

Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Presider: Kim Bienvenue

Music: Richard Pepper

Lay Readers: Frances & Jim Sutton, Richard Pepper

Altar Guild: Erminie Reid

Greeters: Mary Ripley, Colleen Speer

Readers: Carole Kostyniuk, Marilyn Chisholm,
Jim Sutton, Frances Bennett-Sutton

December 31st, 2023: *The Naming of Jesus* 10:00 a.m.

A Service of Lessons and Carols

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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.

**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.

For the world,
that those who bear responsibility for its future,
in politics, in industry, in commerce, and in education and
communication, may be inspired by the message of
Christmas to work together for the establishment of
justice, freedom and peace everywhere;

For all in special need: the addicted, the sick, the anxious,
the lonely, the fearful, and the bereaved.
We commend all whom we love, or who have asked for our
prayers, to the unfailing mercy of our heavenly Father, and
say together, as Christ himself taught us,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Notawinan misiwe e ayayan
Kiwiyowin Ke natenitawan
Weticipaniew kit otenawiwin
Mina tawi oticipaniw
Kakina kewan ka itenitaman
Tapishoic kicikishikok ishi
Mininan oma anoc kakishikak
Ke oci pimatisiyak min
Ashenamawinan tato kewana
Ita kashi macitotamak
Ninanan e ashenamawakicik
Aniki ka wanitotakoyak
Wiciinan eka tapimoteyak
Kotenimiko winik ninanan
Maka mita kwenamawinan eka
Macatisiwini kekwana
Kina ka tipenitan kakike
Sokatisiwin keshtenitakwak

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.
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.

Reading 1

Genesis 3: Creation's Fall

Genesis 3:8-13

8 They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

9 But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?'

10 He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.'

11 He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?'

12 The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.'

13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.'

22 Then the Lord God said, 'See, the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever'—

23 therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which he was taken.

24 He drove out the man; and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim, and a sword flaming and turning to guard the way to the tree of life.

Carol: **CP 122**

In the Bleak Midwinter

all 4 verses

Reading 2

29 But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

30 The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God.

31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.

32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

33 He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

34 Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?'

35 The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

36 And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.

37 For nothing will be impossible with God.'

38 Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Carol:

The Angel Gabriel

all 4 verses

Reading 4

Matthew 1: 18 – 23 The Promise to Joseph

¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.

²⁰ 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.

²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’

²² All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ ‘Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel’,
which means, ‘God is with us.’

Carol:

CP154 all 4 verses

Joy to the World

Reading 5

Luke 2: 1 – 7 The Birth of the Messiah

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

¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, 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, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

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.

Carol: CP 138

all 3 verses

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Reading 7

John 1: 1 – 14

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being

⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.

¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,

¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Carol: **CP 118**

Verses 1 & 2

O come, all ye faithful

Prayers after the Readings and Carols

Let us bless the Living God, praying together: **He was born of Mary, revealed in glory, worshipped by**

angels, proclaimed among all people, followed to the ends of the earth, exalted to the highest heavens. Blessed be God, our strength and our salvation, now and forever. Amen.

A Blessing: May he who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, bestow upon us the fullness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon us and remain with us always. **All: Amen.**

Announcements

Closing Music: **CP 118** *Verses 3, 4 & 5*

O come, all ye faithful

Dismissal:

Let us go forth into the world
Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit

**Thanks be to God
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

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

Readings for the Baptism of the Lord

Genesis 1: 1 - 5

Psalm 29

Acts 19: 1 - 7

Mark 1: 4 - 11

Anglican Cycle of Prayer Please Pray for:

1st Sunday of Christmas **Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda**

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for:

We pray for all people of our Diocese as we reach the end of this year and look forward with hope to opportunities in the new year to act and live as the people of God.

Let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends. Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way.

Our Parish Cycle of Prayer: Please pray for our own church members: Isaiah and Rosalie Jacob, and Raymond Greg, Rose Jardine, Derek and Denise Jetten, Daniel and Amelia Joseph, Amanda Kase, John Kirchen, Alex and Sylvia Kostecky, Bob and Carol Lee Kostyniuk, Richard and Adrienne Lambert, and Kaylee, Doris Loon, Neil and Audrey Love, Paul Love. Julia MacDougall, Monica MacKay, Jessica and Murray MacRae, Gabriel, Ellie, Gavin and Isobel, David Marler Jean McAlpine-Marler

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

How will you shine Jesus' light today?

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*



Scents, kitchen, allergies

For the well-being of us all, a few reminders:

Please do not wear scents (perfume, cologne, hairspray etc.) because exposure to them can adversely affect a person's health, including headaches, shortness of breath, nausea and fatigue. After using the kitchen, please ensure that all surfaces are cleaned and sanitized and the floor is swept of any mouse-attracting crumbs. Some of us have life-threatening allergies to nuts, so please do not bring food containing nuts into the building. Sealed items for the Food Cupboard are exempt.

We Welcome Your Prayer Requests:

If you have any needs or concerns that you would like placed on the Gathering Table prayer chain, please email the request to prayerchain@gatheringtable.ca. If you do not have access to email, please call the office or Sheila Chisholm at 787-0465 and we will get it sent out for you.

Our Daily Bread is available at the back of the church
Pick up a copy today for ***Dec. Jan. Feb.***

Reminder about - Visitations Communion:

Let Rev. Ann know if someone you know would like a visit.
please call 807-285-9446 or email her at:

rector@gatheringtable.ca



2024 Envelopes are now available at the back
A note about offerings: all information is on the shelves at the back of the Church. If you used the numbered offering envelopes in 2023 you will find a personalized box of 2024 envelopes for your use. If you wish to use weekly offering envelopes you may take an unassigned box and add your name to the list beside the box number. If you would like to contribute using the Electronic Offering Program*, which we recommend, these forms are also available at the back of the Church fill in the information and turn it into the office. If you are already using EOP you may amend your offerings using the same form. E-transfers can also be made to Gathering Table by using: office@gatheringtable.ca and use “church” as your security answer. If you require any assistance, please consult a Warden. The EOP is administered by the Diocese and is a pre-authorized payment plan offering a steady flow of funds to Gathering Table. It takes the worry about “catching up” if you are away or cannot attend for any reason.

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

Church Calendars Available Please let the office know, if you would like a 2024 Church Calendar, 807-345-6898

or office@gatheringtable.ca Calendars are \$6.00 each

EVENTS AT GATHERING TABLE

Each September groups wishing to book the use of the hall, kitchen has to fill in the “Booking Request Form” each year for your groups’ activities. Please contact the office to request the form. office@gatheringtable.ca
Or call 807-345-6898

Calendar of Events

Dec. 31 st	Food Cupboard Carols and Readings at 10 a.m.
Jan. 3 rd	Sleepy G. Farm Pick Up
Jan. 12 th	Food Cupboard Prep
Jan. 13 th	Taking down the Christmas Decorations
Jan. 14 th	Food Cupboard
Jan. 16 th	Camp Gitchigomee Meeting St. Thomas Church 7 p.m.
Jan. 17 th	Sleepy G. Farm Pick Up
Jan. 23 rd	Parish Council Advisory (PAC) Zoom 7 p.m.
Jan. 26 th	Food Cupboard Prep
Jan. 27 th	Camp Gitchigomee Appreciation Dinner
Jan. 28 th	Food Cupboard
Jan. 31 st	Sleepy G. Farm Pick Up
Feb. 3 rd	Men’s Deanery Breakfast.
Feb. 6 th	Altar Guild Meeting 3 p.m.
Feb. 14 th	Sleepy G. Farm Pick Up
Feb. 28 th	Sleepy G. Farm last Pick Up
Apr. 18 th	Camp Gitchigomee 2 Bit Auction
Apr. 19 th	Mission to Seafarers Dinner, save the date

2024 Parishioner Parking Passes are available at the office Tues. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.:
Friday 8 a.m. – 12 noon



Join us for Coffee Hour following the Service Today.



Deanery Men's Breakfast

Is being organized for Saturday, February 3 at St. Paul's Anglican Church, coffee on at 9:30 am, and sitting down at 10:00 am. Brendan from Sleepy G farms will be our guest speaker. Tickets will be available from parish reps on January 7th, 2024.



Camp Gitchigomee - 2 Bit Auction April 18th, 2024

We are looking for items for our Auction in April. If you have any new items that you have received but aren't using, we would love to get them from you to make up baskets for the auction. Cash donations are also welcome. Baskets are also needed if you have any. See Roberta Wolfe, Melanie Gottfred, Jim Sutton.



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

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