

**Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada**

Officiant & Preacher: The Rev'd George Porter, D. Phil.

**The Liturgy of the Word for
the Feast of the Epiphany (observed)
The 2nd Sunday after Christmas**

January 3, 2021

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO GATHERING TABLE

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For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land, and relationship with the land is at the centre of life and spirituality. We are gathered as treaty people on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg of the Fort William First Nation and acknowledge this people's stewardship of this land through the ages.

Opening Carol: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

We have seen his star in the East,
and have come to worship him. *Matthew 2.2*

Gathering of the Community:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God, you were before time
began and came into the world to save us.

Blessed are you, Sun of righteousness; you shine with the
Father's love and illumine the whole universe.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary; born a child, you shared our
humanity.

Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

Blessed are you, Son of David; born to rule,
you received gifts from the wise men. Blessed are you, Son of
Man; baptized by John, you saved us from ourselves.

Blessed are you, heavenly King; teaching and preaching, healing
and comforting, you proclaimed the kingdom.

Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our
Saviour.

Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.

Praise and honour and glory to you, O Lord most high.

Almighty God,
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.

Let us continue in prayer together, saying:
Creator, we give you thanks for all you are and all
you bring to us for our time within your creation.
In Jesus, you place the Gospel in the centre of the
sacred circle through which all of creation is
related. You show us the way to live a generous
and compassionate life. Give us your strength to
live together with respect and commitment as we
grow in your Spirit, for you are God, now and
forever. Amen

Glory and Praise to Our God

Collects for The Epiphany

Eternal God, who by a star led wise men to the
worship of your Son. Guide by your light the
nations of the earth, that the whole world may
know your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading is from the Book of

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

² For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

³ Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses'
arms.

⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,^[a]
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 72: 1 -7, 10 – 14

- 1** Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
- 2** May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.
- 3** May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- 4** May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
- 5** May he live^[a] while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- 6** May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.
- 7** In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- 10** May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles
render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba
bring gifts.
- 11** May all kings fall down before him,
all nations give him service.
- 12** For he delivers the needy when they call,
the poor and those who have no helper.
- 13** He has pity on the weak and the needy,
and saves the lives of the needy.
- 14** From oppression and violence he redeems their life;
and precious is their blood in his sight.

Second Reading is from

Ephesians 3: 1 – 12

Paul's Ministry to the Gentiles

3 This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—

for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you,

and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words,

a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:

that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷ Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power.

⁸ Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,

⁹ and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things

¹⁰ so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

¹¹ This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,

¹² in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

A Gradual: Jesus Athatonia

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to

GLORY TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

This is The Gospel of Christ

PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

Sermon: Ted & George

A Time of Reflection: Home Again (Steve Bell)

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our faith, as we say:

**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 again 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 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.**

The Prayers & the Litany of the Incarnation

Let us pray.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Archbishop Anne and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, and those who seek your truth.

Remember those who have asked our prayers and others known to you.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light. And grant that we may find our inheritance with the blessed Virgin Mary, with the Magi pilgrims, with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and

martyrs, and all the saints who have found favour with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

So in joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, "Lord, grant us peace."

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace

By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the

kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us,
O Lord.

Lord, grant us peace.

Confession and Absolution

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

Most merciful God,
**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.**

Almighty God have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Notawinan misiwe e ayayan
Kiwiyowin Ke natenitawan
Weticipaniew kit otenawiwin
Mina tawi oticipaniw
Kakina kewan ka itenitaman
Tapishoic kicikishikok ishi
Mininan oma anoc kakishikak
Ke oci pimatisiyak min
Ashenamawinan tato kewana
Ita kashi macitotamak
Ninanan e ashenamawakicik
Aniki ka wanitotakoyak

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 from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,

Wiciinan eka tapimoteyak
Kotenimiko winik ninanan
Maka mita kwenamawinan eka
Macatisiwini kekwana
Kina ka tipenitan kakike
Sokatisiwin keshtenitakwak

the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.

The Blessing

May the Lord give us firm faith, unwavering hope,
perfect charity, and pour into our hearts
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and spiritual strength,
the spirit of knowledge and true godliness,

and the spirit of a holy awe in all God's works.
May light eternal, shine in our hearts:
Power eternal, deliver us from evil:
Wisdom eternal, scatter the darkness of ignorance:
Might eternal, have mercy on us.
God grant that we may ever seek God's face,
with all our heart and soul and strength;
and keep us in God's holy presence,
with the blessing of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy
Spirit. **Amen.**

Announcements:

Closing Music: We Three Kings of Orient Are

Dismissal: Let us go forth, rejoicing in the power of
God's Spirit, to love and serve God and all God's creatures.

**Thanks be to God.
Alleluia ! Alleluia ! Alleluia !**

Readings for The Baptism of the Lord

Genesis 1: 1 - 5

Psalm 29

Acts 19: 1 - 7

Mark 1: 4 - 11

Anglican Cycle of Prayer

Please Pray for:

The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer :

Please Pray for:

ACC The Most Rev. Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop, and the staff of Indigenous Ministries; the Anglican Council of Indigenous People

ELCIC Bishop Michael Pryse, the people and rostered ministers of the Eastern Synod

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer : Please Pray for: The Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury, The Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Green, The Rev. Rhonda Hirst (Hon.), The Rev. Canon Dr. John Gibaut (Hon.)

Parish Cycle of Prayer:

Please pray for our own church members:

Alan and Cynthia Roy, and Graham and Michael, Kenneth and Irene Roy, John (Sandy) and Honor Shaw, Ophelia Shawinimash, Lucy Shewaybick, Sally Shewaybick, Shirley Siipola, Mark Smith, Jay Smith, Laura-Lee Smith, Dale and Sharon Sparkes, Tom and Colleen Speer, Eric and Ann Strand, Evelyn Strawson, Peter and Marion Strawson, Charles Suganaqueb, Jim and Frances Sutton.

Please Pray For: Our young people in Junior High School, High School, College and University who are struggling academically, social and mentally, as well as with understanding their own identities.

A grace note from www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com

I suddenly had a little epiphany:
all the books we own, both read and unread
are fullest expression of self we have at our disposal.

Nick Hornby



Prayer requests from Arch Bishop Anne:

“Please join the bishops of our province in holding our province and our whole world in prayer during this time of crisis, especially those who are afflicted with this coronavirus. Pray especially for researchers, policymakers, frontline workers, and for all those who are caring for those who are sick, as well as for those who have died and those who mourn.”

“Continue to pray for those who are most deeply affected by COVID-19 - frontline workers, hospital staff, those who are stranded and unable to return to their homes from abroad, those who are isolated further because of the new restrictive measures in place, and those who have been diagnosed with COVID -19 and their families and loved ones.”

Gathering Table Prayer Chain

During this time of social isolation and uncertainty, it is more important than ever to pray for one another. If you would like to be a part of the Gathering Table prayer chain or you have any needs or concerns that you would like placed on the prayer chain please contact Sheila Chisholm at chisholmsheilak@gmail.com

or text /phone 306-240-0771.

Reminder about Visitations:

Pastoral care visits will be continue to be restricted to emergency situations – please call the office or the Rectory if such a situation arises.

Dear Parishioners:

At this time as we move back into the closing of the building and in-person re-gathering for Sunday worship services ... *Here are some other things to take note of:*

- *The building will remain essentially closed indefinitely, though phone calls will be answered during office hours. All gatherings, events or meetings (apart from worship services) must either be postponed or conducted by means of various internet tools.*
- *The Food Cupboard will operate every second and fourth Sunday of the month in its present modified format. No emergency food parcels will be distributed during this time.*
- *Pastoral visitation is drastically restricted. In emergency situations please call the office or the Rectory. We realize that, despite the focus on this crisis and the cutting back on medical and social services, other things still go on – and some things get worse. Isolation is hard for many people for different reasons, not only physically, but relationally, emotionally and spiritually. We want to do what we can to help.*
- *Remember to pray especially for leaders and for those who must engage in heroic forms of ‘risky behaviours’: medical personnel, emergency responders, those who deal with the dead and their families, those who keep*

vital services operating, and those mostly unseen people who enable these others to keep going.

Sunday Sermons: Sunday service can be viewed on the Gathering Table website <http://gatheringtable.ca> and on the Gathering Table Facebook page. The whole service will be live streamed at 10 a.m. Sunday at the link <http://gatheringtable.ca> **Please Note** You may be visible on the online stream

Church Calendars 2021 – Call the office if you would like to get one . Calendars are \$5.00 each if picked up, or \$7.00 if you would like us to mail them to you.

Annual Vestry Meeting

From Wikipedia. The **meeting** of parishioners (also referred to as the annual **vestry meeting** or (AVM)) is held yearly in every parish in the Church of England to elect churchwardens and deputies (if any) for the forthcoming year.

All groups are requested to submit their reports to the office by January 15th, 2021 in order to be included in the Vestry Booklet for 2020 office@gatheringtable.ca





a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

228 Pearl Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1E4

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Web: <http://gatheringtable.ca>

Office: 345-6898 Hall: 345-6088

Service Time: Sunday at 10:00 am

Food Bank Open: 2nd and 4th Sundays starting at 11:30 am

Pastor: The Rev. Canon George M. Porter, D.Phil.

Phone: 626-9650 Mobile: 355-5454

Email: porter.george@gmail.com

Honorary Assistant: The Rev. Gail M. Clifton, M.Div.

Phone: 768-9865 Email: gailx2@shaw.ca

Lay Readers

Kim Bienvenue, Rose Jardine, Brenda O'Neill, Jim Sutton.

Frances Bennett-Sutton

Wardens

Rector's Warden: Marg Boone Deputy Rector's Warden: Marjorie Tutkaluk

People's Warden: Jim Sutton Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Music Ministry at Gathering Table

Co – Music Directors: (Organist)
Donna Hamill (Pianist)

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2021

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.” *Micah 6:8*