



St Paul's Anglican Church

January 4, 2026
The Epiphany of the Lord

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Incumbent – The Rev. Bonnie Skerritt
Honorary Assistants – The Rev. Canon Greg Physick
The Rev. Susan Tate
Music Director – Arlene Gray

10:00 am **BAS Holy Eucharist**

A Form in the Language of the Book of Common Prayer 1962

Prelude

Processional Hymn # 160 As With Gladness Men of Old

Indigenous Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this church is situated on the traditional territory of the Mississauga peoples and is covered by the Williams Treaties. We recognize the enduring presence of Indigenous peoples connected to and on this land. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather on this territory, and we commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. Creator, let us be of Good Mind to reconcile ourselves, and to work for justice and reconciliation with the peoples and the land. With thankful and respectful hearts, we pray in Your name, Your Son the Peacemaker and the Sacred Spirit. **Amen.**

Sentence

We have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship Him.

- *Matthew 2.2*

The Gathering of the Community (*All stand*)

Celebrant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis (sung)

All: Glory be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly king, God the Father almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, who by a star led wise men to the worship of your Son. Guide by your light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may know your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading - Isaiah 60:1-6

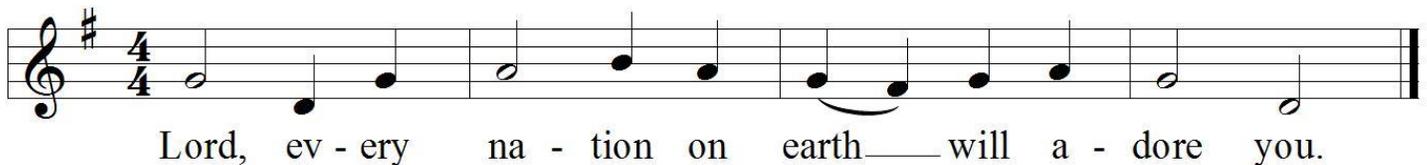
Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on

their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm - 72:1-7, 10-14



Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son; That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice; that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness. **R**

He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. **R**

He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. **R**

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts. All kings shall bow down before him, and all the nations do him service. For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, and the oppressed who has no helper. **R**

He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy. He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight. **R**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

Second Reading - Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of

you Gentiles— for surely you have already heard of the commission of God’s grace that was given to me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God’s grace that was given to me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn # 159 Brightest and Best v.1, 2

Reader The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Holy Gospel - Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, ‘Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage.’ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, ‘In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to

shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, ‘Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.’ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Reader The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gradual Hymn # 159 Brightest and Best v.3-5

Homily Rev. Bonnie Skerritt

The Nicene Creed

Celebrant Let us confess the faith of our baptism, as we say,

All I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God, of God; Light, of Light; very God, of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made: who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism

for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and the world.

Almighty and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks for all people: we humbly beseech thee most mercifully to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy divine majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: and grant that all they that do confess thy holy name may agree in the truth of thy holy word, and live in unity and godly love.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops, priests, and deacons, (and specially to thy servant N our bishop), that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and living word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy sacraments: prosper, we pray thee, all those who proclaim the gospel of thy kingdom among the nations: and to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and specially to this congregation here present, that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

We beseech thee also to lead all nations in the way of righteousness; and so to guide and direct their governors and rulers, that thy people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace: and grant to thy servant Charles our King, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the maintenance of thy true religion and virtue.

And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity, (especially those for whom our prayers are desired).

We remember before thee, O Lord, all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear: and we bless thy holy name for all who in life and death have glorified thee; beseeching thee to give us grace that, rejoicing in their fellowship, we may follow their good examples, and with them be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him. Come unto me all that labour and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 1.28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. *John 3.16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith. This is a true saying, and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1.15*

Hear also what Saint John saith. If anyone sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2.1,2*

Leader Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to almighty God.

Silence is kept.

All Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things and judge of all people: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word and deed, Against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Offertory Hymn #139 – The First Nowell

The Prayer over the Gifts

Celebrant 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. **Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

Celebrant It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, creator and preserver of all things.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who, in substance of our mortal flesh, manifested forth his glory, that he might bring us out of darkness into his own marvellous light. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee and singing:

All Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, who didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my blood of the new

covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the body and blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

All We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee, and we pray to thee, Lord our God.

Celebrant And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this holy communion may worthily receive the most precious body and blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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

The Breaking of the Bread

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy

So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his blood, That we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.

The Communion

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: have mercy upon us. O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world: grant us thy peace.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion. All others are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. At this time, intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is strictly prohibited for hygienic reasons. If desired, you may instead lay your hands on the base of the chalice.

Hymns during Communion

Eucharist 1: #137 What Child Is This

Eucharist 2: #147 Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Anthem: Longing for Light (Christ Be Our Light)

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant God of all the nations of the earth, guide us with your light. Help us to recognize Christ as he comes to us in this eucharist and in our neighbours. May we welcome him with love, for he is Lord now and for ever.

Amen

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,

All whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Celebrant May Christ our Lord, to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts, reveal to you his glory and pour upon you the riches of his grace; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Announcements

Recessional Hymn # 748 (BB) We Three Kings of Orient Are

1 We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar;
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain:

O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

2 Born a King on Bethlehem plain, gold I bring, to crown him again,
King for ever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. R

3 Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a Deity nigh,
prayer and praising, gladly raising, worship him, God most high. R

4 Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. R

5 Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and sacrifice;
alleluia, alleluia, earth to heaven replies. R

Dismissal

Celebrant: Followers of Jesus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, go, serve the
world God loves!

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude:

Next Week's Readings – Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17



*"The Epiphany is a reminder that
faith will always steer you in the
right direction. God's light and
love will always guide you home."*

- Anonymous

Announcements

The Designated Giving for January #215 will benefit the **Alzheimer's Society of Kawartha Lakes**. Almost all of us know of someone – perhaps a person very dear to us – who has been diagnosed with dementia. Imagine if we could prolong whatever is now positive in their life. This is how the Alzheimer society helps: with specially designated programs and very practical guidance for friends and family. Our donations help strengthen this service.

Christmas Dinner: Thank You!!!!

Envelopes for 2026 are now available at the back of the church. Questions? please call Marg Brohm (705) 324-0624 Thank you.

Pantry Call We need canned meat, pasta noodles and soup for the pantry. Other foodstuffs gratefully received as well. Thanks!

Grapevine: January 5th is the deadline. Please send to Diane photos or snippets of positive memories of our Christmas events that you may have to share.

A reminder to wear **nametags** to help others know who you are.
We Strive to be a Scent free space



Thank you for Worshipping with us Today.

*Please join us after Worship for
Refreshments and Fellowship!*



*Please note that all hymns are taken from Common Praise (1998)
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