
10:00 am

January 5, 2024 – Epiphany



Opening Hymn: “Earth has Many a Noble City” (CP #158)

Land Acknowledgement

Call to Worship

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.**

Almighty God, **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Sung Gloria: “Gloria, Gloria, in Excelsis Deo” (CP #376)

Kyrie: Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.** Lord, have mercy.

The Collect

Almighty and everliving god, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Focus

Children's Song: "I am the Light of the World" (VU #87) *verse 1*

The First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 (*Penny Batchelor*)

Psalm 72 (VU #790) *parts 1-2*

The Second Reading: Ephesians 3:1-12 (*Beverley Unsworth*)

Gradual Hymn: "In the Bleak Mid-Winter" (CP #122)

The Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 (*Roger Farrier*)

The Sermon: *The Rev. Marnie Peterson*

"Silence & Stillness for Prayer & Reflection"

The Apostles' Creed

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 Intercession (David Batchelor)

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

~ *Silence is kept* ~

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Peace: The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: "As with Gladness Men of Old" (CP #160)

— *The Celebration of the Eucharist* —

Prayer Over the Gifts

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, so that we might for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.

May God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God our Creator. **It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another to be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.

When those we trust betray us, unflinchingly you remain with us. When we injure others, you confront us in your love and call us to the paths of righteousness. You stand with the weak, and those, broken and alone, whom you have always welcomed home, making the first last, and the last first. Therefore, we raise our voices with angels and archangels, forever praising you and singing: *(CP #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 the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are you, O Holy One: when Hagar was driven into the wilderness you followed her and gave her hope. When Joseph was sold into bondage, you turned malice to your people's good. When you called Israel out of slavery, you brought them through the wilderness into the promised land. When your people were taken into exile you wept with them by the river of Babylon and carried them home.

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

At the right time you sent your Anointed One to stand with the poor, the outcast, and the oppressed. Jesus touched lepers, and the sick, and healed them. He accepted water from a woman of Samaria and offered her the water of new life. Christ knew the desolation of the cross and opened the way for all humanity into the redemption of your reconciling love.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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."

Loving and Holy One, recalling Christ's death and resurrection, we offer you these gifts, longing for the bread of tomorrow and the wine of the age to come.

Therefore we proclaim our hope.

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts that through them you may sustain us in our hunger for your peace. We hold before you all whose lives are marked by suffering, our sisters and brothers. When we are broken and cast aside, embrace us in your love.

Restore us, O God, let your face shine!

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O Source of all life, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Sung Lord's Prayer by Gordon Light

Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name; your kingdom come, your will be done on earth, as in heav'n. 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.

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Communion Anthem: "O Lamb of God"

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: Grant us your peace.

Come to the banquet for now all is ready.

These are the gifts of God for you, the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

If you require a gluten free wafer, please only extend one hand. If you do not feel comfortable drinking from the cup, please just acknowledge it and let it pass.

We ask that you refrain from intincting or dipping your wafer.

Communion Hymn: "He Is Born" (VU #50)

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.

Blessing the Star Words

God, we acknowledge that we are not always ready to receive your best gifts for us. Guide us as we choose an Epiphany word so that our searching will bring us to you.

It is often our habit to turn aside, stumble over, or even reject experiences and encounters that we later understand to have been precious gifts.

Help us to be open to the gift that you offer us now through our star words. We acknowledge that we do not fully understand what this word might mean for our faith, but we receive it from you with gratitude and pray that your Spirit will enable us to live into our word with intention and faithfulness. **Amen.**

The Doxology

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.**

Sung Blessing

The Closing Hymn: “In Christ there is No East or West” (CP #484)

The Dismissal: Go in peace, share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

*We give thanks for the gift of Miri Lee and her beautiful music today
while Jonathan is away.*

Announcements

January book study: The Good Book

After spending several weeks digging into scripture with our study The Path, I would like to suggest that we take a little break.

I am going to spend the month of January reading, The Good Book by Peter Gnomes. In this book, the author tackles several difficult topics and attempts to give us some context for what we find in the Bible.

Then we will have a conversation about it on Wednesday, January 29th at our usual times: 11am in person and 7pm online.

You can order this book on online or through your local book store.

St. Anne's Sandwich Ministry

St. Anne's has had an ongoing relationship with the Richmond School District and the Richmond Food Bank to make and provide 100s of sandwiches to local schools to offer nutrition to students who might be hungry. Sandwiches are made in the church kitchen Monday-Friday.

Children & Youth at St. Anne's

We offer Godly Play, a Montessori based program, for children on Sunday mornings during the 10 am worship services. All children of all ages are invited.

We co-host both a monthly Jr and Sr youth group with Gilmore Park and South Arm United Churchs. Please see our website for more information.

Faith & Families is a community ecumenical monthly program that gathers children, youth and their adults together for a time of spiritual exploration of craft time. All are welcome!

You can find all of this information & more
on our website @





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Follow us on Facebook: [stannessteveston](https://www.facebook.com/stannessteveston)

Bishop  The Right Reverend John Stephens

Rector  The Reverend Marnie Peterson

Music Director  Jonathan Der

*We gather and worship on the ancestral and unceded territories
of the Coast Salish Peoples.*