

The Cathedral Church of All Saints



Epiphany Sunday

January 4, 2026



I am delighted to have you with us today for this service of worship. Please, stay awhile. Get to know us better. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

We at All Saints Cathedral Church, are a diverse lot, from many Christian backgrounds, non-Christian backgrounds, and no faith backgrounds. We come for Christian community, to find God in relationships with neighbours and new friends. We come for lessons from the incredible life of Jesus Christ. We come for spiritual rest, time to think, pray, and center on God, for comfort in hard times, and gratitude in good times. We come to serve God, each other, and the world. We're not perfect. We trust in God's gentle grace and unconditional love. We seek meaning for the life God has gifted us.

You are invited to God's table to receive communion (gluten free wafers are available). We welcome you, no matter who you are, or what you look like, or what labels the world puts on you. We welcome you if, like us, you struggle with flaws and imperfection but have a loving spirit and strive to let the light of Jesus shine within you and then to share it with others. We dare to welcome all because God, and not any human authority, extends this gracious invitation. If you wish not to receive Holy Communion you may still come forward for a blessing, simply fold your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. You are also welcomed to remain seated during this time.

In this leaflet, you will find most everything you need to follow along throughout the service. Whether you have been attending the Cathedral Church your whole life or this is your first time here, you are invited to participate in the service as fully as you feel comfortable doing and are able to.

Blessing to you,

The Very Rev. Paul Smith, Rector,
and Dean of the Cathedral Church of All Saints

Prelude Music ~ Paul Halley

Welcome/Announcements ~

Territorial Acknowledgement

Leader: Although we have come together in this Cathedral Church of All Saints, in Halifax, Nova Scotia, we each stand in place on solid ground that is the ancestral territory of peoples who were here long before the Europeans crossed the ocean. We gather at this Cathedral which is located on the unceded territory of the Mi'kma'ki people. We also recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies, and contributions have enriched this part of Mi'kma'ki for over 400 years.

Choral Introit *Why Impious Herod, Shouldst Thou Fear* Mode iii

1 Why, impious Herod, shouldst thou fear
Because the Christ is come so near?
He who doth heavenly kingdoms grant
Thine earthly realm can never want.

2 Lo, sages from the East are gone
To where the star hath newly shone:
Led on by light to Light they press,
And by their gifts their God confess.

3 The Lamb of God is manifest
Again in Jordan's water blest,
And he who sin had never known
By washing hath our sins undone.

4 Yet he that ruleth everything
Can change the nature of the spring,
And gives at Cana this for sign--
The water reddens into wine.

5 Then glory, Lord, to thee we pay
For thine Epiphany to-day;
All glory through eternity
To Father, Son, and Spirit be. Amen.

Opening Hymn CP 132 (vv. 1, 2, 5 & 6) *Of Eternal Love Begotten*
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

The Gathering of the Community

The presiding celebrant greets the community

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 also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,
All 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.**

Gloria CP 686 (Sung by all)

D. Hurd

Collect

All **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.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 2006 alt.

The Proclamation of the Word

The First Reading

Reader A reading from the prophet 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 Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72 (1-7 & 10-14)

Refrain: All nations shall serve him.

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. **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

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

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. **Refrain**

The Second Reading

Reader A reading from the Letter to the 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 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 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. .

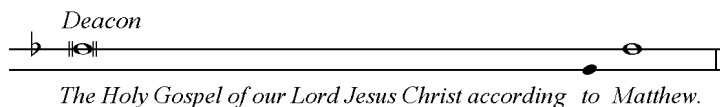
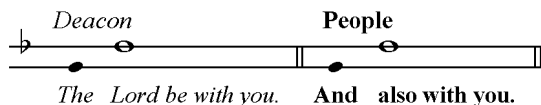
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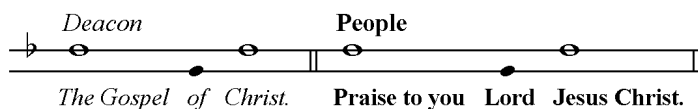
Gradual Hymn CP 160 *As with Gladness Men of Old* DIX

Gospel Processional vv. 1 & 2

The 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.



Gospel Recessional vv. 3 & 4

Homily

The Apostles' Creed

The celebrant may invite the people, to join in the recitation of the creed.
Celebrant 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.

The Prayers of the People *(Crafted by the Reader)*

Confession and Absolution

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

Silence is kept.

Celebrant Most merciful God,
All 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.

Celebrant 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.

People Amen.

The Peace

All stand, and the presiding celebrant addresses the people.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Preparation Hymn CP 139 *The First Nowell* (v.4 women; v.5 men)
THE FIRST NOWELL

The Celebration of the Eucharist



Today the Wine, Host, and Bulletin are offered in memory of
Loved Ones

The Prayer over the Gifts

When the altar has been prepared,

All 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.

The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 3

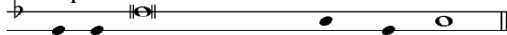
<i>Celebrant</i>	People
<i>The Lord be with you.</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	People
<i>Lift up your hearts.</i>	We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People



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.

Divinum Mysterium (Sung by all)

arr. P. Halley



Celebrant 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.

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.

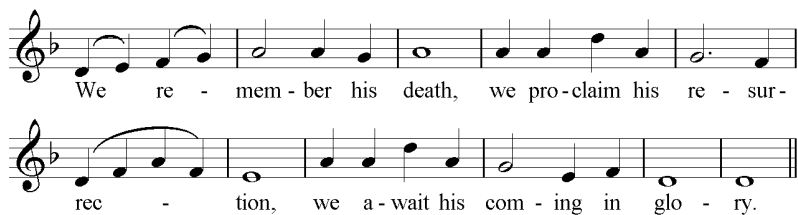
On the night he was handed over to suffering and death,
a death he freely accepted,
our Lord Jesus Christ took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his
disciples, and said, “ Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

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,

All



Celebrant 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.



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

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread for distribution

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

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

Celebrant The gifts of God for the People of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei *Communion Service in C* J. Ireland (1879-1962)

Communion Anthem *Here Is the Little Door*
H. Howells (1892-1983)

Here is the little door, lift up the latch, oh lift!
We need not wander more but enter with our gift;
Our gift of finest gold,
Gold that was never bought nor sold;
Myrrh to be strewn about His Bed;
Incense in clouds about His Head;
All for the child that stirs not in His sleep,
But holy slumber holds with ass and sheep.

Bend low about His Bed, for each He has a gift;
See how His eyes awake, lift up your hands, O lift!
For gold, He gives a keen-edged sword
(Defend with it Thy little Lord)
For incense, smoke of battle red;
Myrrh for the honoured happy dead;
Gifts for His children, terrible and sweet,
Touched by such tiny hands and Oh such tiny feet.

Words: Frances Chesterton (1875-1938)

Communion Hymn CP 137 *What Child Is This?*
GREENSLEEVES

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant *Let us pray.*

All 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.

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.

Blessing

Closing Hymn CP 158 *Earth Has Many a Noble City*
STUTTGART

Choral Benediction *O God, Who By The Leading Of A Star*
P. Halley

O God, who by the leading of a star didst manifest thy only-begotten Son to the Gentiles: Mercifully grant, that we, who know thee now by faith, may be led onward through this earthly life, until we see the vision of thy heavenly glory; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end.
Amen.

Dismissal *by the Deacon*

Postlude *Prelude in G Major* J. S. Bach (BWV 541)

**** You will find offering plates at the front and side entrance of the Cathedral. We also have installed touchless “Tap” devices at the main entrance, or you may make electronic donations using the digital QR code below.**



Thank you for your support of our Cathedral’s ministries.