



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 2, 2022

“We have seen his star in the East,
and have come to worship him.” *Matthew 2. 2*

Welcome

The Parish of St. Mary the Virgin is a member of the Diocese of British Columbia and the Anglican Church of Canada. We are an inclusive and welcoming parish: the sacraments of the church (baptism, communion and marriage) are available to all people on equal terms. Christ welcomes you, and so do we. As a parish we acknowledge with gratitude that we live, work and play on the traditional lands of the Lekwungen peoples. We commit ourselves, as a settler church and people, to continue with our First Nations hosts on the journey of truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.

VISITORS *Welcome!* We are delighted that you have joined us for worship.

COMMUNION All are invited to receive communion. For your safety, only the bread will be shared. Be assured that in the Anglican Church of Canada it has always been our tradition that receiving only one of the elements is considered full Communion.

Gluten free wafers for communion are available. Please request it from the person who is distributing the bread.

10:00am Service

From The Book of Alternative Services

Presider & Preacher:	The Rev'd Canon Craig Hiebert
Ministers of Welcome:	Mary Lawrence, Pat Smit
Music Director:	Curt Bergen
Musicians:	Rachel Bergen

*Note: in the service order, words set in **bold italic type** are said by the congregation.*

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS BEFORE GOD

WELCOME

PRELUDE & PROCESSION

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star, Bux 226, Dieterich Buxtehude

GREETING

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

And also with you.

STILLNESS

Let us hold this moment open to the Spirit of God.

Silence is kept.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Creator of the heavens, ***who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us, so that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Common Worship: Additional Collects 2004 alt.

THE STORY OF FAITH IS PROCLAIMED

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 60. 1-6, Warren Steck

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

²For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,

and his glory will appear over you.

³Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴Lift 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.

⁵Then 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.

⁶A 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72. 1-7, 10-14

Rachel Bergen



Music by George Black, © 2000 Anglican Book Centre

Refrain: All kings shall bow down before him, and the nations do him service.

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. R

GOSPEL HYMN

1. Earth has many a noble city;
Bethlehem, thou dost all excel:
out of thee the Lord from heaven
came to rule his Israel.

2. Fairer than the sun at morning
was the star that told his birth,
to the world its God announcing
seen in fleshly form on earth.

5. Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshipped
at thy glad epiphany,
unto thee, with God the Father
and the Spirit, glory be.

For he shall deliver the poor who cries out
in distress,
and the oppressed who has no helper.
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

Earth has Many a Noble City (158)

3. Eastern sages at his cradle
make oblations rich and rare;
see them give, in deep devotion,
gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

4. Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:
incense doth their God disclose,
gold the King of kings proclaimeth,
myrrh his sepulcher foreshows.

GOSPEL

Matthew 2. 1-12

Before the Gospel is read, the reader says:

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Good News of Jesus according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² 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.' ³ When King Herod

heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"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."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then 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.' ⁹When 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.

¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On 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. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

The traditional gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh are offered at the manger.

At the offering of gold:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe: to you be praise and glory for ever.
As gold in the furnace is tried and purified seven times in the fire, so purify our hearts and minds that we may be a royal priesthood acceptable in the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

At the offering of incense:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe: to you be praise and glory for ever. As our prayer rises up before you as incense, so may we be presented before you with penitent hearts and uplifted hands to offer ourselves in your priestly service.

Blessed be God for ever.

At the offering of myrrh:

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe: to you be praise and glory for ever. As you give medicine to heal our sickness and the leaves of the tree of life for the healing of the nations, so anoint us with your healing power that we may be the first-fruits of your new creation.

Blessed be God for ever.

SERMON

ANTHEM

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day, Trad. Carol, Rachel Bergen

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

The Apostles 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 FOR OURSELVES AND THE WORLD

Warren Steck

Today the wise men knelt before our Saviour. Let us also kneel to worship him with great joy, and to make our prayer to his heavenly Father.

Lord, come into the world.

Lighten our darkness.

In your prayers this week remember the following: Those in need of healing and care, including Adeline, Allison, Brynn, Carrie, Colin, Derek, Dorothy, Enda, Kat, Mary, Mézano, and Peter. Our diocese of islands and inlets and for Anna, our Bishop, Lynn, our Metropolitan, and Linda, our Primate. The parish of St. Christopher & St. Aidan, Lake Cowichan and their clergy Eric Stephanson. Diocese of Kootenay and Archbishop Lynne McNaughton. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and Bishop Susan Johnson. In the Church further afield, pray for the Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo. Pray for all those whose lives have been disrupted by storms and flooding. Pray for the continued work of all health care workers, especially amid the current wave of the COVID pandemic. Pray for the ongoing work of truth-telling, healing, and reconciliation.

CONFESSION OF SIN AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own.

Let us confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

God be gracious to us and bless us, and make your face shine upon us:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth, your saving power among the nations:

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

The Presider reminds us of God's healing and forgiveness

PEACE

The congregation stands

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you are called to peace.

cf Colossians 3.15

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Remaining in our places, we share physically-distant signs of Peace with those around us.

THE SACRED MEAL IS SHARED

For safety, the Collection Plate has been placed at the back of the church for use as you arrive. It will be moved to the front of the church during the Offertory hymn and placed in a location where you may place your gifts as you come to receive Communion. Please also consider one of the other means of giving that do not require our volunteers and staff to handle cash and cheques: electronic donations on our website via CanadaHelps, or bi-weekly or monthly direct debit donations via our diocesan Electronic Collection Plate (details are available in a brochure at the entrance, or on the website: www.stmarysoakbay.ca/donate).

OFFERTORY

The First Nowell (139)

1. The first nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
2. They looked up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. R
3. And by the light of that same star
three wise men cam from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. R
4. This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. R
5. Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. R
6. Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
who has made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood salvation bought. R

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord, accept your people's gifts,
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,
but hearts and voices raised in praise of Jesus Christ,
our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Church of England, Times and Seasons.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Book of Alternative Services, Prayer 3

The congregation remains standing, as they are able

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.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; you have revealed your eternal plan of salvation, and have shown your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of all peoples.

Therefore with angels and archangels we raise our voices in joyful praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

sung: 735

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full, 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,

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 the 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.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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 for ever. Amen.

Silence is held

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

**God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

The gifts of God, for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

THE COMMUNION

Please follow the direction of the greeters as they invite rows to receive communion. Please maintain a single flow: approach via the main aisle and return via the side aisles. If you do not wish to receive communion, but someone else in your aisle wishes to pass by you, please exit your pew temporarily to allow them to pass at a safe distance. You are also welcome to approach the presider for a blessing only—this is traditionally indicated simply by crossing your hands over your chest as you approach.

WE ARE SENT INTO THE WORLD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, so that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. **Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

AFFIRMATION

The congregation stands

Glory to God, **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.**

BLESSING

HYMN

As With Gladness Men of Old (160)

1. As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, with most gracious Lord, may we
ever more be led to thee.
2. As with joyful steps they sped,
Saviour, to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
thee, whom heaven and earth adore;
so may with willing feet
ever seek thy mercy seat.

3. As they offered gifts most rare
at that cradle rude and bare,
so may we with joyful song,
raising voices pure and strong,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee our heavenly king.
4. In the heavenly country bright
need they no created light:
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing
alleluias to our king.

DISMISSAL

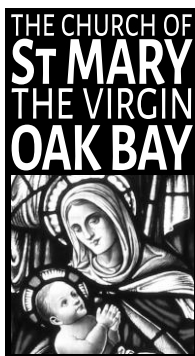
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE

In Dir ist Freude, BWV 615, J.S. Bach

The musical postlude is a part of worship, extending the beauty of holiness so that the congregation can remember and give thanks for our encounter with God's Word as it has been experienced this day. You are invited to use this time for reflection, remaining seated.



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