



# CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN

MEAFORD

34 Boucher St. East | Meaford, Ontario | N4L 1B9  
519-538-1330 | [office@christchurchanglican.ca](mailto:office@christchurchanglican.ca) | [christchurchanglican.ca](http://christchurchanglican.ca)



## Christmas Eve

**Wed., December 24, 2025 Holy Eucharist 7:00pm**

Presider: The Rev. Brendon Bedford, Rector  
Lay Reader: Francis Richardson  
Organist: Julian Delf

Cantor: Victoria Alcock  
Server: Sarah Howard  
Reader: Linda Emptage  
Greeter: Garry Minielly



## Our Land Acknowledgement

We at Christ Church are gathered together on the territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation and commit ourselves to the hard work of reconciliation.



## Our Mission Statement

Christ Church is committed to live in a generous and loving spirit  
in all its relationships.

## Our Contacts

The Rev. Brendon Bedford	Priest & Rector	226-974-5060	<a href="mailto:brendonbedford@diohuron.org">brendonbedford@diohuron.org</a>
The Rev. Canon Kevin Bothwell	Honorary Assistant Priest	905-933-1032	<a href="mailto:kevinbothwell@diohuron.org">kevinbothwell@diohuron.org</a>
Bill Alcock	Churchwarden	604-833-9025	<a href="mailto:williamja@icloud.com">williamja@icloud.com</a>
Garry Minielly	Churchwarden	416-931-0535	<a href="mailto:dgminielly@gmail.com">dgminielly@gmail.com</a>
Jean Richardson	Deputy Warden	519-670-4533	<a href="mailto:jmlrichardson@gmail.com">jmlrichardson@gmail.com</a>

Christ Church office hours are Tues, Wed., Thurs., 9:00am to 2:00pm  
Ph: 519-538-1330; [office@christchurchanglican.ca](mailto:office@christchurchanglican.ca)

## OPENING SENTENCE

*Please stand as you are able.*

**INTROIT HYMN**      O Come, All Ye Faithful #118

### Gathering of the Community

**Presider:** 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 COLLECT FOR PURITY

**Presider:** 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.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

Shepherds in the Field Abiding #135

("Gloria in excelsis Deo" translates to Glory to God in the highest)

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Please be seated.*

### CHILDREN'S TIME / ADVENT WREATH

#### Candle 5 – Christmas

*The Christ candle is lit.*

**Presider:** Joy to the world!

**People:** **The Lord has come!**

**Presider:** Jesus is the light of the world.

**People:** **A light no darkness can ever put out.**

We sing (tune: CP #325)

**All:**            **Advent candles tell their story on this Christmas Day.  
Those who waited for God's glory: they prepared the way.  
Christ is with us: loving, giving, in us living, here today!**

*Please be seated.*

## **The Proclamation of the Word**

### **THE FIRST READING**

Isaiah 9:2-7

**Reader:**     A reading from the Book of Isaiah

**Reader:**     The word of the Lord.

**People:**     **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 96**

*The psalm refrain is sung once by the cantor and is then repeated by the congregation.*



- (1) Sing to our God a new song;
- (2) Sing to God, all the whole earth.
- (3) Bless the name of God in song;
- (4) proclaim the good news of salvation from day to day. **R.**

- (5) Sing glory among the nations,
- (6) God's wonders among all peoples.
- (7) God is great and greatly to be praised;
- (8) more to be feared than all gods. **R.**

- (1) As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
- (2) but it is the Holy One who made the heavens.
- (3) How majestic and splendid is God!
- (4) How wonderful God's holy temple! **R.**

- (5) Ascribe to our God, you families of the peoples;
- (6) ascribe to our God honour and power.
- (7) To the Holy Name ascribe due honour;
- (8) enter the hallowed courts with gifts. **R.**

- (5) Worship God in the beauty of holiness;  
 (6) Let the earth tremble in awe and wonder.  
 (1) Tell it out among the nations: "Our God reigns,  
 (1) who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved,  
 (2) who judges the peoples with equity"  
 (3) Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
 (3) let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
 (4) let the field be joyful and all that is therein. **R.**

- (5) Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at the coming of our God,  
 (6) who will come to judge the earth.  
 (7) God will judge the world with righteousness  
 (8) and with truth the peoples of the earth. **R.**

## THE SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

Reader: A reading from the letter of Paul to Titus.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Alleluia #190 Sing a New Creation

*Alleluia is played once and repeated by congregation twice.*

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Norah Duncan IV, 1987. © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.



## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20.

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

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

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

*After the Gospel is read.*

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Alleluia #190 Sing a New Creation

*As before the Gospel, repeated by congregation.*

*Please be seated.*

## THE HOMILY

The Rev. Brendon Bedford

Priest & Rector

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## THE NICENE CREED

Lay Reader: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**All:** **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through Him all things were made. For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Please sit or stand, as you're able.*

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Lynn McTaggart  
Intercessor**

*Please stand as you're able.*

## **THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Lay Reader:** Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

**Lay Reader:** Most merciful God,

**All:** **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

**Presider:** Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## THE PEACE

**Presider:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

*Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of peace.*

*Remain standing, as you are able.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN:** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing #138  
(blue hymn book)

*At Christmas, sidespeople will pass the offering plate. All donations go to support our ministry here in Meaford.*

<p><b>MANY PEOPLE NO LONGER CARRY CASH OR CHEQUES.</b></p> <p>If you would like to support our mission to love and serve God and all our neighbours, know that you can donate online.</p>	<p>Point your phone's camera at the QR code below and scan.</p> 
 <p><b>CHRIST CHURCH ANGLICAN</b> MEAFORD</p>	<p>Tax receipts are provided by PayPal Giving Fund upon donation.</p>

## THE PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

### The Celebration of the Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer #3 (BAS, pg 198) with preface for Christmas.

**Presider:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Presider:** Lift up your hearts.

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



Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface for Christmas (p. 219)

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;  
.....  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing  
our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

**THE SANCTUS (HOLY) - sung**  
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord - #735 (blue hymn book)

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

BAS pg 198

Presider: We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love  
you have made known to us in creation; .....

Presider: Therefore, Father, according to his command,  
**All: we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await  
his coming in glory;**

Presider: and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord  
of all: .....  
... 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.

**People: Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (said)

Presider: And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD (FRACTION RITE)

Lamb Of God (Agnus Dei) sung

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

## THE COMMUNION

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

*All baptized Christians, regardless of denomination, are welcome to receive communion at God's altar.*

*If you are not baptized, you are very welcome to come forward to the communion rail for a blessing, indicating so by crossing your arms over your chest.*

*If you are interested in exploring baptism, please speak to the priest after the service.*

*Gluten free host (wafers) are available at the altar rail upon request.*

## COMMUNION HYMNS

Silent Night #119

O Little Town of Bethlehem #121

(blue hymn book)

*Please stand as you are able.*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

### **THE DOXOLOGY (Said)**

**All:**           **Glory to God, 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 FINAL BLESSING**

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**      Joy to the World    #154

*(blue hymn book)*

### **THE DISMISSAL**

**Presider:**      Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**People:**        Thanks be to God.

*Please be seated.*

### **THE POSTLUDE**

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Psalm from The Psalter, George Black; Lamb of God, David Clark Isele.

Advent Wreath liturgy attributed to The Rev. Matthew Kozlowski; Advent Candles, Copyright © 2002 Mark Earey

### **This Week's Prayer List**

*(We invite you to hold all on our list in your prayers for the coming week.)*

**Intercessions:** For healing and hope, we hold up to God: Charlie & Marg, Deanie, Doug, Fraser, Gord, Katharine, Rachel, Ted, and their families, and any others who are in need of our prayers.

### ***Memorial Flowers on the Altar***

*Flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God and with grateful thanks for the life and ministry of my wife, Betty Doherty and Charles and Jennie Miller, a gift of Jim and family.*

†††

## NEXT SUNDAY

**December 28, 2025, First Sunday after Christmas**

**The readings are:** Isaiah 63:7-9; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23.

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We thank Julian Delf for offering his musical talent today at the organ.**

**The Midweek Eucharist** (said BCP) is paused for the next week— resuming Wednesday, January 7, 2026.

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**Christ Church is offering a quiet, said service tomorrow, Christmas Day at 10:30am in the chapel -- all are welcome.**

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**The Free Community Breakfast will pause Monday, December 29 and resume Monday, January 5, 2026, from 8:30 to 10am.** Ring in the new year with a hearty breakfast -- all are welcome.

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**The Church Office will be closed Dec. 25 – 29 and January 1-2.** It will be open December 30-31 and resume normal operating hours Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, beginning January 6 from 9am to 2pm.

**For Pastoral Care**, please contact Fr. Brendon at [brendonbedford@diohuron.org](mailto:brendonbedford@diohuron.org) or 226-974-5060. **From December 26 to January 4 inclusive**, please contact the Rev. Canon Kevin Bothwell, Honorary Assistant Priest at 905-933-1032 or [kevinbothwell@diohuron.org](mailto:kevinbothwell@diohuron.org).

Re all other question or concerns, please call the office at 519-538-1330 or contact us at 519-538-1330 or [www.christchurchanglican.ca](http://www.christchurchanglican.ca)

