2024.

Looking for your donations envelopes for 2025? They are now available for pickup in the narthex.

The 2025 Anglican Calendars are available in the narthex: \$7.00 each

St. Philip's on-the-hill Anglican Church 9400 Kennedy Road Unionville, ON L6C 1N6 Ph. (905) 477-1991 Fax. (905) 477-1997

Parish Office hours: Mon to Fri: 9am-5pm;

Clergy & staff are happy to meet with parishioners. Please call the office for an appointment. The information in the bulletin may also be found on our website: www.spoth.ca