



The Prayer Book Society of Canada

National Chairman - The Rev'd Canon Dr. Gordon R. Maitland

Advent 2025

Dear friends and supporters of the Book of Common Prayer,

One of the traditional themes of this Advent season is hope. We hear of the hopes of the prophet Isaiah as he looked forward to the coming of the Messiah. We look forward to the hope that comes with Christmas, and we also look forward to our Lord's return in glory to vindicate his people at the final Judgement.

I mention this theme of hope because I sometimes hear from people who are discouraged and depressed at the state of our Church and the state of worship in many of our congregations. It cannot be denied that the secularization of Canadian society has resulted in difficult times for Christianity in this country. And the same secularization has (consciously or unconsciously) led to Christian worship that is often indistinguishable from secular entertainment. Nevertheless, we must not give in to despair, because the same Lord who was born in circumstances of poverty and distress himself is even now the King of the Universe and the Master of human destiny. Our newsletters have often contained inspiring stories of faithful Anglicans who continue to be true to their Lord and to the traditions of worship inherited from their ancestors. This past month, during the PBSC bursaries programme, we interviewed a variety of students who look to the Prayer Book for inspiration in their ministries and in their daily lives. Anecdotally, we have been hearing of congregations who have revived a tradition of Evensong as a part of their worship offering. It is the seeds of such renewal that we hope to plant and nourish as a Society dedicated to classic Anglicanism.

However, such work can only continue with your support and encouragement. Please pray for the members of our National Council as we constantly seek ways to educate and support clergy and laity dedicated to the continued use of the Book of Common Prayer. As you are able, please support our work financially with a gift or contribution. Be assured that such financial assistance will be gratefully received and faithfully applied.

Finally, let me wish all of you a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May the Lord Jesus bless you and your loved ones during this holy season.

Yours in Christ,