

Gathering Table
a Faith Community
in the Anglican Church of Canada

Celebrant: Rev. Ann Camber

Preacher: Kimberly Bienvenue

Lay Reader: Jim Sutton

Lector: Volunteer

Music: Rev. Ann Camber, Jim Sutton, Richard Pepper

Eucharistic Assistants:

Kimberly Bienvenue, Richard Pepper

Greeter: Volunteer

Altar Guild: Marg Boone

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25th, 2023

10 a.m.

WELCOME TO GATHERING TABLE

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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.

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

Opening Carol: **CP 118 O Come All Ye Faithful**

Gathering of the Community

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The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored our human nature. May we share the divine life of your Son Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to share our humanity, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **All: Amen.**

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

Blessing of Children's Gifts

The Proclamation of the Word

Isaiah 9: 2 – 7

- 2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.
- 3 You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.
- 4 For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- 5 For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- 6 For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,

- Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- 7 His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore.
- The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm: 96

Praise to God Who Comes in Judgement

- 1 O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- 2 Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples.
- 4 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
- 6 Honour and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.
- 9 Worship the LORD in holy splendour; tremble before him, all the earth.

- 10** Say among the nations, ‘The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity.’
- 11** Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
- 12** let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

The Second Readings is from The Letter to The Hebrews

Hebrews 1: 1 - 12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, 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. 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, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

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”? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.” But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond

your companions.” And, “In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; 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 138 Hark the Herald Angels Sing**

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

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

² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

³ All went to their own towns to be registered.

⁴ 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.

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

⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

⁷ 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 for them in the inn.

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

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

¹⁰ 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:

¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah,^[a] the Lord.

¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host,^[b] praising God and saying,

¹⁴ ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’^[c]

¹⁵ 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.’

¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;

¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

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

The Gospel of Christ
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Sermon: **Kim Bienvenue** **Lay Reader**
Time for silent reflection

The Peace

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

Offertory: CP 123 Once in Royal David's City

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant: God of peace, your Son Jesus Christ has reconciled us to you. May all we offer you today renew us as members of your household. We ask this in his name.

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

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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.

Celebrant: 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**

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

Celebrant: 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**

welcome us into your kingdom, where he is alive and reigns with you now and for ever. **All: Amen**

Doxology:

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Celebrant: 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

Today, 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 this day, 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: **Feliz Navidad** (*José Feliciano*)

Dismissal: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! All

There is a treasure chest at the back of the church for your envelopes.

A grace note from www.thunderbay-northshoreanglicans.com

“God’s Love is for everyone. He sent his son for us.”

Our Parish Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for our own church members today: Ivy and Tim, Suzy and Leigh Crocker Scot and Kerri Dawson, Cole and Nathan, Sheila Douglas, Emil and Margot Engler, Steven and Abby, Ann Flatt, Larry and Vicky Fletcher/Kosny-Fletcher, Elisabeth Gesch, Allan and Sharon Gilbert, Joyce Gill, Melanie Gottfred, Shannon and Marie MacLeod, Mary Ellen Gouliquer, Ted and Donna Hamill, Glen and Sally Hamilton, Wayne Hargrave, Diane Hartley, Mary Louise Hill, Irene Humby.

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.

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| Jan. 1 st | Lessons and Carols at 10 a.m. |
| Jan. 8 th | Food Cupboard 11:30 a.m. |
| Jan. 11 th | Sleepy G. Farm Pick up 1 – 6 p.m. |
| Jan. 12 th | Christmas Decorations taken down 10 a.m. – noon everyone welcome to help |
| Jan. 25 th | Sleep G. Farm pick up 1 – 6 p.m. |
| Jan. 27 th | Felting Workshop (Frances Bennett-Sutton) |
| Jan. 28 th | Camp Gitchigomee Supper 6 p.m. |

Feb. 3rd Men's Deanery Breakfast – save the date
Feb. 4th Felting Workshop see Frances
Feb. 8th Sleep G. Farm pick up 1 – 6 p.m.
Feb. 14th Altar Guild Meeting 1:30 – 3 p.m.
Feb. 19th Food Cupboard 11:30
Feb. 14th Altar Guild Meeting at 1:30 p.m.
Mar. 23rd Save the Date - 2 Bit Auction for
Camp Gitchigomee 7 p.m.

2023 CHRISTMAS FLOWER TRIBUTES



At Gathering Table

In Thanksgiving for

Family, friends and Gathering Table
given by Linda Rintamaki and Wayne Edmunds.

Family, and friends
given by Jean McAlpine-Marler, and David Marler



Given to the Glory of God

With grateful thanks for the love of family and friends
given by Al and Marilyn Chisholm

In loving memory of
Dale Sparkes
given by his wife Sharon Sparkes.

In loving memory of
Hazel and Robert Johnson, and Helen & John Wolfe
given by Carl and Roberta Wolfe and families

In loving memory of family members
given by Kostyniuk, Speer, Coda and Crocker families.

In thanksgiving and love for our family, friends, Rev.
Ann and all our church family here at Gathering Table
given by Audrey and Neil Love.

In loving memory of
Len, Michael and nieces Tammie, and in thanksgiving for
the lives shared and memories we now have.
given by Diane Hartley and families.

In loving memory of
Phyllis and Edward.
given by their son Murray Butler.





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.

Office Administrator: Roberta Wolfe

Treasurer: Sharon Corston: Friday from 8 a.m. to noon –

Pastor: Rev. Ann Camber, M.Div.

Phone: 807-251-7503 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,

Richard Pepper, Jim Sutton, Kim Bienvenue,

Rector's Warden: David Reid

People's Warden: Jim Sutton

Deputy People's Warden: Sheila Chisholm

Music Director: Pianist Donna Hamill

Wifi Guest Password at Gathering Table > GTGuest1

Archbishop Anne's Motto for 2023

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Luke 4: 18 - 19