

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



GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF THE RISEN LORD

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**Been – Sa – gen, Jem na do waky gan ning**

Gathering Table  
a Faith Community  
in the Anglican Church of Canada

**The First Sunday after Christmas**

**Officiating & Preaching:**  
**The Rev. Gail M. Clifton, M. Div**  
**Lay Reader: Kimberly Bienvenue**

December 26<sup>th</sup> , 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; 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.**

**Prelude: CP 128** The Virgin Mary had a Baby Boy

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in your richly.

*Colossians 3. 15, 16*

**Opening Music: CP 129** No Crowded Eastern Street

## **Gathering of the Community - BAS Page 185**

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.**

### **GLORY TO GOD (Said)**

*Presider:* **Glory to God in the highest,  
All and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,**

**in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Collect for The First Sunday After Christmas**  
**Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen**

**The Proclamation of the Word**

**First Reading is found in The First Book of Samuel  
1 Samuel 2: 18 – 20, 26**

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

**This is the Word of The Lord  
Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 148**

**Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.**

Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created. He made them stand fast for ever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away. Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will;

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds;

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and maidens, old and young together.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven.

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him.

**The Second Reading is found in The Letter of Paul to the Colossians 3: 12 - 17**

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the Word of The Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual: CP 131** Love Came Down at Christmas

**The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke 2: 41 - 52**

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

The Gospel of Christ.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

**Sermon: Rev. Gail Clifton**

**Time of Silence**

**The Nicene Creed**

**BAS Page 188**

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.****

## **Prayers of The People**

### **The Confession and Absolution – Page 191**

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.

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. Amen.**

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. 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:** CP 154 Joy to the World

## **Receiving Holy Communion**

This is the table of Christ made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So come, whether you have much faith or little, have tried to follow or afraid you have failed. Come because it is Christ's will that those who want to meet him, might meet him here.

Our tradition says that to receive any part of the Eucharist is to receive the full grace of the Sacrament.

*During this time we ask that you remain seated or*

*standing where you are. The bread only will be distributed to you by the Presider or by a designated Eucharistic Assistant.*

### **Prayer Over The Gifts.**

**God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**

### **The Holy Eucharist**

**Eucharistic Prayer #3**

**BAS Page 198**

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

***All:* And also with you.**

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts.

***All:* We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***All:* It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Presider:* Blessed are you, gracious God,  
creator of heaven and earth;  
because in the mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of salvation  
in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Now with angels and archangels and the whole company

of heaven, we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

**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. ....**

We give thanks to you, Lord our God,  
for the goodness and love  
you have made known to us in creation;  
in calling Israel to be your people;  
in your Word spoken through the prophets;  
and above all in the Word made flesh,  
Jesus your son.  
For in these last days you sent him  
to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world.  
In him, you have delivered us from evil,  
and made us worthy to stand before you.  
In him, you have brought us  
out of error into truth,  
out of sin into righteousness,  
out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over  
to suffering and death,  
a death he freely accepted,  
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;

and when he had given thanks to you.  
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,  
and said, "Take, eat:  
This is my body which is given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;  
And when he had given thanks,  
he gave it to them,  
and said, "Drink this, all of you:  
this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you  
and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Whenever you drink it,  
Do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

**All: we remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory;**

and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to  
you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this  
bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God,  
to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts,  
that they may be the sacrament  
of the body of Christ  
and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice,  
that we, made acceptable in him,  
may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit.  
In the fullness of time,  
reconcile all things in Christ,  
and make them new,  
and bring us to that city of light  
where you dwell with all your sons and daughters;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
the firstborn of all creation,  
the head of the Church,  
and author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father,  
now and for ever.

**All: Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**BAS pg 211**

And now, as our Saviour Christ 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.**

**Fraction Sentence # 6**

**BAS Page 213**

*Presider:* We break the bread of life,  
And that life is the light of the world.  
*All* **God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
Bring us to light and life. Amen**

**Communion**

**Music During Communion**

CP 134 What Child is This?

**AGNUS DEI**

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

## **The Prayer After Communion**

**Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen**

**The Doxology –**

**BAS –Page 214**

**Glory to God, 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**

**The Blessing:**

**Closing**

**Announcements:**

**Dismissal**

**Go in peace to love and serve our risen Lord.  
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia**

**Postlude: CP 130 Born in the Night**

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 Epiphany of The Lord**

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6 .....

Psalm 72: 1 – 7, 10 - 14

Ephesians 3: 1 - 12

Matthew 2: 1 - 12

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer Please Pray for:**

1st Sunday of Christmas, Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr  
Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

**Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer :**

**Please Pray for:**

**ACC:** Director Joe Vecsi and the staff of  
Communications and Information Resources;  
Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer Amal Attia  
and the staff of Financial Management and  
Administration

**ELCIC** Lyle McKenzie, Assistant to the National Bishop  
for Worship

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for:**

We pray for the children and families of our diocese, that they may pattern their lives on the earthly home of Mary and Joseph in Nazareth. As the child Jesus grew in body and spirit, blessed by both God and people, so may our homes be places of peace and safety where we nurture each other to grow together in God's love.



## **Parish Cycle of Prayer**

### **Please pray for our own church members:**

Sharon Corston, Hellen Corston, Margaret Cousins, Joe and Nancy Crane, Ivy and Tim, Suzy and Leigh Crocker Scot and Kerri Dawson, Cole and Nathan, Sheila Douglas, Mary Edwards, Emil and Margot Engler, Steven and Abby, Rose Everall, Ann Flatt, Larry and Vicky Fletcher/Kosny-Fletcher, Elisabeth Gesch, Allan and Sharon Gilbert, Joyce Gill, Melanie Gottfred, Shannon and Marie MacLeod,

**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](http://www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com)

Living the gift of belonging with God.

### **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](mailto: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



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**  
**Lessons and Carols**



**2022 Envelopes**

are now available at the back of the church.  
**Or Ask About Electronic Offering Program**

**2021 CHRISTMAS FLOWER TRIBUTES**



**At Gathering Table**



**Given With Thanksgiving to God for**

**For Friends and Family**

Given by Marg Boone

**The Gift of Wonderful Family and Friends**

Given by Marilyn and Al Chisholm



**Given to the Glory of God  
and in loving memory of**

**Audrey Atkinson**

from son Errol Atkinson.

**Robert Johnson,**

**Helen and John Wolfe**

Given by Carl and Roberta Wolfe and Families

**With fond memories and thanksgiving to God  
for loved ones**

Len and Michael Hartley  
and dear friends Nancy and Audrey  
from Diane Hartley.



Gathering Table  
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Email: [office@gatheringtable.ca](mailto: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](mailto: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

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*