

Welcome to St. Philip's on-the-hill!

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEASON OF CREATION &

HOLY CROSS DAY

*"Far be it from me to glory except in the cross
of our Lord Jesus Christ." Galatians 6:14*



The flowers on the Altar are given to the honour and glory of God, dedicated by Waveney Sukul and children in loving memory of Neville Sukul. A beloved husband, father and grandfather who passed away a year ago, Sept 11, 2024.

You are gone but not forgotten. May your soul rest in peace.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercies of God, rest in peace.

10:00 A.M. SUNG EUCHARIST

Musical Setting for the Holy Eucharist is the St. Philip's Service by R. Edward Gilchrist

PRELUDE:

Variation by Franck

WELCOME

PROCESSIONAL HYMN:

Lift High the Cross

602

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

(We've included crosses at traditional places in the service where the congregation may want to cross themselves as an act of worship.)

Celebrant: 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.

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.

GLORIA:

Celebrant: Glory to God in the highest,

All: and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father. We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father. Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us: You are seated at the right hand of the Father, receive our prayer. For you

alone are the Holy One. You alone are the Lord. You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen, Amen, Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR HOLY CROSS DAY IN THE SEASON OF CREATION

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Ever present God, whose Son our Saviour was lifted high upon the cross that he might renew all Creation through himself: Mercifully grant that we may have grace to take up our cross and follow him on his way to bring new life to all things; through Jesus the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Rev. Stephen Kern

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE GALATIANS *Carolyn Maxwell*

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. From now on, let no one make trouble for me; for I carry the marks of Jesus branded on my body. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers and sisters. Amen. (6:14-18)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98 ~ CANTATE DOMINO *full text found on screen and in insert*

THE GOSPEL:

In ancient tradition, we are invited to make the sign of the cross upon our forehead, lips and heart, that the Good News of Jesus may be in our thinking, our speaking and in our centre.

Cantor: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Cantor: “Far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

All: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospeler: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Gospeler: The †Holy Gospel of our †Lord Jesus Christ †according to John.

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

GOSPELER:

The Rev. Ajith Varghese

✠ Jesus said, "No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." (*John 3:13-17*)

Gospeler: The Gospel of Christ.

All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON:

The Rev. Stephen Kern

Please stand.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Celebrant: Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

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

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

Please be seated.

PRAYER SONG

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling v1-2 (Worship #608)

Let us sit or kneel to pray.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gail Dickie

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Merciful and sustaining God, we have sinned against you.

We confess our lack of gratitude for the beauty and bounty of your creation: **teach us to see that your earth sustains us and all that lives.**

We confess that we have misused your earth: **grant us amendment of life.**

We confess that we have been intemperate in our appetites: **strengthen us in self-control.**

We confess that we have taken the abundance of your world for granted: **make us urgent now for its protection.**

Forgive and renew us now through our Savior Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit, with whom you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God forgive and renew you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you with all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand.

THE PEACE:

Celebrant: Peace with yourself.
Peace with Creation.
Peace with one another.
The peace of Christ 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 wave, bow or flash the peace sign.*

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Come, Join the Dance of Trinity (Worship #412)*

THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Celebrant: Merciful God, through the death of your beloved Son you transformed an instrument of shame into a sign of hope and glory. Receive all we offer you this day, and renew in us the mystery of his love; through the same Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. **Amen.**

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

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

Celebrant: It is right in all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise. We praise you here at these headwaters of the Rouge River, at the joining of Berczy Creek and Bruce Creek, where nature and village are side by side. We praise you at a time when the waters run unclean and the body of earth is broken again and again.

We give thanks for our place in the story of salvation. Our ancestors journeyed with you in creation and migration. They depended on the land, were displaced from the land and displaced others from their lands. They knew you in tents and cities, fields and farms, on mountains and by wells, in families and in dreams, and through wilderness prophets who spoke of Cedars and listened to Ravens. Together with Angels and Ancestors, with Heron and Bass, Sumac and Sugar Maple, we join our voices with all creation in this ancient honour song:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Celebrant: We give thanks to you for Jesus, whose first bed was a feed trough. He was baptized in the Jordan, tested in the wilderness, he traveled in fishing boats and told parables of famers and seeds, labor and wages, yeast and bread. On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, food of the poor, the work of field and hearth, he gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his friends saying: Take and eat, this is my body, given for you, do this to remember me. Again, after supper he took the cup of wine, fruit of the land, gave thanks and gave it to his friends saying: This is my blood, which is shed for you. When you do this, do it in memory of me. Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection and awaiting his coming kingdom, we offer you this bread and this cup.

Creator, send your Spirit on these gifts so that we know Jesus in them and are gathered together with everyone who shares this sacred meal of justice and community. Fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that we may strive for justice and peace, respect the dignity of every human being, and safeguard the integrity of creation. Bring us with all your saints to your commonwealth of sparrow and lily, child and beggar which is both now and yet to come. All honor and glory are yours, Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: “I am the bread of life,” says the Lord. “Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

All: Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are they who trust in him!

AGNUS DEI:

All: Lamb of God. You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God. You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God. You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The gifts of God for the people of God. **All:** *Thanks be to God.*

Prayer for Spiritual Communion for those worshipping at home

Celebrant: Dear friends, if you are present or elsewhere and are unable to receive the sacrament at this time, I invite you to join me and the whole church in spiritual communion to receive Christ.
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. Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.

COMMUNION HYMNS:	<i>Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour</i>	84
	<i>Eat This Bread, Drink this Cup</i>	63

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Holy One, you feed us with bread from heaven and the gifts of mother earth. In this communion, you have drawn us into your embrace and you call us to friendship with one another. You have given us the gift of reconciliation. May we who have tasted that gift from you, offer ourselves in peace and humility to one another. And may you always walk among us as friend. **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: God the Creator, who created the world, give you grace to be wise stewards of his creation.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: God the Redeemer, who redeemed the world, inspire you to go out as labourers into his harvest.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: God the Sanctifier, whose breath fills the whole creation, help you to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace.

All: **Amen.**

Celebrant: And the blessing of God almighty, the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sanctifier, be among you and remain with you always.

All: **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle v. 1, 3-5 185*

THE COMMISSIONING:

Leader: Tend the earth, care for God's good creation, and bring forth the fruits of righteousness. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All: **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

POSTLUDE:

Giocosso by Bedard

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MINISTERING IN THE SERVICE TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Stephen Kern; **Liturgical Assistant & Gospeller:** The Rev. Ajith Varghese; **Organist:** Peggy Wong; **Cantor:** n/a; **Reader:** Carolyn Maxwell; **Bread:** The Rev. Stephen Kern, The Rev. Ajith Varghese; **Chalice:** Hortense, Pres Harrison; **Prayers:** Gail Dickie; **Video/Sound:** Ruwani Seevakireedam; **Greeters:** Ivor Pavamani, Jenny Brunt; **Sunday School:** Gloria Varghese, Alex Lee; **Chancel Guild:** Janet Sunderani, Dorothy Boland, Jane Harris, Nancy Clarke; **Counters:** Gerry Heath, Ian Cowling

TODAY

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayers for the Week

Household Prayer: Morning

O Lord, have mercy on us this day according to your steadfast love. Create clean hearts and new spirits within us and open our lips to declare your praise; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Tonight, O God, we give you thanks for your grace overflowing in our lives and for the gifts of faith and love in Christ. Strengthen us for your service, be patient with us in our failings, and continue to pour out your mercy upon us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(from Feasting on the Word, Year C, Vol.2)

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

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| Sept 16 | 4:30 pm Youth Drama Programs |
| Sept 20 | 9:30 am Fall Garden Clean-up |
| | 5:00 pm Evening Prayer on Zoom |
| Sept 21 | Season of Creation ~ 15 th after Pentecost, The Rev. Stephen Kern preaching 10:00 am |
| AND BEYOND... | |
| Sept 28 | 16 th Sunday after Pentecost, The Rev. Ajith Varghese preaching 10:00 am |
| Oct 5 | 17 th Sunday after Pentecost, The Rev. Lorraine Runza preaching 10:00 am followed by the Annual Cemetery Service |

SAVE THE DATE:

**NOVEMBER 21 for the SPOTH GALA
at the Royal Stouffville Golf Course**

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