



TRINITY ST. PAUL'S 
UNITED CHURCH
FAITH JUSTICE ARTS

January 18th, 2026 – 10:30 am
Second Sunday after Epiphany

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

"We gather to listen for the voice that names us."

Prelude: *Air on the G-Strings* by J. S. Bach (Flute Duet: Paula Nieuwstraten, Don Willms)

Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory

Janet Mairs

As we assemble in this holy place, we remember that long before we were called here today, this land was already known, named, and cherished as a sacred gathering place by many Indigenous peoples of Turtle Island. We honour the First Peoples of this land and offer particular recognition to the Mississaugas of the Credit, whose traditional territory we share. In this season of Epiphany, when God's call is revealed and voices are heard, we listen for the truths that continue to rise from this land. We hear the ongoing cries for justice from Indigenous communities, calling us toward right relationship, repair, and hope.

**As treaty people, we receive this call with humility and courage:
to listen deeply,
to learn faithfully,
and to walk together in the work of justice and reconciliation,
trusting that God still calls us, here and now, to live into light made known.**

Lighting of the Christ & Community Candles

Christ is our light in every searching place.
Community is the fire that keeps us from walking alone.
We light these candles as signs of presence and promise.
God is here and still calling. *(Candles are lit)*

Words of Welcome

Beloved community, welcome. Whether you are gathered here in the sanctuary or joining us online from home, you are part of this moment, this listening, this becoming. In this season of Epiphany, we gather not to impress God, but to be attentive, to notice where light falls, where voices whisper, and where we are being called anew. Welcome to worship.

Life and Works of the Community

Gathering Words:

Come, God is speaking in the waiting.

We come, ready to listen.

Come, Christ is revealed in our searching.

We come, ready to follow.

Come, the Spirit is calling in ordinary lives.

We come, knowing we are Beloved!

Hymn: VU582 *There's a Spirit in the Air* (vv. 1, 4, 6-7)

1 **There's a spirit in the air,
telling Christians everywhere:
'Praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working in our world.'**

6 **May the Spirit fill our praise,
guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay,
live tomorrow's life today.**

4 **Still the Spirit gives us light,
seeing wrong and setting right:
God in Christ has come to stay.
Live tomorrow's life today!**

7 **There's a Spirit in the air,
calling people everywhere:
praise the love that Christ revealed,
living, working, in our world.**

Centering Prayer

Silent Confession

Words of Grace & Passing of the Peace:

Come and hear the good news:

God has heard our cries and lifted us from the pit.

We are set on solid ground, held by grace.

In Christ, we are seen and named with love,
before we are ready, before we understand.

We receive this grace with grateful hearts.

Having been met by grace, let us share peace.

The peace of Christ be with you.

The peace of Christ also be with you.

(You are invited to share a sign of Christ's peace in person or online, with a word, a gesture, or a quiet blessing.)

Anthem: *Laudate Dominum* by W. A. Mozart, arr. by Robert Gray

WE GROW IN FAITH

"We grow as the call of Christ takes root within us."

Introduction to the Scripture

Janet Mairs

Come and listen *to/for* the voice of God who calls. In Psalm 40, we hear the testimony of one who waited, was heard, and was lifted into new life, a song born from trust and obedience. In John 1, we encounter the quiet beginning of discipleship, where simple words, "*Come and see*," open hearts, change names, and set lives in motion. As we hear these scriptures, may we listen for the call that draws us toward Christ and invites us to follow.

Scripture: Psalm 40:1-11 (Inclusive Bible)

Herein is wisdom.

Thanks be to God.

Response: VU 958 Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Sermon: *"Epiphany - Come, See and Witness"*

Silent Reflection

Offering Invitation

Come, gather what you have received,
the gifts of mercy, patience, and new beginnings.

**As God has called us by name and set our feet on steady ground,
we bring our offerings as a response of gratitude and trust.**

May what we share today become a sign of hope,
a witness to God's work among us,
and a blessing for the world God so loves.

(The offering is collected in the sanctuary. For those online, you are welcome to donate to the work of TSP with the QR code below.)



Offertory Hymn: MV 161 *I Have Called You by Your Name*

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|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you;
all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen;
you are mine. | 3 | I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out,
choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe,
then let it go. |
| 2 | I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name,
speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body given long ago. | 4 | I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul,
make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people
they are mine. |

Doxology: MV 182 *Grateful* (Refrain)

Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing over all,
O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,
we will praise you.

Prayers of the People

Kore Signet-Yang

Loving God, hear our prayer.
And in your love, answer.

Sung Response: MV 102 *Jesus, Your Spirit in Us*

Jesus, your Spirit in us is a well-spring of life everlasting.
Christus, dein Geist wohnt in uns, er ist Quelle des ewigen Lebens.

Encircling Prayers... *We hold in our prayers:*

The United Church of Canada

- National Indigenous Church
- National Indigenous Elders Council
- National Indigenous Council

Ecumenical Prayer

The churches in Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.
The pastors and congregations of Christ Disciples Church, India

*O my God,
bring us out of darkness into light.
Illumine our hearts with your wisdom.
Give us light to guide us to you.*

*O my God,
shine light into our hearts...
light into our ears,
light into our eyes,
light on our tongues,
light at our right hand,
light at our left hand,
light above us,
light beneath us,
light before us,
light behind us.*

*Shine light into our souls.
Flood us with light.
God, expand our hearts,
and prosper our work.*

(A Prayer during the Mecca pilgrimage. In: Noticias del Arca, summer 2005)

"We go to live the call we have received."

Closing Hymn: VU 509 *I, the God of Sea and Sky*

1 I, the God of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will
save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

R *Here I am, God. Is it I, God?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, God, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

2 I, the God of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? **R**

3 I, the God of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? **R**

Benediction

Postlude: *Be Thou My Vision for Piano Duet* by Deborah Park & Tom Reynolds (Deborah Park & Jill McKechnie)



You can sign up to receive our E-newsletter by contacting the Church Office at church-admin@trinitystpauls.ca.

Upcoming Dates:

January 2026

January 18: New Members Session (after service)

January 25: Holy Land Service

February 2026

February 1: Engaging at TSP / Volunteer Fair

February 8: Book Talk - *"On Dismantling Settler Colonialism"* (after service)

February 10: Board Meeting

February 15: TSP Treasures and Treats Winter Fundraiser
(11:45-2pm)

February 18: Ash Wednesday (7pm)

March 2026

March 22: Annual General Meeting

Further Ahead (please save the date - more details to follow):

April 24-26: Climate Justice Weekend Event

June 12-13th: Artists Wage Peace Weekend Event

Deep Listening Session - Cancelled

Please note that the Deep Listening Session scheduled for January 20th is cancelled.

Be a Sunday Greeter!

Help create a warm welcome at TSP. This is a one-Sunday-per-month commitment (either the 1st or 3rd Sunday). Greeters show up at 10am to set up the welcome table, hand out bulletins, answer questions, and stay for conversation and coffee in the Narthex after the service and help with cleanup. Mentoring provided. Thank you for helping make TSP where all feel welcomed, affirmed, and valued! Please contact Alex Horksy (alexandra.horsky@yahoo.com) or Jim Lewis (tspjimlewis@gmail.com) to discuss.

Out of the Cold

TSP is responding to a request from St. Luke's United, one of our fellow downtown churches, to prepare 200 sandwiches once a month for their Out of the Cold meal program. We will meet in the Studio on the Wednesday mornings of January 28, Feb. 25 and March 25 at 10 am - noon (or starting at 9:30 if you can make it). We'd appreciate your assistance - either hands-on or providing a financial donation for groceries. Please contact either Janet Haddock (haddock.janet44@gmail.com) or Betsy Anderson (andersonbetsy528@gmail.com).

Additional Church Board Meeting – February!

There will be an additional Church Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 10th at 6:30pm in the Fireside Room. If you have items for the meeting's agenda, please advise Dan Main, tspdanmain@gmail.com by January 25, 2026.

Holy Land Service

Please attend (in person or on zoom) our joint annual Holy Land Service and Q and A, Jan.25, 2026 presented by the Middle East Working Group of Bathurst, Bloor St and Trinity-St Pauls United Churches. Guest speaker will be the Hon. Nathaniel Erskine-Smith, MP for Beaches-East York. Zatoun products available. Loose offering to International Development and Relief Foundation (IDRF), Canada, Palestine Urgent Appeal.

Engaging at TSP/Volunteer Fair

You're Invited: February 1 After Worship -- Engaging at TSP / Volunteer Fair - A conversation about ways to participate in the life and work of TSP

Please join us after worship for a conversation about ways to get involved in the shared work of our community. At TSP, the life of the church is shaped not only by worship, but by the gifts people choose to share with one another throughout the year. We often speak of "volunteers," but this is really about engagement and shared leadership in support of our work as a Centre for faith, justice, and the arts. This year's focus will be on governance roles and on roles connected to two important events coming up in February and May 2026. We'll offer a brief overview, then move into the Narthex for more conversation, questions and, hopefully, sign-ups. Join us as we discern together how your gifts might serve the life and ministry of TSP.

Indigenous Rights Solidarity & Book Talk

On February 8th in the Studio after morning service, John Olthuis will lead a discussion about TSP's Indigenous Rights Solidarity Group and (in response to requests from TSPers) make some comments about his recently published book *On Dismantling Settler Colonialism – An Insider's Perspective on Reconciliation WITH Indigenous Peoples*.

TSP Treasures and Treats Winter Fundraiser

Join us for TSP Treasures & Treats, a community fundraising market featuring thoughtfully curated pre-loved items, vintage finds, jewellery, home goods, and delightful treats - all in support of TSP. Browse unique treasures, enjoy finger foods and café-style treats, relax in our Café Corner, and soak up the atmosphere with music throughout the event.

Sunday, February 15, 2026, 12 – 3:00 PM

Location: TSP Gymnasium & Studio

Lay Leadership Opportunities for 2026

Do you want to share your gifts with the wider TSP family or join our team of leadership? Your talents, experience, and heart for community can make a real difference as we continue to bloom as a church of faith, justice, and the arts. We are prayerfully seeking lay leaders to serve in several important roles in the life of Trinity-St. Paul's.

- **Incoming Chair of the Board:** to receive mentoring from the current Chair of the Board on the functions of the Board.
- **Co-Chair Finance:** Oversees the church's budget, manages resources responsibly, and supports the congregation's long-term financial health.
- **Stewardship** — We seek Co-Chairs: one with a focus on finance and one on lay leadership.
 - **Co-Chair Stewardship Volunteers / Lay Leadership Focus:** Invites adherents/members into meaningful service and helps people discover where they are called to lead.
 - **Co-Chair Stewardship Focus on Finance:** Supports the congregation's financial health through budgeting and encouraging generous giving. (The person in this role may also serve as Co-Chair Finance concurrently, as is currently the case.)
- **Other Leadership Roles:**
 - **Member-at-Large:** Brings independent listening and voice to the Board discussions and decisions.
 - **Regional Council Representative:** Acts as a liaison between our congregation and the wider church. TSP is allowed two representatives.
 - **Chair of the Children's Circle:** Supports the spiritual life and programming for children.
 - **Co-Chair of Worship & Faith Formation:** Shapes worship and faith development (we are seeking two co-chairs).

If you feel even a gentle nudge to explore any of these opportunities, please speak with either the Board Chair, Lois, the Minister, Hewitt, Stewardship of Volunteers, Alex. We would love to have a conversation with you about how your gifts might find a meaningful home in TSP's shared leadership

TRINITY ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

FAITH JUSTICE ARTS



427 Bloor Street West, Toronto, ON M5S 1X7 - (416) 922-8435 - www.trinitystpauls.ca

*Trinity-St. Paul's is an inclusive community of faith of the United Church of Canada. We seek to be a centre for Faith, Justice and the Arts: **a place for faith**, where the Gospel is lived and shared; **a place for justice**, where voices are raised for peace and equity; **a place for the arts**, where beauty, imagination, and creativity reveal God's presence.*

Minister: Hewitt T. Holmes (The Rev., Ph.D. Student)
hholmes@trinitystpauls.ca

Music Director: Deborah Park
musicdirector@trinitystpauls.ca

Church Office (Communications and Administration Coordinator): Sarah Redikopp

General Manager: Aaron Dawson

Chair of the Board: Lois Kunkel
Secretary of the Board: Dan Main
Church Treasurer: Bob Savaria
Board of Trustees, Chair: David Craig
Building Management Board, Chair: Lorna Niebergall
Finance Committee, Co-Chairs:

Del Doucette
Deepak Ramachandran

Ministry and Personnel, Co-Chairs:
David Fallis
Jeanne Moffat

Nurturing Community, Chair: Alexandra Horsky

Pastoral Care, Co-Chairs:
Paula Nieuwstraten
Janet Mairs

Public Witness, Chair: Janet Haddock

Stewardship, Co-Chairs:
Del Doucette

doucette@furgielelaw.com
Alexandra Horsky

Technical Support: James Mackey

Worship and Faith Formation:
Martin Pinckney

Phone: (416) 922-8435 ext. 24

Phone: (416) 922-8435 ext. 26
church-admin@trinitystpauls.ca

Phone: (416) 922-8435 ext. 23
adawson@trinitystpauls.ca

Phone: (416) 922-8435 ext. 25
tsploiskunkel@gmail.com

tspdanmain@gmail.com

bsavaria@sympatico.ca

david@davidscraig.com

lorna.niebergall@sympatico.ca

doucette@furgielelaw.com
deepak1.ramachandran@gmail.com

davidfallis408@gmail.com

jeannemoffat@gmail.com

alexandra.horsky@yahoo.com

tsppaulan@gmail.com

jpmairs@outlook.com

haddock.janet44@gmail.com

alexandra.horsky@yahoo.com

jamesbb.mackey@gmail.com

martin.pinckney@mail.utoronto.ca