St. Martin's Anglican Church
September 6, 2026
Feast of the Creator
10:00 AM
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome Team: John L, Marilyn D Chalice Bearers: Michelle L, Anne D

It is a great privilege to gather, share stories of faith and worship God on this beautiful territory, which we now know as Pickering, but which has been the site of human activity – and therefore storytelling and worship – for many thousands of years. We wish to honour the ancestral guardians of this land and its waterways: the Wendat, the Anishinabek Nation, the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, the Mississaugas of Scugog, Hiawatha and Alderville First Nations. The treaties that were signed for this particular parcel of land are collectively referred to as the Williams Treaties of 1923. Today many Indigenous peoples, including the Métis Nation, continue to call this land home and act as its stewards, and this responsibility extends to all peoples, to share and care for this land for generations to come.

Celebrant: The Reverend Shelly Pollard

Prelude: Anitra's Dance Peer Gynt Suite No. 1

Op. 46. Edvard Grieg (1843-1907). CCLI Licence Copyright #11469691. CCLI Streaming Licence #21657598.

Sentence: By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, by the breath of God's mouth all the heavenly hosts. Psalm 33: 6

Opening Hymn: #349 All People That on Earth Do Dwell

All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;
come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed;
without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk; he doth us feed,
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise;
approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always,
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good;
his mercy is forever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood,
and shall from age to age endure.

Text: ps100; para.attrib. William Kerthe (1530?-1594)
CCLI Licence #11469691 CCLI Streaming Licence #21657598.

THE GATHERING OF 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.

All: And also with you.

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.

Kyrie Eleison

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

All: Christ have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

The Collect

Celebrant: Creator,
you have wonderfully fashioned the heavens and the earth

and us in your own image.
Teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your breath in all creatures
that we may be of service in the healing of the earth,
through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit,
through whom you breathe all creation into being.

All: **Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

First Reading Proverbs 8:22-31 Reader: Shirley V

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

"The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth, when he had not yet made earth and fields or the world's first bits of soil. When he established the heavens, I was there; when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker, and I was daily his delight, playing before him always, playing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 33:1-9

Celebrant: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; it is good for the just to sing praises.

All: **Praise the Lord with the harp; play to God upon the psaltery and lyre.**

Celebrant: Sing for God a new song; sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet.

All: **For the word of the Lord is right, and all the works of God are sure.**

Celebrant: God loves righteousness and justice; the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth.

All: **By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, by the breath of God's mouth all the heavenly hosts.**

Celebrant: God gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin and stores up the depths of the sea.

All: **Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of God.**

Celebrant: For God spoke, and it came to pass; God commanded, and it stood fast.

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Creator of the universe. In your loving kindness you watch over your chosen people. Make us witnesses to your truth and instruments of your peace, that all may know you as the God of justice, and praise your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All: **Amen.**

Second Reading COLOSSIANS 1:15-20 Reader: Pat D

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE COLOSSIANS

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel *Please stand in body or in spirit for the Gospel*

Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! *Sing A New Creation*

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Sing A New Creation 192
Music: Melody Caribbean trad.; arr John L. Bell, 1990
Arr.© 1190 WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. CCLI Licence #11469691.

Gospel Reading John 1:1-5

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John.
All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Halle, Halle, Hallelujah! *Sing A New Creation*

Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Halle, halle, halle - lujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

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Homily: The Rev Shelly Pollard

Moment of Silent Reflection

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.

Prayers of the People Intercessor: Sharon J

Confession & Absolution

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

Moment of Silence

Celebrant: 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.

Celebrant: 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.

All: **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Please stand in body or in spirit

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

All: **And also with you**.

Offertory Hymn: # 645 Come Down, O Love Divine

Come down, O Love divine;
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,

and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be
and lowliness become mine inner clothing –
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace
till they become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit finds a dwelling.

CP 645 Come Down, O Love Divine.
Text: Bianco da Siena (1350?-1434?); tr. Richard Fredrick Littledale (1833-1890), alt.
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), © Oxford University Press.
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Prayer over the Gifts *Please stand in body or in spirit*

Celebrant: Eternal Creator, Holy Wisdom,
all creation yearns in hope to be set free.
Receive all we offer you this day
and through this Eucharist
lead us to be servants of your justice and truth
in the name of Jesus.

All: **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Eucharistic Prayer 3 Episcopal Church of Brazil

Celebrant: May God be with you
All: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
All: **We lift them to God.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God our Creator.
All: It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is meet and right to give thanks to you always, O God,
for you are the source of all life.
Since the beginning of time, you have sustained us
through the environment you established in creation.
You rule the universe with balance and generosity,
for which all creation never ceases to praise you.
Joining with the company of heaven
and all the creatures of the skies, earth, and seas,
we joyfully praise your holy name, singing (saying),

Sanctus

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are 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.

CP 732 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord. Music: Community Mass, Richard Proulx (1937-). ©1971, 1977 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.CCLI Licence #11469691

Celebrant: O God, our creator, you placed us in this world,
but did not leave us to live alone.
You surround us with your wondrous creation
That we might live in harmony with it,
taking only what is necessary to preserve our common life.

Of the world you made a garden for the flourishing of your people,
yet we strayed from your path.
We judged ourselves powerful and mighty,
planting destruction between us and nature,
and creating a world of inequity, imbalance,
and injustice.

Countless times, your prophets led us to repentance and new life,
yet we choose to walk in other ways and persist in our selfish error.

In the fulness of time and in your infinite mercy,
you sent us your Son Jesus Christ, the source of new life.
He taught us to live in unity with you,
opening the doors to a new creation:
one reconciled to you and sustained by your love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread.
Having given thanks to you,
he broke it and gave it to those who were with him, saying,
"Take, eat. This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, and having given thanks to you, he gave it to them, saying, "Take, drink. This is my Blood of the new and eternal Covenant which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the wondrous mystery:

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

Celebrant: And, giving thanks to you for restoring us in the ways of your Kingdom,
we offer you these gifts of bread and wine:
fruits of the earth and of your own creation.
Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit,
that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Sanctify us also, that in union with Christ
we may fill the world with your love,
renewing it with the gift of your Gospel.

Preserve us in rebuilding the world around us

and restoring the balance of nature.
Grant that we may see in your creation that splendid garden,
worthy of our respect and care.
Evermore strengthen your Church in the struggle
to preserve the environment and the diversity of life within it.

And, at the last day, bring us to your heavenly Kingdom,
where in the company of all your saints,
we may never cease to glorify you in the new creation of Jesus Christ.
By Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours,
Almighty God, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (Sung)

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

All: **Our Father in heaven hallowed be thy name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is 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 and the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen, amen, amen.**

Text: BAS page 211. Music: Sibbick arr. Lambert.

Moment of Silence

Breaking of the Bread *BAS 2*

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.**

THE COMMUNION

Agnus Dei

All: **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, grant us peace.

CP 745 Lamb of God.
Music: Becket Gerald Senchur (1946-).
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Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion *(for those who choose not to receive Communion, or are following the service online)*

Celebrant: Those wishing to do so may make their spiritual communion by joining in this prayer with me now:

All: My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you, and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Communion Hymn: #65 Here, Lord, We Take the Broken Bread

Here, Lord, we take the broken bread
and drink the wine, believing
that by thy life our souls are fed,
thy parting gifts receiving.

As thou hast given, so we would give
our selves for others healing;
as though hast lived, so we would live,
the Father's love revealing.

CP65 Here, Lord, We Take the Broken Bread
Text: Charles Venn Pilcher (1879-1961). © Estate of F.E.V. Pilcher.
Music: Melody Irish; adapt. And harm. Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924);
fl.desc. Melva Treffinger Graham (1947-)©
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Choir Anthem: CP #494 Not for Tongues of Heaven's Angels

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-). CP 1985 Hope Publishing CO.

Prayer after Communion *Please stand in body or in spirit*

Celebrant: Creator of all,
in the death and resurrection of Jesus
you have reconciled all things in heaven and on earth.
May this bread and wine open our eyes
to your love and justice woven through all of creation.
We ask this through Jesus, your creating Word.

All: **Amen.**

Doxology & Blessing

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.

Celebrant: The peace of God which passes all understanding
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge
and love of God and of his Son,
Jesus Christ the Lord.

And the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
remain with you and the ones you love
now and forevermore.

All: **Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Hymn: #485 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion;

pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then, thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee,

changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

CP 485-Love Divine, All Loves Excelling. Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: John Stainer (1840-1901). CCLI Copyright Licence #11469691. CCLI Streaming Licence #21657598.

Dismissal

Celebrant: Go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: The Solid Rock

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The Rev. Shelly Pollard (she/her/hers), Incumbent

Rector's Warden: Rob Mackay
People's Warden: David Bevan
Deputy Wardens: Art Slade & Quita Taylor
Youth Leader: Natasha Baird
Parish Administrator: Darlene Campbell
Music Director: Dr Alexandra Weiss
Sunday School Leader: Janis Lynch

1203 St. Martin's Drive, Pickering, Ontario L1W 1M9
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St. Martin's Weekly Announcements – 2026

**New Announcement*

Sunday School - Sunday School is every Sunday during the 10:00 AM service. All are welcome!

Pastoral Visits
If you would like a pastoral visit for yourself or a loved one, please contact the church office to arrange one. The office number is 905-839-4257 office@stmartinsanglican.ca.

Mid-Week Service on Summer Break
Our mid-week service is on summer break. It will resume on Wednesday September 16th at 10:30am.

Messy Church Save the dates! Our upcoming Messy Church dates are:
Sat October 3rd, 2026 10am-11:30am
Sat November 21st, 2026 10am-11:30am

Come for a morning of fun for the whole family! This is an alternative service for busy families. A fun morning for the whole family. Crafts, games, stories, music and snacks!

***SAVE THE DATE: Welcome Back Sunday**
Please join the Social Committee on **Sunday, September 13**, following the 10:00 a.m. service, for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and fun as we welcome everyone back after the summer!

Enjoy a delicious luncheon while taking part in our friendly Ministry Food Competition and Ministry Poster Competition. It's a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with friends, celebrate the many ministries of St. Martin's, and kick off the fall season together.
We look forward to seeing you there!

This year's Ministry food competition will be Dessert Bars (any kind). Which Ministry's culinary masterpiece will win this year? It could be yours!

There will be a judged Ministry poster competition again this year, so take time over the summer to refresh your posters to reflect what your ministry is all about.
Old posters are available for pickup on the back table throughout August.

Can you beat the Intercessors' poster, which was last year's winner?
For more information contact Lee L.

***Faith in the Food Court (Lower Level, Pickering Town Centre) - Monday, September 14 2026 at 7pm**

Join us for an evening of conversation and connection at our Faith in the Food Court initiative! The conversation continues on **Monday, September 14 at 7 pm** in the lower-level food court at Pickering Town Centre as we explore the book "52 Ways to Reconcile: How to Walk with Indigenous People on the Path to Healing* by David A. Robertson. It's a fantastic opportunity to share thoughts, learn from one another, and build community.

As we approach the conclusion of our discussions on this book over the next few meetings, we're excited to announce that starting in January, we'll be exploring "The Reason You Walk: A Memoir" by Wab Kinew. If you have any questions, please reach out to Denise F.

🎭 ***Social Committee Road Trip** 🎭

Come From Away

The Social Committee is planning a road trip to Oshawa Little Theatre on **Saturday, April 3, 2027 at 2:00pm**, to see their production of Come From Away — the beloved Canadian musical based on the true story of the Newfoundland community of Gander and the extraordinary hospitality they showed to passengers whose flights were diverted following 9/11.

🎟️ Group Price: **$39.25** per person

If you would like to join us, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.
(Spaces are limited, and we need numbers as soon as possible, so please sign up early to avoid disappointment!)

💰 Payment is due by **October 4, 2026**.

🍽️ We will be going out to dinner after the play at a local restaurant. For those who want to join us, please let us know on the sign-up sheet.

Come along for an afternoon of great theatre, good company, and a wonderful Canadian story! 🇨🇦🎶

For more information, please speak to Lee L.

🎄 ***HOLLY BAZAAR** 🎄

We are now accepting donations for our 2026 Holly Bazaar, which will take place on ***Saturday, November 14, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.***

🌟 Please bring your items to church with you on Sundays.

Granny's Attic:

If you are decluttering, downsizing, or simplifying your possessions, please consider donating items to this popular and successful feature of the Bazaar. Most household items are welcome; however, we **cannot accept** clothing, books, or videotapes.

We are also looking for gently used baskets and like-new items that can be used to create our very popular gift baskets for sale at the Bazaar.

Bottle Boutique:

This popular game is always a great fundraiser, with items often running out well before the end of the Bazaar. We are looking for donations of anything that comes in a bottle like liquid hand soap, dish soap, carbonated beverages, flavoured water, nail polish remover, oils, bubble bath, condiments, and yes, **wine**! A collection box will be placed beside the Food Bank wagon for your donations.

Jewellery:
We are also looking for gently used jewellery for our very popular Jewellery table. Please give your jewellery treasures to Michelle L or Debbie C.

Bake Table:
If baking is your thing, or making jams, relishes, etc., please consider donating to our Baking table. We will be accepting food donations at the church the night before the Bazaar, **Friday November 13th** from **6pm-8pm**.

For more information contact Denise F or Lee L.

Donations for St. Paul on-the-Hill Community Food Bank - The Outreach Committee is asking for your help in filling the red wagon with your donations for the food bank. An Outreach volunteer will take the donations to St. Paul on-the-Hill. Grocery gift cards are always greatly appreciated. For a comprehensive list, please visit this link to St. Paul's-on-the-Hill Food Bank.

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