



**ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
Smiths Falls, Ontario | Anglican Diocese of Ottawa

The Anticipation of the Feast of the Epiphany  
January 2, 2022

**HOLY EUCHARIST IN PANDEMIC**  
Book of Alternative Services

*We acknowledge that we gather at St. John's on the traditional and un-ceded territory of the Algonquin Nation. Wherever you are worshiping this morning, consider the traditional land you are on and give thanks for the gift of it, praying we may dwell on the land with respect and peace.*

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**THE GATHERING OF 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.**

**Collect of the Day**

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.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 72:1-7**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

### **Holy Gospel**

Matthew 2:1-12

Gospeller The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

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

**All 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, 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.

Gospeller The Gospel of Christ.

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

## **Homily**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

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

**All 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.**

### **Intercessions** (from Common Worship, the Church of England.)

We pray that Christ may be seen in the life of the Church.

You have called us into the family of those who are the children of God. May our love for our brothers and sisters in Christ be strengthened by your grace. Jesus, Lord of the Church, **hear us.**

You have called us to be a temple where the Holy Spirit can dwell. Give us clean hands and pure hearts so that our lives will reflect your holiness. Jesus, Lord of the Church, **hear us.**

You have called us to be a light to the world, so that those in darkness come to you. May our lives shine as a witness to the saving grace you have given for all.

Jesus, Lord of the Church, **hear us.**

You have called us to be members of your body, so that when one suffers, all suffer together. We ask for your comfort and healing power to bring hope to those in distress.

Jesus, Lord of the Church, **hear us.**

You have called us to be the Bride, where you, Lord, are the Bridegroom. Prepare us for the wedding feast, where we will be united with you for ever.

Jesus, Lord of the Church, **hear us.**

Jesus, Lord of the Church, you have called us into fellowship with all your saints. We unite our prayers with theirs and ask for grace to serve you with joy where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for all eternity. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People And also with you.**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

### **Prayer over the gifts**

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.**

### **Great Thanksgiving**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Celebrant: 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.

**All**            **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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. 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."

**All**            Therefore, Father, according to his command,  
**we remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

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 forever. **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

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 are for the people of God.

**All**            **Thanks be to God.**

## ***Communion***

### **Prayer after Communion**

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, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

Celebrant    May the God of infinite goodness banish the darkness of sin and brighten your hearts with holiness. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit rest upon you and those you love, this day and always. **Amen.**

### **The Dismissal**

Deacon        Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All**            **Thanks be to God.**