

St. John's Anglican Church

46 Ridout Street West, Tillsonburg ON N4G 2E3

Rector:

Deacon:

Hon. Assistant:

Choir Director:

The Rev'd. Fr. Tom Stradwick

The Rev'd. Vermell Stevens

The Rev'd. Fr. David Joyce

Joanne Smith

The Last Sunday After Pentecost

*The Reign
of Christ*



*And a Celebration
of the Holy Baptism
of
Joshua Glen Howey*

November 23rd 2025

ORDER OF SERVICE

10:30 A.M.

*A Celebration
of the Holy Eucharist*

*Book of Alternative Services
of the Anglican Church of Canada—1992*



CELEBRANT

The Rev'd. Fr. Tom Stradwick

DEACON

The Rev'd. Vermell Stevens

LAY READER

Karen Cook

ORGANIST

Joanne Smith

AUDIO/VISUAL TECHNICIANS

Ian McDowell/Frank Van Heck

OPENING HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (322)

REETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION SESSIONS

On Monday, November 24, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., Father Tom will begin three weekly sessions on Truth and Reconciliation. Examining the doctrine of discovery—stolen lands; the issues will be looked at from both an indigenous and non-indigenous perspective. This will be a Pot Luck Supper.

OLD FASHIONED CAROL SING

Friday, December 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

No tickets required.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

Saturday, December 6, 2025, 8:30 — 10:00 a.m.

Speaker: Dr. Jason Pancratz

on Tillsonburg's 200th Anniversary, featuring historical artifacts.

OPEN HOUSE AT THE RECTORY

Saturday, December 6, 2025, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

All are welcome. Father Tom and Nancy have graciously invited us to join them on St. Nicholas Day.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Friday, December 12, 2025 – 7:00 — 9:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$25.00. Family and Friends Welcome.

With our church bathed in candlelight, we will be featuring the Jarek String Quartet.

We will be serving Spiced Apple Cider and Christmas goodies during intermission.

This concert promises to get everyone in the spirit of Christmas.

WE NEED LED CANDLES, CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for lots and lots of LED Candles for our Concert—any size, any shape, any colour—as long as they work. Please drop them off at Elizabeth's office as soon as possible. If you would like to have your candle(s) back, would you please put your name on the bottom of each candle.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Sunday, December 14, 2025

After Service, we will be serving a Turkey Lunch prepared by Chef Rudy. Please sign up on the board in the hallway, so that Rudy knows how many to prepare for.

SEASON OF ADVENT

First Sunday of Advent:

There are two Services on November 30th the First of Advent
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent:

There are two Services on December 7th
8:00 a.m. and the 10:30 a.m.

White Gift Sunday – please have any gifts place under our Christmas Tree by this date,
as they have to be delivered to the Salvation Army on December 8th.

Third Sunday of Advent:

There are two Services on December 14th
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.,
Our Service will be Lessons and Carols, followed by a Turkey Lunch—
Don't forget to sign up.

Fourth Sunday of Advent:

There are two Services on December 21st
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

We have two Services on Christmas Eve:
4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. (there will be no 8:00 a.m. Service)

CHRISTMAS DAY

There is a Service on Christmas Day at 10:30 a.m.
(there will be no 8:00 a.m. Service)

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

There are two Services on December 28th
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

There are two Services on January 4, 2026
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD

Special Service at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 6, 2026
Followed by a Lunch.

Birthdays

Marshall Byrnes, Anne Marie Van Heck,
Kevin Sanderson, Iris Harvey.

Anniversaries.

No anniversaries listed for the coming week.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

All stand. The presiding celebrant greets the community

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

People: **And also with you.**

The following prayer may be said.

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 (sung)

All: **Glory to God on high
And peace to all on earth;
Lord God, Almighty Father King
We praise you for your worth.
Lord Christ the Lamb of God,
You take our sin away;
Now seated at the Father's side,
Have mercy when we pray.**

**You are the Holy One,
Most High, Lord Christ alone,
You and the Holy Spirit with
The Father on his throne.
Give God the Father praise,
And praise to God the Son,
To God the Spirit equal praise:
Eternal three in One.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The First Reading is from the Book of Jeremiah

Reader: Darryl Carter

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness." (JEREMIAH 23:1-6)

After a period of silent reflection one of the following is said.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 19, BAS (LUKE 1:68-79)

Read by Karen Cook

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.
He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.

He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,
free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
to give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,
to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

A Reading from Paul to the Colossians 1:11-20

Sue Symons

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. (COLOSSIANS 1:11-20)

After a period of silent reflection one of the following is said.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Gradual Hymn.

Gospel Gradual Hymn

King of Glory, King of Peace (345)

Verses 1 & 2

The Holy Gospel

The Rev'd. Fr. Tom Stradwick

Reader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."
(LUKE 23:33-43)

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Gradual Hymn (continues)

King of Glory, King of Peace (345)

Verse 3

Homily

The Rev'd. Vermell Stevens

Presentation and Examination of the Candidate

The celebrant says,

The candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

Sponsors:

I present Joshua to receive the sacrament of baptism.

The celebrant asks the candidate when presented,

Do you wish to be baptized?

Candidate: **I do.**

Then the celebrant asks the following questions of Joshua.

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.**

The Celebrant addresses the congregation.

Question: Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Joshua in his life in Christ?

People: **We will.**

Prayers for the Candidate

The celebrant then says to the congregation,

Let us now pray for Joshua, who is to receive the sacrament of new birth.

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader: Open his heart to your grace and truth.

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

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

People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

The Leader concludes:

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 Celebration of Baptism Thanksgiving over the Water

The celebrant blesses the water.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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

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

Celebrant: We give you thanks, almighty God and Father, for by the gift of water you nourish and sustain all living things.

All: **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant: We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea, you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

All: **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant: We give you thanks for sending your Son Jesus. For us he was baptized by John in the river Jordan. For us he was anointed as Christ by your Holy Spirit. For us he suffered the baptism of his own death and resurrection, setting us free from the bondage of sin and death, and opening to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

All: **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant: We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with his gifts so that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations and serve you as a royal priesthood.

All: **Blessed be God for ever.**

Celebrant: We give you thanks for you have called Joshua to new life through the waters of baptism. Now sanctify this water, that your servant who is washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Anoint Joshua with your Holy Spirit and bring him to new birth in the family of your Church, that he may become an inheritor of your glorious kingdom. We give you praise and honour and worship through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All: **Blessed are you, our strength and song, and our salvation.**

The celebrant then says these or similar words.

Let us join with Joshua
who is committing himself to Christ
and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Baptismal Covenant

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God,
The Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

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

People: **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.**

Celebrant: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **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.**

- Celebrant:** Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?
- People:** **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant:** Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?
- People:** **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant:** Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?
- People:** **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant:** Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?
- People:** **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant:** Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
- People:** **I will, with God's help.**
- Celebrant:** Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?
- People:** **I will, with God's help.**

The Baptism

The candidate is presented by name to the celebrant, who then immerses, or pours water upon, the candidate, saying,

Joshua, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The celebrant makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of the candidate (using chrism if desired) saying,

I sign you with the cross,
and mark you as Christ's own for ever.

The celebrant, at a place in the full sight of the congregation, prays over the newly baptized, saying,

Heavenly Father,
we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit
you have bestowed upon Joshua your servant
the forgiveness of sin,
and have raised him to the new life of grace.
Sustain him, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit.

Give him 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

The Wardens: Gloria Aykroyd and Sue Symons

One of the ministers may then give the newly baptized a lighted candle, saying,

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

When the newly baptized has received a candle, the people say,

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

Celebrant: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

The Peace

All stand, and the presiding celebrant addresses the people.

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

People: And also with you.

The members of the community, ministers and people, may greet one another in the name of the Lord. (You may now shake hands or hug as the spirit moves you.)

Offertory Hymn (4 Verses)

You Are Salt for the Earth (502)

Doxology (sung)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Prayer Over Gifts

Celebrant: **E**ternal God,
by your grace you have raised us up
and enthroned us with Christ in the heavenly realms.
Receive all we offer you this day,
and lead us in those good works
for which you have created us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer #1



Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

Celebrant: It is indeed right that we should praise you,
gracious God,
for you created all things.
You formed us in your own image:
male and female you created us.
When we turned away from you in sin,
you did not cease to care for us,
but opened a path of salvation for all people.
You made a covenant with Israel,
and through your servants Abraham and Sarah
gave the promise of a blessing to all nations.

Through Moses you led your people
from bondage into freedom;
through the prophets
you renewed your promise of salvation.
Therefore, with them, and with all your saints
who have served you in every age,
we give thanks and raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (689)

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

Prayer continues, please kneel or sit, as you are able.

Celebrant: Holy God, source of life and goodness,
all creation rightly gives you praise.

In the fullness of time,
you sent your Son Jesus Christ,
to share our human nature,
to live and die as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.
He healed the sick
and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners;
he opened the eyes of the blind
and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom
to the poor and to those in need.
In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he freely gave himself to death,
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."
Gracious God,
his perfect sacrifice
destroys the power of sin and death;
by raising him to life
you give us life for evermore.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: **Christ has died.**
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.

Celebrant: Recalling his death,
 proclaiming his resurrection,
 and looking for his coming again in glory,
 we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup.
 Send your Holy Spirit upon us
 and upon these gifts,
 that all who eat and drink at this table
 may be one body and one holy people,
 a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

The service continues with the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

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

People: **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

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread for distribution, and may say the following:

Celebrant: 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.

Jesus, Lamb of God (747)

All: Jesus, Lamb of God,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world,
give us your peace, give us your peace.

The Communion

We invite all Christians who are baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity, who are communicant members of their own church, regardless of their denomination, to join with us in receiving the church's highest offering of praise to God, the Holy Eucharist.

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

The celebrant and people then receive communion. The sacrament is given with the following words.

Celebrant: The body of Christ (given for you).
The blood of Christ (shed for you).

Communion Hymns

How Great Thou Art (423)

Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour (84)

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: Almighty God,
you have made us a royal priesthood
in the kingdom of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Make known his victory through us, we pray,
that all the world may see his light.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand for the Doxology

Doxology

Celebrant: Glory to God,
People: 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.**

The Benediction

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go Now In Peace



Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

Recessional Hymn

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun (383)

The Dismissal

*Please join us in the Church Hall, as we celebrate Joshua
with a Baptismal Cake and refreshments.*