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January 6, 2021

Feast of the Epiphany

Service by Zoom

The Diocese of British Columbia acknowledges that for thousands of years the Coast Salish, Nuu-chah-nulth, and Kwakwaka'wakw peoples have walked gently on the unceded territories where we now live, work, worship, and play. We seek a new relationship with the first peoples here, one based in honour and respect, and we thank them for their hospitality.

Celebrating full communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

A Service of the Word

This liturgy is based on the

Anglican Church of Canada Book of Alternative Services

Notes for Zoom participants: As we begin our service all voices will be muted. The musician and those with speaking parts will unmute themselves. We do this because when many voices speak on zoom, there is cacophony. Please do respond to the people's part in your home, please do sing joyously when the hymn is played. The words will be projected.

At the end of the dismissal you are invited to unmute and join in greetings and conversation with others.

The Gathering of the Community

His salvation is near to those who fear him: * his glory shall dwell in our land.

His salvation is near to those who fear him: * his glory shall dwell in our land.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying, for he is speaking peace to his faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to him.

His glory shall dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

His glory shall dwell in our land.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

His glory shall dwell in our land.

Righteousness shall go before him, and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

His glory shall dwell in our land.

The priest prays the Collect of the Day

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading: <u>Isaiah 60:1-6</u>

Psalm 72

1 Give the king your justice, O God, * and your righteousness to the king's son;

2 That he may rule your people righteously * and the poor with justice;

3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, * and the little hills bring righteousness.

4 He shall defend the needy among the people; * he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, * from one generation to another.

6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, * like showers that water the earth.

7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; * there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

O God, bring our nation and all nations to a sense of justice and equity, that poverty, oppression, and violence may vanish and all may know peace and plenty. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest, to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them, magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound: myrrh and frankincense and gold grave and God and King foretold.

Sing of God made manifest when at Jordan John confessed, "I should be baptized by you, but your bidding I will do."
Then from heaven a double sign—dove-like Spirit, voice divine—hailed the true Anointed One: "This is my beloved Son."

The Creed

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.

Prayers of the People

The Peace

On zoom, a way to offer peace is to look at each person who appears on your screen, and whether they are looking at you or not, pray for God's peace for them. A wave, a smile, a nod of the head are all fitting expressions of your intention.

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

People: And also with you.

In Thanksgiving for all God's blessings in this Holy season and in our lives we pray:

Gracious God, accept the offering of your Church, the hearts of your people joined in praise and thanksgiving, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Priest As our Saviour taught us, let us pray.

People Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial,

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom,

the power and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen

Dismissal

LA Go forth into the world rejoicing in God our Saviour,

Thanks be to God!

An Announcement from the Wardens

The wardens have appreciated all the work that Cathie has done since her arrival. It has become apparent to us that the parishioners are using her talents and ears more and more. We have discussed this with Cathy and are pleased to announce she has agreed to a third day. She will be spending Wednesday night here in town and going into the church on Thursdays as well as her Wednesday she has already been working.

Lois Tirebuck, Dave Storrie, Bill Ritchie

The Sign of a Deacon

In Mark's Gospel Jesus says, "For the Son of Man came not to be **serve**d but to **serve**, and to give his life a ransom for many." That word "serve" in Greek is *diakonia*, and this is where we get the word deacon.

Deacons are icons of the servant ministry that we are all called to, by the example Jesus offers us.

Deacons live a complex life in the church; one of my friends says that a deacon has one foot in the world and one at the Altar. That is a vivid, if uncomfortable, image of the call of a deacon. Deacons are called to interpret the church to the world, and they are called to make sure we Christians know about the needs of those around us.

At the Annual Meeting we will be discussing an invitation and a covenant that will enable Deacon David Fitzsimmons to assume regular responsibilities in a non-stipendiary ministry here in this parish. Any expenses that our deacon incurs will be repaid; and there will be provision of a modest amount of money for conferences and continuing education. David will work with existing outreach ministry groups in the parish to support their ministries and to ensure they have enough resources to do their jobs. David's work will be covered by covenant agreement between the priest, the wardens, and the bishop.

If you have any questions please ask Cathie or one of the wardens, or speak with David himself..

Participants in the Service

Lay Assistant: Bill Ritchie

Reader: Jennifer Coolen

Gospel: The Rev. David Fitzsimmons

Musician: Georgia Smith

If you are a musician please feel free to volunteer to play for our Sunday services.

Important dates

- Today, January 3 at noon, Liturgy Meeting on zoom
- January 4, 10:00 AM Coffee Monday resumes
- January 6 office hours resume at 9:30 AM
- January 6, Wednesday at 7:00 PM budget meeting, Clergy, Wardens, and Treasurer.
- January 17 at noon, Parish Council.
- Feb 28, 12:00 Annual Congregational Meeting

Cathie's Schedule

Open office hours Wednesday 9:30 to 1:00

By appointment Thursday 9:00 to noon.

The Liturgy gathering will be considering whether there should be a Wednesday Zoom service.

Planning is underway for a Wednesday study by zoom. If you are interested please call or email Cathie to suggest topics.

We pray for the Church here and throughout the world

We pray for Anna, our Bishop elect, Ansley, our Administrator, and in our diocesan cycle we pray for the clergy and people of S. John the Baptist, South Cowichan - John Steele.

In our Ecclesiastical province we pray for Bishop Lincoln McKoen and the clergy and people of The Territory of the People, and for Melissa, our Metropolitan.

We pray for Linda, our Primate and in the worldwide Anglican Communion we pray for The Anglican Province of Alexandria

We pray for this parish, our clergy Cathie and David, for our wardens, Parish Council and other lay leaders.

Today in our parish we pray for parish members who live in care facilities and assisted living facilities and for all who are isolated from family and friends.

We pray for the leaders of the nations and for our own leaders, for Justin, our Prime Minister, for John our Premier, and for Andy, our Mayor, and for the council and elected officials of Campbell River.

Today in our community we pray for counsellors, social workers, and all who work with those who are depressed.

We pray for those in particular need of healing and hope, especially..., and those you may name, aloud or in the silence of your hearts.

Silence

We offer thanks for the goodness of God's gifts to us aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

If you wish to have the name of a family member or friend mentioned in our Sunday Prayers please obtain their permission and then call Cathie or the parish office.

Let the Prayer Circle know if you have a confidential prayer concern. Email stpeterCRprayerchain@gmail.com

Outreach at St. Peter's

Grass Roots and Kind Hearts

It's St. Peter's turn to host the dinner on Tuesday, January 19. Volunteers are welcome to help with cooking and serving the dinner.

Noisy offering

This is for the folks who need meals and other help through Grass Roots and Kind Hearts. Rain ponchos and gloves are in special need right now. This all about small comforts like warm socks, or nail clippers, or other small amenities that help folks who are living close to the margins. Coins, bills, cheques, or offerings in kind are welcome.

Food Bank

The need is great. We just celebrated the birth of Jesus who was born in temporary shelter in perilous times. Some of Campbell River's youngest citizens are living in difficult circumstances. Gifts of diapers, formula, baby food, and non-perishable food will make a difference in many lives. Please plan to help.

Our Building Serves the Community

We are only available to host essential services during the Pandemic Sunday evening

AA in the Hall

Alanon in the Library

Why do we do that?

In the Anglican Church of Canada some Bible versions are authorized for use in church, and some are not.

To be used in church a Bible version must be an actual translation by recognized scholars. The translation used in our lectionary on the pulpit is the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). There are many New International Version (NIV) Bibles in our church and that translation may also be used in public worship.

There are many Versions which are not translations. Some of them may be suitable for devotional use but are not suitable for public worship or scholarly study. For example, *The Living Bible* is a paraphrase, not a translation, and cannot be used.

Older translations, such as the King James Version, have limited use for public worship because, beautiful as the language is for some, many people no longer understand the words.

It is useful to have and use different translations because seeing the way different scholars translate a word or a phrase can add to our understanding.

If you are interested in serious study you may wish to use a study Bible. A study Bible is available in almost all translations. It includes the whole text of the Bible but also has scholarly articles and lots of footnotes. The study Bible recommended by EfM (Education for Ministry), an Anglican program of theological education for lay people, is *The New Oxford Annotated New Revised Standard Version*.



Does anyone in the parish have any experience with archival material? Your help may be needed with a small project. Please call Cathie or the church office and leave a message.

Attention all Leaders



It is Annual Report time. Please email the report for your group's activities in 2020 to Cathie or to the office. Please use Word or some other text format, but preferably not a PDF. No words will be changed but sometimes we need to resize a document to save space in the report document itself.

These reports form an important part of the record of the history of St. Peter's, and in a year such as we have just experienced they will make interesting reading indeed.

The Epiphany of our Lord

Epiphany means 'manifestation'. The nature of Jesus is 'made known' to the magi. The magi, from the east (an unknown number of them) brought three gifts to the child. The timing of their visit is unknown but may have been as much as two years after the birth of Jesus. Matthew's Gospel says they entered the 'house', which suggests that some time may have passed.

Some Christian traditions celebrate Christmas on the date of the Epiphany.

The gifts have all acquired significance as well. Gold is a gift for a king. Frankincense is for burning as an act of worship of the Divine. Myrrh is a spice used in burial. So these three gifts are recognition of a Divine King who will give his life as an act of love.

This story is especially meaningful for us because it speaks of the inclusion of us—the Gentiles—in this newly revealed promise of God's love and saving power.

The story also asks us how we will 'count ourselves in'; how we will recognize this child, what we will offer to him; and how we will follow him in our own lives.

This is a feast of Thanksgiving for God's gift to the world in need.

WELCOME!

Parish Staff and Leaders

Interim Priest: The Rev. Dr. Catherine Dafoe Hall

250-668-3701---catherine hall @cda foe.ca

Bishop's Warden: Lois Tirebuck

People's Warden: David Storrie

Deputy Warden: Bill Ritchie

Treasurer: Holly Finn

Custodian: Gwen Demerse

Prayer Circle: Kate Fitzsimmons

Communications Director: Trina Soltys

Envelope Secretary: Frank Maga

Healing Prayer Ministry: Sue Vickery

Lay Assistants and Readers: Bill Ritchie

ACW President: Bev Lawrence, Lois Tirebuck

Mindfulness: Jane Jennings

Coffee Monday: Jennifer Coolen

Sunday School: Jane Monchak, Diana Hicks

Altar Guild President: Frances Hudock

Safe Church: Judy Antonelli

Building: George Wagner

Diocese of the Islands and Inlets:
Bishop-Elect: The Rev. Anna Greenwood-Lee
The Very Rev. Ansley Tucker,
Diocesan Administrator