



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

**Presider & Preacher:** Rev. Ann Camber  
**Gospel:** Rev. Gail Clifton  
**Lay Reader:** Rose Jardine  
**Lector:** Jim Sutton and Frances Bennett-Sutton  
**Music:** Ted and Donna Hamill and Singers  
**Greeters:** Ellie Bennett and John Kirchen  
**Eucharistic Assistants:** Alex and Sylvia Kostecki  
**Altar Guild:** Audrey Love and Erminie Reid

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

7 p.m.

**WELCOME TO GATHERING TABLE**

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

*For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their 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 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. We encourage "Masks" to be worn under the new COVID – 19 Protocols that were received from the Diocese of Algoma.

I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all  
the people; for to you is born this day a Saviour,  
Christ the Lord. Luke 2.10-11

Processional Carol: CP 118 *Verses 1, 3 and 5*  
O Come, All Ye Faithful

The Alberta Family, (Angela, and Ava) will come forward  
to Light the Advent Wreath.

Lighting The Christ Candle

**Reader 1:** We have heard the call to keep watch. But  
what are we keeping watch over? Maybe we're looking for  
something that will define us, something that will remake  
us, transform us. Some relationship, some hope, some  
love that will make us new. Maybe we're looking for the  
gift we remember this night.

**Reader 2:** O holy Child of Bethlehem / Descend to us, we  
pray / Cast out our sin and enter in / Be born to us today /  
We hear the Christmas angels / The great glad tidings tell  
/ O come to us, abide with us / Our Lord Emmanuel (sung  
or said)

**Reader 1:** What we go out to see in the middle of our  
world is not necessarily the Christ child or the light that  
glows within. No, I think what we watch over is the world  
that he came to save: the masses of humanity who think  
they can find salvation in the stuff of this life, like we know  
we do sometimes. When we forget. A world that has room

for a Savior, even when we've forgotten it. And part of what we're keeping watch for is to see whether we can make room—room for grace, room for joy, room for peace, even at our worst. At our most needy. And most helpful, and grace-filled. Keep watch.

**Reader 2:** Let us light these candles and complete this circle as we rejoice in the light that shines in the darkness and declare with joy and with hope –  
Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Hallelujah. Amen.

All four candles are lite first, followed by the Christ candle in the middle

## **Gathering of the Community**

*BAS Page 185*

**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.

**Presider:** Almighty God,

**All:** to you all hearts are open, all desires know, 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

## **A Litany of the Incarnation**

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.**

## **The Collect of the Day**

*Presider:* Eternal God, this holy night is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. As we have known the revelation of that light on earth, bring us to see the splendor of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive 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**

Readings need to be updated

### **A Reading from The Book of Isaiah 52: 7 - 10**

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, 'Your God reigns.'

<sup>8</sup> Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

<sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

## **Psalm: 98**

### **Praise the Judge of the World**

<sup>1</sup> O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

<sup>3</sup> He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup> Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

<sup>5</sup> Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

<sup>6</sup> With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.

<sup>8</sup> Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy

<sup>9</sup> at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

### **The Second Readings is from The Book of Hebrews 1: 1 – 12**

#### **God Has Spoken by His Son**

<sup>1</sup> Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,

<sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.

<sup>3</sup> He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

<sup>4</sup> having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

### **The Son Is Superior to Angels**

<sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son; today I have begotten you”?

Or again, “I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”?

<sup>6</sup> And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God's angels worship him.”

<sup>7</sup> Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds and his servants flames of fire.”

<sup>8</sup> But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”



<sup>10</sup> And, “In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

<sup>11</sup> they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out  
like clothing;

<sup>12</sup> like a cloak you will roll them up, and like Clothing they  
will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will  
never end.”

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

Gradual:      **CP 146 Huron Carol**      All 4 verses

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to  
Luke

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

**Luke 2: 1 – 20**

**The Birth of Jesus**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that  
all the world should be registered.

<sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while  
Quirinius was governor of Syria.

<sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to  
Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he  
was descended from the house and family of David.

<sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was  
engaged and who was expecting a child.

<sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

<sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

### **The Shepherds and the Angels**

<sup>8</sup> Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

<sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

<sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:  
<sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

<sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.”

<sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.

<sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child,

<sup>8</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them,

<sup>19</sup> and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

<sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Christ.

## **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Sermon: **Rev. Ann Camber**

*Time for silent reflection*

**The Nicene Creed**

*BAS page 188*

Presider: 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 is worshipped and glorified.  
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.**

## **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 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 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 of the Lord be always with you

***And also with you***

Offertory:     **Immanuel**

**The Prayer over the Gifts**

Presider:     Source of light and gladness, accept all we offer on this joyful feast. May we grow up in him who unites our lives to yours; for he is Lord now and for ever.

**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.

***Eucharistic Prayer #3***

*BAS page 198*

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.**

*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 mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory. Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices and sing our joyful hymn of praise 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*

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 from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen**

**The Breaking of the Bread** - #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.**

**Presider:** The gifts of God, for the People of God.  
**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Music during Communion**  
**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 139 The First Nowell**  
**Mary Had A Baby**  
**What Child Is**  
**In The Bleak Midwinter**

*Verses 1,2,*

**Candle Lighting**

*(Church Lights turned out and candles and tea lights on)*

**Silent Night**

**Prayer after Communion**

**Presider:** Father of all, tonight you have united earth and heaven in sending your Son to take our human nature. May we who have tasted heavenly things share in the life of his eternal kingdom. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen**

**Doxology:**

*BAS Page 214*

**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 the 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 whom 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.**

**Blessing: Rev Ann Camber**

Tonight, as we celebrate God is with us in the birth of Jesus, let us continue to live lives of hope, peace, joy, and love. Share God's love with the shepherds you meet on the hillside. Let the communion of the Holy Spirit fill your heart with glad tidings like the angels. And the Prince of Peace born again tonight, may He live in your heart to comfort and challenge you as you seek to live as one of his disciples.

**All: Amen.**

**Closing Carol: CP 138**

*All 3 verses*

**Hark The Herald Angels Sing**

**Dismissal:** Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

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

### **Church Office Hours for**

December 27<sup>th</sup> – Closed

December 28<sup>th</sup> - 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

December 29<sup>th</sup> - 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

December 30<sup>th</sup> -8 a.m. - noon

**Note:** Rev Ann will be away starting December 27th and will be available again on January 4th.

### **Readings for Christmas Day**

Isaiah 9: 2 - 7

Psalm 96

Hebrews 1: 1 – 12

Luke 2: 1 - 20

A grace note from [www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com](http://www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com)

Sing to the Lord a new song!

**2023 Envelopes** are now available at the back of the church. Offerings can also be made monthly through the Electronic Offering Program (please ask), or through e-transfer (please make your password answer “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](mailto:office@gatheringtable.ca)). They have to be approved by the Wardens.

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Dec. 25 <sup>th</sup> | Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.  |
| Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup> | Office Closed  |
| Dec. 28 <sup>th</sup> | Office open 10– 6 p.m.   |
| Dec. 28 <sup>th</sup> | Sleepy G. Farm 1 – 6 p.m.  |
| Dec. 30 <sup>th</sup> | Office open 8 a.m. - noon  |
| Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Lessons and Carols at 10 a.m.  |
| Jan. 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Food Cupboard 11:30 a.m.   |
| Jan. 11 <sup>th</sup> | Sleepy G. Farm Pick up 1 – 6 p.m.  |
| Jan. 12 <sup>th</sup> | Christmas Decorations taken down 10 a.m. – noon everyone welcome to help |
| Jan. 25 <sup>th</sup> | Sleep G. Farm pick up 1 – 6 p.m.   |
| Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup> | Felting Workshop (Frances Bennett-Sutton)                                |
| Jan. 28 <sup>th</sup> | Camp Gitchigomee Supper 6 p.m.   |
| Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Felting Workshop see Frances   |
| Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Sleep G. Farm pick up 1 – 6 p.m.   |
| Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup> | Altar Guild Meeting 1:30 – 3 p.m.  |
| Feb. 19 <sup>th</sup> | Food Cupboard 11:30  |
| Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup> | Altar Guild Meeting at 1:30 p.m.   |
| Mar. 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Save the Date - 2 Bit Auction for Camp Gitchigomee 7 p.m.                |



## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2022**

**Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Day:**  
10 am - Holy Eucharist

**January 1<sup>st</sup> , 2022**  
10 am - Lessons and Carols

**Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> The Epiphany of the Lord**  
10 am - Holy Eucharist

**Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> -The Baptism of the Lord**  
10 am - Holy Eucharist

## **CHRISTMAS FLOWER TRIBUTES**



**Given With Thanksgiving to God for**



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

**and in thanksgiving for all the lives of dearly  
beloved family members:** Leonard Hartley, Michael  
Hartley, Joel Mutungu-Ngugi, Doris and Fred Ball, Marion  
and Ric Beecher, Mick and Ernie Hartley  
**from** Diane Hartley and Linda Hartley-Ngugi

**Robert Johnson, and Helen and John Wolfe**  
**from** Carl and Roberta Wolfe

**Given in Thanks**  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and Best Wishes  
**from** Linda Rintamaki and Wayne Edmunds

For family and friends past and present  
**from** Marg Boone



Gathering Table

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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](mailto:rector@gatheringtable.ca)

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, 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) “