

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

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
Holy Eucharist**

Officiating & Preaching: Rev. Ann Camber
Lay Reader: Brenda O'Neill
Lector: Carol Kostyniuk and Richard Pepper
Music: Ted and Donna Hamill and Singers
Greeters: Elaine McKinnon and Connie Bryson
Eucharistic Assistants:
Brenda O'Neill and Kim Bienvenue
Altar Guild: Audrey Love

December 18th , 2022

10:00 a.m.

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.

Welcome To Gathering Table and Opening Remarks

Welcome to all our visitors and newcomers we're glad you're here! We invite you to sign our Visitor's Book at the back of the church.

I am the servant of the Lord;
let it be to me according to his word. *Luke 1.38*

Opening Music: CP 130 **Born In The Night**

Katelin, Brooke, Scarlett, and Olivia will come forward to light the Advent wreath)

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Reader One: Isaiah said that the Lord spoke to the king and said, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven" (*Isaiah 7:11 NRSV*). But when the king refused, God would not be stopped.

"Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel" (*Isaiah 7:14 NRSV*).

Reader Two: God wants us to know, even when we aren't sure ourselves. God wants us to experience God's presence, even when we think we can handle life on our own. God sends us signs of God's presence with us; all we need to do is keep our eyes open and look.

Reader One: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, 'God is with us.'" When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus (Matthew 1:23-25 NRSV).

Reader Two: We light these candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, of deep everlasting joy, and today of presence that speaks of love, as a sign that no matter our circumstance, we know we are not alone.

(Light all four candles (3 blue, 1 pink) of the Advent wreath.)

Music: **Lord, Hear Our Prayer**

Gathering of the Community

Presider: 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.

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.

Collect Of The Day

Presider: Heavenly Father who chose the Virgin Mary, full of grace, to be the mother of our Lord and Saviour, now fill us with your grace, that we in all things may embrace your will and with her rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **All: Amen**

Children's Time: **Rev. Ann Camber**

The Proclamation of the Word The First Reading is from the Book of Isaiah

Isaiah 7: 10 - 16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Refrain: Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir
up your strength and come to help us.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your
countenance, and we shall be saved.

***Refrain: Show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.***

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite
the prayers of your people?

You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given

***Refrain: Show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.***

You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our
enemies laugh us to scorn.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your
countenance, and we shall be saved.

***Refrain: Show the light of your countenance,
and we shall be saved.***

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Refrain: Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading is found in the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 1: 1 – 7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gradual: **Of The Father's Love Begotten**

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew**

ALL: GLORY TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Matthew 1: 18 - 25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is The Gospel of Christ

ALL: PRAISE TO YOU, LORD JESUS CHRIST

Sermon: **Rev. Ann Camber**

A Time of Silent Reflection

The Apostles' Creed –

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Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

**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.**

Intercessions and Thanksgivings

Prayers of the People

Lay Reader

Holding All Saints Church Community Centre in prayer
and all those affected by this tragic event early Tuesday
morning in the Diocese of Toronto.

Lord hear our prayer.

Let us continue our prayer with the Liturgy for Advent.

Advent Litany #12

BAS Page 119

(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!

The Confession and Absolution –BAS 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

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

Offertory: **In The Bleak Midwinter**

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Gracious God, by the power of the Spirit who sanctified the mother of your Son, make holy all we offer you this day. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen

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.

**The Celebration of the 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;
we give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the fullness of time came
among us in our flesh,
and opened to us the way of salvation.
Now we watch for the day when he will come again
in power and great triumph to judge this world,
that we, without shame or fear,
may rejoice to behold his appearing.
Therefore we praise you,
joining our voices with angels and archangels
and with all the company of heaven,
who for ever sing this hymn
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
Hosanna in the highest
*Blessed is He who comes
in the name of the Lord*
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest**

Patrick Schlabs

Presider: 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 page 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread #5

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.**

Presider: The gifts of God for the People of God.

***All:* Thanks be to God.**

Communion Music:

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God you take away
the sin of the world
have mercy on us

Lamb of God you take away
the sin of the world
have mercy on us

Lamb of God you take away
the sin of the world
grant - us peace

**CP 588 Come Now, O Prince Of Peace
Mary Had A Baby
Mary Did You Know**

Prayer After Communion

Presider: Faithful God, in this sacrament we receive the promise of salvation May we, like the Virgin Mary, be obedient to your will. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

All: Amen

Presider: All your works praise you, O Lord.

All: 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: Rev. Ann

Be people of love. Let love live in your heart and share the love of Christ with all you meet. Share love by loving those you see regularly. Start by loving your community. Share love by loving those you do not know. How do your actions affect the rest of God's creation? Share love by praying for our world. In this Advent season, we need to see, feel, and share love. As you go out into the wonder of God's creations, share love, joy, peace, and hope with those you meet. Amen.

Announcements:

Closing Music: **Immanuel**

Dismissal: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

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

Readings for the Christmas Eve

Isaiah 62: 6 – 12

Psalm 98

Hebrew 1: 1 – 4, (5- 12)

Luke 2: 1 – 14, (15 – 20

Anglican Cycle of Prayer Please Pray for:

4th Sunday of Advent

The Anglican Church of Korea

Anglican Lutheran Cycle of Prayer : Pray for:

ACC: The Rev. Dr. Eileen Scully, Director, and the staff of Faith, Worship, and Ministry; Sheilagh McGlynn, Youth Ministries Animator; the Rev. Canon Dr. Scott Sharman, Animator for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

ELCIC Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the National Bishop, Justice and Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations; Deacon Gretchen Peterson, Assistant to the National Bishop, Youth and Leadership

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for:

St. James', Gravenhurst, The Rev. Heather Manuel
The Rev. Canon Tom James (Hon.), The Rev. Jim Schell (Deacon)

Our Parish Cycle of Prayer

Please pray for our own church members: Janis Medwid, Arlene Meservier, Carl and Elizabeth Mickelson, Adrienne Morris, Tom and Dora Morris, Charles and Marion Morris, Rosalie Hardisty Morris, Mark Myers, Dorothy Nesbitt, Len Norris, Garth and Brenda O'Neill, Cindy Papassay, Beth O'Neill, Henry Parise, Marjorie (Midge) Peel, Richard Pepper, Sheila Pepper, Nancy and Bob Polhill, Dr. Michelle Proudfoot, Alex and Sarah, Evelyn, Emerson and Elliott Pyne

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

God's love is perfect. He loves you – adores you – right where you are.

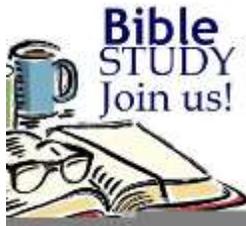
2023 Parishioner Parking Passes are available at the office Tues. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Friday 8 a.m. – 12 noon or on Sun. before church.

EVENTS AT GATHERING TABLE

Groups or individuals wishing to use the Parish Hall, or Kitchen, must fill in the Gathering Table Booking Request Form that is available by calling the office at 345-6898 or by emailing the office at (office@gatheringtable.ca). They have to be approved by the Wardens.

Calendar of Events

Dec. 18th Food Cupboard at 11:30 a.m.
Dec. 20th Advent Bible Study 2 p.m.
Jan. 12th Altar Guild Meeting at 1:30 p.m.
Feb. 14th Altar Guild Meeting at 1:30 p.m.
Mar. 23rd Save the Date - 2 Bit Auction for Camp Gitchigomee 7 p.m.



Advent Bible Study – 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Dec. 20, 2022
With the Rev. Gail Clifton, in the Parish Hall.

Baptism and Confirmation

Rev. Ann would like to know if there is anyone else who is interested in the Sacrament of Baptism (Infant or Adult), or Confirmation (Ages 13+), or Life in the Eucharist (ages 7+) Please call the office or talk to Rev. Ann for more information. (There are sheets on both Baptism, and Confirmation in the rack at the back of the church, or they can be emailed to you by calling the office at 345-6898.

**Our Daily Bread for
November 2022, December – February 2023**



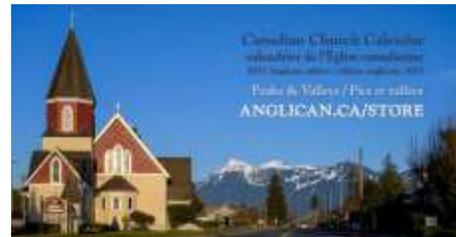
Anniversary Time Capsule 2022

Gathering Table will be collecting small items to be included in the Time Capsule for The 150th Anniversary of Christian services here at 228 Pearl Street. Items can be a photo, a letter, a small item

Warm Clothing Needed at Mission to Seafarers

We have very little warm clothing on hand! The Mission to Seafarers would appreciate donations of **warm, small to large size men's clothing**. Many of the sailors on ocean-going vessels come from warmer countries and find our fall weather rather cold. Donations can be put in the drop off box outside the Seafarers' Centre [or given to the MTS Congregation Rep at each Anglican parish].

**2023 Church Calendars
are available at the office for
\$5.00 each**



Christmas is coming at PWRDF.

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. You can order **Christmas cards**. Sign up for a daily Advent reflection. Linda Rintamaki, your parish rep (linjrin@tbaytel.net) Other PWRDF News (*There are sheets at the back*) on

ADVENT CONSPIRACY 2022

Be bold and join PWRDF's Advent Conspiracy 2022. Please pick up a copy to read.

We Welcome Your Prayer Requests:

If you wish to have the congregation of Gathering Table pray for you or a loved one at a Eucharist Service any Sunday, please let us know! Call the church office at (807) 345-6898, or Contact Rev. Anne at camber_a@yahoo.ca, or write your name on the **Prayer List**, at the back of the church. Yes, the '**Prayer List**' is being resumed, and is in a white binder at the back of the church. If it is written on the list before the service begins, the Lay Reader will add your request to the Prayers of the People. **Gathering Table Prayer Chain:** 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 by text 1-306-240-0771 or chisholmsheilak@gmail.com

The Cold Weather is Here

Please make sure that if you are the last to leave, that you shut the doors in the different areas of the church and hall to help save money on heating. *Thanks David Reid*

Reminder about Visitations:

Rev. Ann has started her Pastoral care visits. If you would like a visit, please call 807-285-9446 or email her at:

rector@gatheringtable.ca



2023 Envelopes are now available at the back of the church. **Or Ask About Electronic Offering Program.** For the EOP please use “**church**”

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

Prospector Buns – Life-water Canada Fundraiser

The Prospector Steak House has once again generously offered to donate their fabulous buns in support of Life-water Canada. Buns including garlic butter are \$5.00 / dozen. Donations, in addition to the bun purchase, will be gratefully accepted. Perhaps you'd like to purchase buns to donate to the Dew Drop Inn. We'll happily deliver them on your behalf. Just think of the impact \$5.00 can make. Please help us make this a sold out event by sharing this event with your family, friends, colleagues, & any other "Tom, Dick, or Harry" you know! **Pick up will be 12:00PM – 1:00PM on Sat. Dec. 24.** You will receive an emailed confirmation within 24 hours of placing your order. Confirmation will include payment, pick up details.



Christmas Services 2022 – 2023

Dec. 24th, 2022 - Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist at 7 p.m.

Dec. 25th, 2022 - Christmas Day Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.

January 1st, 2023 - Lessons and Carols - at 10 a.m.

January 8th The Epiphany of the Lord
Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.

January 15th -The Baptism of the Lord
Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.



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: Rev. Ann Camber, M.Div.

Phone: 807-285-9446 Email: rector@gatheringtable.ca

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, Kim Bienvenue,

Lay Reader in Training: Richard Pepper

Rector's Warden: David Reid

Deputy Rector's Warden: Vacant

People's Warden: Jim Sutton

Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Music Director; - Pianist Donna Hamill

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2022

“So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new.” (2. Cor. 5.17) “