November 25, 2026
9:30 am Wednesday Morning Prayer
Commemoration of Isaac Watts

Today we commemorate the life of Isaac Watts, an English Congregational minister and hymnist whose three books of "Hymns and Spiritual Songs" were published in 1707.

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Introductory Responses

Presider: Lord, open our lips,
All; and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.
Presider: You laid the foundations of the earth
All: and the heavens are the work of your hands.

Presider: We gather here from many places on land that is the traditional and unsurrendered territory of the Halq'emeyn-speaking Coast Salish peoples.
All: May Christ lead us on right pathways as we seek truth and reconciliation in action.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Psalm: 146 (CP 346 by Isaac Watts)

I'll praise my Maker while I've breath,
and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers;
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
while life and thought and being last,
or immortality endures.

Happy are they whose hopes rely
on Israel's God, who make the sky
and earth and seas, with all their train;
Whose truth forever stands secure,
who saves the oppressed, who feeds the poor,
whose promise none shall trust in vain.

The Lord pours eyesight on the blind;
the Lord supports the fainting mind;
and sends the labouring conscience peace.
God helps the stranger in distress,
the widow and the fatherless,
and grants the prisoner sweet release.

I'll praise God while I'm granted breath,
and when my voice is lost in death,
praise shall employ my nobler powers;
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
while life and thought and being last,
or immortality endures.

The First Reading: Zechariah 12:1-10

Reader: A reading from the prophet Zechariah,

The word of the LORD concerning Israel: Thus says the LORD, who stretched
out the heavens and founded the earth and formed the human spirit within:
2 See, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of reeling for all the surrounding
peoples; it will be against Judah also in the siege against Jerusalem. **3** On
that day I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it
shall grievously hurt themselves. And all the nations of the earth shall come
together against it. **4** On that day, says the LORD, I will strike every horse with
panic, and its rider with madness. But on the house of Judah I will keep a
watchful eye, when I strike every horse of the peoples with blindness. **5** Then
the clans of Judah shall say to themselves, 'The inhabitants of Jerusalem
have strength through the LORD of hosts, their God.'

6 On that day I will make the clans of Judah like a blazing pot on a pile of
wood, like a flaming torch among sheaves; and they shall devour to the right
and to the left all the surrounding peoples, while Jerusalem shall again be
inhabited in its place, in Jerusalem. 7 And the LORD will give victory to the
tents of Judah first, so that the glory of the house of David and the glory of
the inhabitants of Jerusalem may not be exalted over that of Judah. 8 On that
day the LORD will shield the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the feeblest
among them on that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be
like God, like the angel of the LORD, at their head. 9 And on that day I will seek
to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

10 And I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of
David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one
whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only
child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

Holy Wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Responsory

Presider: Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
And afterwards receive me with glory.

All: Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
And afterwards receive me with glory.

Presider; For I am always with you;
You hold me by my hand.

All: Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
And afterwards receive me with glory.

Presider: I will speak of all your works
In the gates of the city of Zion.

All: Lord, you will guide me with your counsel
And afterwards receive me with glory.

The Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

Reader: A reading from the Letter to the Ephesians,

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has
blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,
4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be
holy and blameless before him in love. **5** He destined us for adoption as
his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his
will, **6** to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in
the Beloved. **7** In him we have redemption through his blood, the
forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace **8** that
he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight **9** he has made known to
us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth
in Christ, **10** as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in
him, things in heaven and things on earth. **11** In Christ we have also
obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose
of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,
12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for
the praise of his glory. **13** In him you also, when you had heard the word
of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were
marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; **14** this is the pledge of
our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise
of his glory.

Holy Wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Presider: hear O Israel,
All: **the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**
Love the Lord your God with all your heart,
With all your soul,
With all your mind,
And with all your strength.
This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it: love your neighbour as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these.

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

A member of the community invites us to bring our concerns and thanksgivings before God.

The Litany

Reader: Liberator of the peoples, fill all who confess the name of Christ with the power of your Holy Spirit.
All: **Holy One, accomplish your purposes in us.**

Reader: Be the joy and the strength of all whose lives are bound in mutual love and of those who live in celibacy.
All: **Holy One, accomplish your purposes in us.**

Reader: Grant your salvation to all who are far from home, prisoners, exiles, and the victims of oppression.
All: **Holy One, accomplish your purposes in us.**

Reader: Show your kindness and mercy to all who are facing trials and difficulties, to those who are sick and to those who are dying.
All: **Holy One, accomplish your purposes in us.**

Reader: Forgive our sins and set us free from all hardship, distress, want , war, and injustice.

All: Holy One, accomplish your purposes in us.

Reader: Guide us into new and just ways of sharing the goods of the earth, so that we may live by the abundance of your mercies.

All: Holy One, accomplish your purposes in us.

Reader: Strengthen us in our struggle against exploitation, greed, and lack of concern, so that we may find joy together.

All: Holy One, accomplish your purposes in us.

Reader: Unite us in love and service, so that we may live in communion with all Christ's saints.

All: Holy One, accomplish your purposes in us.

Collect of the Day

Presider; God of truth and grace, you gave Isaac Watts singular gifts to present your praise in verse, that he might write psalms, hymns and spiritual songs for your Church: Give us grace joyfully to sing your praises now and in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Presider: In the language closest to your heart, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

(please use the traditional version or another language if you desire)

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 glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

The Dismissal

Presider: Let us bless the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Presider: May God, who has called us out of darkness into the marvellous light of Christ, bless us and fill us with peace.
All: Amen.

Readings for Advent 1, Sunday November 29, 2026,
Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7 & 16-18; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9;
Mark 13:24-37



THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY CATHEDRAL

Thursday
Vespers, 5:30-6 pm online by Zoom+

Saturday
Community Brunch, 11 am-noon in the Upper Hall
Advent Wreath making workshop, 2-3 pm in the Lounge

Sunday
BCP Eucharist, 8-9 am. *
Choral Eucharist, 10-11:15 am*

Tuesday
Advent Series, 7-8:15 pm by Zoom+

Wednesday
Midweek Eucharist, 9:30-10 am*
Followed by fellowship time 10-10:30 am and
Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 am

+ link available by signing up for the weekly newsletter on www.holytrinitycathedral.ca

**live-streamed over Facebook. You can also find the service feed through the event heading at* www.holytrinitycathedral.ca

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