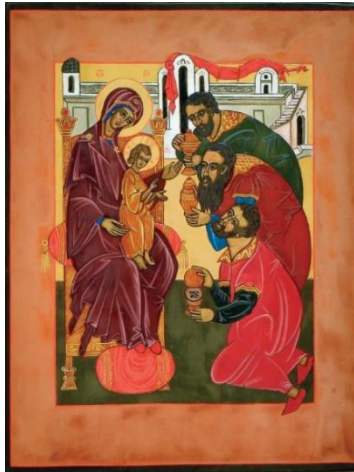


ORDER OF SERVICE

THE HOLY EUCHARIST



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

10:00AM
JANUARY 4, 2026

St.Thomas
THE APOSTLE

2345 Alta Vista Dr.
Ottawa, ON K1H 7M6
613.733.0336
www.stthomasaltavista.ca

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Prelude: Carols of the Kings (various arrangers)

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Dear friends, we gather on traditional Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.

May we dwell on this land with respect and peace.

May we always seek to respect the histories, spiritualities and cultures of First Nations, Metis and Inuit.

May we walk together the path of reconciliation and right relations.

Opening Hymn: 158 Earth Has Many a Noble City

Text Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, tr Edward Caswell © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

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.

3 Eastern sages at His cradle
Make oblation 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 sepulchre foreshows.

5 Jesus, whom the Gentiles worshipped
At Thy glad Epiphany.
Unto Thee, with God the Father
And the Spirit, glory be.

Apostolic 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.

Collect for Purity

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.**

Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

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

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 (Sue Perry)

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

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.

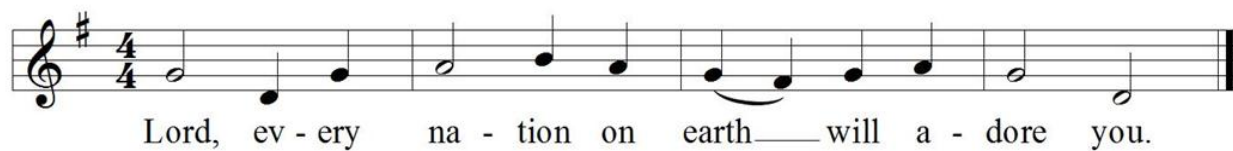
Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

Setting: Gordon Johnston



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

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

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

10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.

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

13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.

14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight. **R**

Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-12 (Andrea Teekasingh)

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:

Setting: Tim Kehoe



The Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ 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, 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.

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

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 of the People (Jim Doherty)

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy,
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this 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 the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

The Preparation of the Gifts

Hymn: We Three Kings

Text and Music John Henry Hopkins Jr. © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

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's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. [Refrain]

3 Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high. [Refrain]

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

5 Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,

sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]

The 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.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer 3)

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 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.

**(Hymn 732) 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.**

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

Believing in the promises of God and gathering our prayers and praises
into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**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 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.**

Invitation to Communion

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

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

Holy Communion *Gluten Free wafers are available*

Communion Hymn: 147 Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Text st. 1 Johann Rist, tr. John Troutbeck, st. 2-3 Fred Pratt Green, Music Johann Schop © 1989 Hope Publishing Co. CCLI License #1826689

1 Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light,
And usher in the morning;

O shepherds, shrink not with afright,
But hear the angel's warning.
This Child, now weak in infancy,
Our confidence and joy shall be,
The power of Satan breaking,
Our peace eternal making.

2 This night of wonder, night of joy,
was born the Christ, our brother.
He comes, not mighty to destroy,
to bid us love each other.
How could he quit his kingly state
for such a world of greed and hate?
What deep humiliation
secured the world's salvation!

3 Come, dearest child, into our hearts,
and leave your crib behind you!
Let this be where the new life starts
for all who seek and find you.
To you the honour, thanks, and praise,
for all your gifts this time of grace.
Come conquer and deliver
this world, and us, forever.

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.**

THE SENDING OF THE COMMUNITY

Announcements

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.

Blessing

Closing Hymn: 139 The First Nowell

Text and Music English trad. © Public Domain CCLI License #1826689

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.

Refrain:

Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

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.

3 And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

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.

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.

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.

Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Hymn to Joy (Beethoven/Williams)

8:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST

Presider/Preacher: Rev Tim Kehoe
Greeter: Andrea Teekasingh
Reader/Intercessor: Barry Parker

10:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST (BOOK OF ALTERNATIVE SERVICES)

Presider/ Preacher: Rev Tim Kehoe
Duty Warden: Karen Scott
Server: Kirk Michaelis
Sidespersons: Howard Foster, Eunice Clarke
Readers: Sue Perry, Andrea Teekasingh
Intercessor: Jim Doherty
Lay Administrators: Bill Danson, Babs Dunstan
Livestream Operator: Alex Ala-Kantti
Altar Guild: Babs Dunstan, Susan Smith

CONTACT LIST

Rector: The Reverend Tim Kehoe 613-355-0816 (cell) revtimkehoe@gmail.com
Associate: The Reverend Maria Nightingale 905-802-1904 revmnightingale@gmail.com
Secretary/Administrator: Wendy Hook 613-733-0336 stthomasparishottawa@gmail.com
Director of Music: Kurt Ala-Kantti 613-733-0336; kurt@harmoniachoir.com
Organist: Denise Hawkins
Assistant Organist: Richard Frith
Churchwardens:
Cathy Munroe 613-301-5442 cathymunroe1@gmail.com
Jean Jordan 613-523-4165 ijmj_jeanjordan@rogers.com
Catherine Smith (Deputy) 613-733-5555 catherinecsmith@gmail.com
Derwyn Sangster (Deputy) 613-733-9345 d.sangster@rogers.com
Treasurer: Gwen Levesque 613-299-3846 (cell); gwenlevesque@sympatico.ca
Envelope Secretary: Flo Cheesman 613-733-0336 stthomasenv@outlook.com
Donation Options: <https://www.stthomasaltavista.ca/pages/donate-online>
Parish Directory Coordinator: Els Salisbury 613-828-6828 els.salisbury@rogers.com

The church office will be closed from December 25th to January 4th.
In case of a pastoral emergency, please call Rev. Tim Kehoe or Rev. Maria Nightingale.