Gathering Table

a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

GREETINGS IN THE NAME OF THE RISEN LORD

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Gathering Table
a Faith Community in the Anglican Church of Canada

A Service of Lessons and Carols

Presider & Lay Reader: Kim Bienvenue
Guest Organist: Stuart Chisholm
Lectors: Brenda O'Neill, Rose Jardine
Altar Guild: Marg Boone
Greeters: Volunteer John Kirchen

December 29th , 2024: 10:00 a.m.

A Service of Lessons and Carols
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Welcome To Gathering Table and Opening Remarks

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.

Land Acknowledgement- Doug Semple

Welcome 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, and please join after the service for coffee hour.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts;
let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
Colossians 3.15, 16

Opening Carol: **CP 123** ***all 3 verses***
Once in Royal David's City

Bidding Prayer: In the name of Jesus Christ and the Church, we welcome all to Gathering Table today, as we celebrate the Naming of the Lord Jesus. In this service we will hear and receive together the good news of the birth of Christ. We turn to the Hebrew and Christian scriptures, spoken and sung. These are words that have brought hope to a broken world for thousands of years.

Collect for The Naming of Jesus

Presider: Eternal Father, we give thanks for your incarnate Son, whose name is our salvation. Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Saviour of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting**.**
All: Amen

We Pray:
For all Christian people,
that by this festival they may be renewed to fulfil Christ's work in this world; and especially for Anne our Archbishop and the clergy and people of this Diocese;

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
Isaiah 9: 2, 6 – 7
Restoration and Peace will come

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.

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.

Carol: **CP 140** a*ll verses*
It came upon the midnight clear

Reading 3
Luke 1: 26 – 38 The Promise to Mary

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,

27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.

28 And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.

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.

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.

Carol**:** **CP 120** ***all 4 verses***

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Reading 6
Luke 2: 8 – 16

The Shepherds and the Angels Come

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, 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**.

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!

Announcements

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

Readings for the Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6 Psalm 72: 1 - 7
Ephesians 3: 1 - 12 Matthew 2: 1 - 12 11

<u>Anglican Cycle of Prayer</u> Please Pray for: The Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy, Bishop Derek Jones and his wife, Connie; Bishop Mark Nordstrom and his wife, Christine; and Bishop Michael Williams and his wife, Becky.

<u>Our Parish Cycle of Prayer:</u> Please pray for our own church members: Lucy Shewaybick, , Shirley Siipola, Stacey Small, Jay Smith, Sharon Sparkes, Tom and Colleen Speer, Jon Stephens, James Stewart and Cassandra Dumontier, Eric and Ann Strand, Evelyn Strawson, Charles Suganaqueb, Jim Sutton and Frances Bennett-Sutton, Ellen Teahan, Elizabeth Thomson, Bob and Marjorie Tutkaluk, Elroy Ulmer, Terry Wade, Dan and Val Walter, Carl and Roberta Wolfe, Michael Wolfe and Heidi Dreher-Wolfe, Makayla and Riley, Anne Zale

<u>Please Pray For</u>: 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

The most beautiful word in God's language is Grace.

Available at the Office

Church Calendars for 2025 - $7.00 each

- Our Daily Bread for December 2024 - February 2025
- 2024 Offering Envelopes are available – 2025 will be
- available shortly

- 2025 Parishioner parking passes ($10.00) will be available in January.

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. 22nd	Food Cupboard - Coffee Hour
Dec. 24th	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7 p.m.
Dec. 25th	Christmas Day Service 10 a.m.
Dec. 29th	Christmas Carols and Lessons with guest organist, Stuart Chisholm
Jan. 8th	Sleepy G Farm
Jan. 9th	Sacred Spaces Book Study begins on Zoom
Jan. 10th	Food Cupboard Prep
Jan. 11th	Decorations coming down 10 a.m. – noon
Jan. 12th	Coffee Hour and Food Cupboard

Camp Gitchigomee *(on going fundraiser)*
Help Kick Start our Generator Fundraiser

Grab a white sock from one of our Camp Reps and start saving your change. Every nickel, dime, quarter, loonie or twonie (*cash and cheques*) will make us that much closer to replacing our old one**.**

Opportunities to Help at Gathering Table

There are many opportunities to serve God at Gathering

Table. Whether it is in hospitality, children's ministry, the food cupboard, greeting, the choir, altar guild, sound and streaming or reading during the service, or working in leadership in PAC (Parish Advisory Council) or as a Eucharistic Assistant or Lay Reader we all have a way to contribute. Many hands make light work and the fellowship is priceless and the Lord is glorified in our work. ***Yours in Christ's Service –***

David, Sheila, Brenda

Unfortunately Winter is Coming!!

David Reid is looking for people to help with the shoveling of doorways, and walk ways. Please let him or another warden know if you might be able to help, even just occasionally

Join us for Coffee Hour following the Service Today. Hosts to day are Sheila and Elaine

Book Study in January 2025

Sacred Spaces by Margaret Silf. Rev. Ann has ordered 12 copies @ $20 each. Please let the office, or Rev. Ann know if you want to reserve one.

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*