

Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

Presider & Preacher: The Rev'd Nancy Ringham

Third Sunday of Advent ~ Gaudete

December 12, 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.

Instrumental Prelude

O Come O Come Emmanuel

by the piano Guys

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings
to the afflicted. *Isaiah 61. 1*

Music before

Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Donna & Ted recording

All: Be with you all.
And also with you.

Presider: 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**

Presider: Let us continue in prayer together, saying:
All: **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**

Collect of the Day

**God of power and mercy, you call us once again
to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove
those things which hinder love of you, that when
he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and
wonder for him 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 Book of
Zephaniah 3: 14 - 20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

In Place of the Psalm:

The Magnificat

By Steve Bell

**Second Reading is from the Letter of Paul to the
Philippians 4: 4 – 7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Luke 3: 7 - 18

ALL: GLORY TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

This is The Gospel of Christ

ALL: PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

Sermon: The Rev'd Nancy

A Time of Silent Reflection

Music: Advent Song

Hear, O Israel

BAS - page 53

**Hear, O Israel,
the Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

**Love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

**This is the first and the great commandment.
The second is like it:
Love your neighbour as yourself.**

There is no commandment greater than these.

**Litany for Advent
12 Advent**

BAS -pages 119-120

(In joyful expectation let us pray to our Saviour and Redeemer, saying, “Lord Jesus, come soon!”)

O Wisdom, from the mouth of the Most High, you reign over all things to the ends of the earth: come and teach us how to live.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Lord, and head of the house of Israel, you appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush and you gave the law on Sinai: come with outstretched arm and ransom us.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Branch of Jesse, standing as a sign among the nations, all kings will keep silence before you and all peoples will

summon you to their aid: come, set us free and delay no more.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Key of David and sceptre of the house of Israel, you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open: come and free the captives from prison.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Morning Star, splendour of the light eternal and bright Sun of righteousness: come and enlighten all who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O King of the nations, you alone can fulfil their desires: Cornerstone, you make opposing nations one: come and save the creature you fashioned from clay.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

O Emmanuel, hope of the nations and their Saviour: come and save us, Lord our God.

Lord Jesus, come soon!

Confession and Absolution

BAS - page 191

Presider: 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.

Presider: 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.

All: **Amen.**

The Peace

*(During this time, please refrain from moving about and
observe physical distancing)*

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

Offertory: Lo, How a Rose E'Er Blooming

Prayer over the Gifts

**God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation
and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer #2

BAS pages 196 - 197

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,
through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Redeemer.
He is your living Word,
through whom you have created all things.

By the power of the Holy Spirit
he took flesh of the Virgin Mary
and shared our human nature.
He lived and died as one of us,
to reconcile us to you,
the God and Father of all.

In fulfilment of your will
he stretched out his hands in suffering,

to bring release to those who place their hope in you;
and so he won for you a holy people.
He chose to bear our griefs and sorrows,
and to give up his life on the cross,
that he might shatter the chains of evil and death,
and banish the darkness of sin and despair.
By his resurrection
he brings us into the light of your presence.

Now with all creation we raise our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name

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

Holy and gracious God,
accept our praise,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
who on the night he was handed over
to suffering and death,
took bread and gave you thanks,
saying, "Take, and eat:
this is my body which is broken for you."
In the same way he took the cup,
saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you.
When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we offer you this bread and this cup,
giving thanks that you have made us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit
upon the offering of your holy Church.
Gather into one
all who share in these sacred mysteries,
filling them with the Holy Spirit
and confirming their faith in the truth,
that together we may praise you
and give you glory
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.

All glory and honour are yours,
Father and Son,
with the Holy Spirit
in the holy Church,
now and for ever.
People Amen.

The Lord's Prayer:

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as
our Saviour has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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 #5 for Advent-

BAS page 212

Presider: God of Promise
you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

**All: Happy are those who are called
to the supper of the Lamb.**

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

**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 your peace.**

Music During Communion:

Creator of the Stars of Night

Prayer After Communion

**God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation
and make us a living sacrifice to you, for the sake
of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Doxology

BAS page 214

All your works praise you, O Lord.

And your faithful servants bless you.

Gracious God we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, who the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Blessing

Announcements:

Dismissal:

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia ! Alleluia ! Alleluia !

Closing Music; Joyful, Joyful we Adore Thee

Please note that there is a 'treasure chest' at the back of the church where offerings can be left when leaving the church.

At the conclusion of the service, please remain seated until

an usher dismisses you. If you are helping with post-service cleaning or counting, please remain seated until ushers indicate it is safe to move about.

Readings for The Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7: 1 – 11, 16

Psalm 89: 1 – 4, 19 - 26

Romans 16: 25 - 27

Luke 1: 26 - 38

Anglican Cycle of Prayer - please pray for:

2nd Sunday of Advent

The Anglican Church of Burund

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer – please pray for:

ACC ACC The Venerable Alan Perry, General Secretary, and the staff of the General Secretary's Office; Melanie Delva, Reconciliation Animator; Dawn Maracle, Animator, Indigenous Justice – Interim

ELCIC Trina Gallop Blank, Assistant to the National Bishop, Communications and Resource Generation, and the staff of Communications; Kyle Giesbrecht, Director of Finance and Administration, and the staff of Finance and Administration

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: please pray for:

St. James', Goulais River, The Ven. Dr. Jay Koyle
The Rev. Dr. Bill Steadman (Hon.)

Parish Cycle of Prayer - please pray for our own church members: Tom and Colleen Speer, Eric and Ann Strand, Evelyn Strawson, Peter Strawson, Charles Suganaqueb, Jim and Frances Sutton, Ellen Teahan,

Violet Thomson (*who just celebrated her 102nd Birthday this week*),

Bob and Marjorie Tutkaluk, Duncan Twance, Elroy Ulmer, Terry Wade, Dan and Val Walter, Elaine Waring, Barbara Warwick, Elizabeth Whalley, and Jim, Carl and Roberta Wolfe, Michael Wolfe and Heidi Dreher-Wolfe, Makayla and Riley, Anne Zale

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

While you're waiting, God is working.

Reminder about Visitations:

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

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.

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

PWRDF

(Primates World Relief Development Fund)

Archbishop Anne Germond in her charge to Synod in the fall of 2021, talked about the importance of the **PWRDF'S Vaccine Equity Fund**, a resolution to support this project was passed by Algoma's synod. When you receive your vaccine, "Pay it forward" and make a donation to PWRDF'S Vaccine Equity Fund. Your gift will support PWRDF partners in the most vulnerable parts of the world as they prepare for vaccination rollout, including work already underway to supply PPE, thermometers, sanitation and hand washing facilities, and accurate public health information. After you make your donation, you can help yourself to a Christmas tree ornament at Gathering Table as a thank you from the Deanery. You may donate online by going to pwrdf.org/give-today and click on Vaccine Equity Fund. Or phone Donor Relations Officer Mike Ziemerink at 416-822-9083, or leave a voicemail toll-

free at 1-866-308-7973 and someone will return your call. Or send a cheque with “Vaccine Equity Fund” in the memo field to PWRDF, 80 Hayden St, 3rd floor, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 3G2 See the **World of Gifts Guide**, on the website or the insert in the Anglican Journal. For a unique meaningful gift, you can order seeds for farmers, livestock and contribute to projects worldwide, etc.

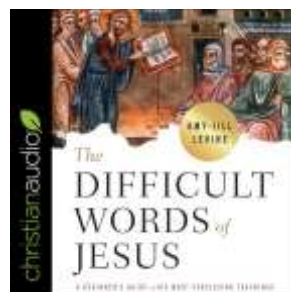
- You can order beautiful **Christmas cards** and spread the good news of PWRDF.
- Sign up for a **daily Advent reflection**.

For further information go to www.pwrdf.org

Linda Rintamaki (rep) linjrin@tbaytel.net

Advent Book Study – The Difficult Words of Jesus Author Amy-Jill Levine

Lead By The Rev'd Gail Clifton M. Div



Tues. Dec 14th 2021 from 2 – 4 p.m.
In the Parish Hall
Please Contact Rev. Gail Clifton 768-9865
(all COVID-19 protocols will be adhered to)



Christmas Flowers



Advent is here, and so is Christmas! I'm afraid to say it out loud, but it looks like we will be able to celebrate together this year! The Altar Guild is getting the sanctuary ready for this most wonderful day, but still with caution.

Deadline: TOMORROW, December 13, 2021, to ensure placement of your dedication in the bulletins for Christmas services. Questions? Call Rose at 621-1205.

To Place A Dedication:

A. Contact Rose Jardine by email at roseanew@tbaytel.net, or by voice mail / text at 621-1205, with the wording for your flower 'dedication'. THEN: Make a cheque or money order out to: ALTAR GUILD, flag the envelope 'Altar Guild Flowers', and mail to the church address. Please include a written confirmation of your details, as above. or

B. Write up your Dedication, bring it to a regular service. Place the note and your donation into an envelope, label it 'Gathering Table Christmas Flowers'. Place the envelope into the 'Treasure Chest' near the office.

Again, write cheques to ALTAR GUILD.

Thank You!



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 19th - 4th Sunday of Advent
Morning Prayer – Richard & Jim

December 24th – Christmas Eve – 7 p.m.
Communion Rev. Gordon Holroyd

December 25th – No Service

December 26th – 10 a.m.
Communion – Rev. Gail Clifton
Lay Reader – Jim Sutton

January 2nd, 2022
Lessons and Carols or Communion
Kim Bienvenue – Richard Pepper



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
will be hosting the very talented

Daylin James

for an Elvis Gospel Christmas

December 17th @ 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 each and are available at the
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church office,
Calicos Coffeehouse, and Marv Chony Jewellers.





Gathering Table
228 Pearl Street, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 1E4

Email: office@gatheringtable.ca

Web: <http://gatheringtable.ca>

Office: 345-6898

Hall: 345-6088

Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Friday from 8 a.m. to noon

Pastor: Currently Vacant

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

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

Lay Readers: Frances Bennett-Sutton, Rose Jardine,
Brenda O'Neill and Jim Sutton, **On Leave:** Kim Bienvenue,

Lay Reader in Training: Richard Pepper

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|-------------------------|---|
| Rector's Warden: | Marg Boone |
| Deputy Rector's Warden: | Dr. Michelle Proudfoot |
| People's Warden: | Jim Sutton |
| Deputy People's Warden: | Sheila Chisholm |
| Co-Music Directors - | Pianist Donna Hamill Organist (Vacant) |

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*