

**Holy Communion
Christmas Day
December 25, 2025**



St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church
Diocese of New Westminster

Located on the unceded land of the Musqueam,
Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations

Welcome!

If you are new here or visiting, please sign our guest book and stay after worship for refreshments and conversation.

If you would like to request prayers, please write the names of those to be remembered in the book on the small table in the prayer corner.

Communion is in both kinds (bread and wine). All are welcome at the table, and no one is required to take communion. Participants are welcome to consume only bread.

Thank you for joining us today.

Walk with Us

Financial support from members and guests is essential for us to continue to be a place of welcome for all.

Here's how you can give:

Good: Cash or a cheque in the plate. Regular donors get envelopes to ensure tax receipts.

Better: Transfer funds using interac to office@stmarymags.ca Indicate "donation" in the memo line.

Best! Sign up for pre-authorized debit to have a monthly donation transferred directly from your bank account.

We issue tax receipts for donations of \$20 or more.

Why Christmas Matters

Christmas celebrates the birth of Jesus to Mary, a young woman living in first century Palestine.

The story of Jesus' birth underscores a central Christian claim: that God becomes fully present in human life in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. It is not simply that God appears *like* a human or temporarily inhabits a body, but that the eternal Word of God takes on real human flesh, history, vulnerability, and limitation. The word we use for this is *incarnation*.

At its heart, the incarnation says that God chooses nearness rather than distance. God meets humanity not by lifting us out of the world, but by entering it—into ordinary time, a particular place, a human body, and a life shaped by joy, suffering, relationship, and death. As the Gospel of John puts it, "the Word became flesh and lived among us."

Theologically, this means that matter matters. Human bodies, relationships, work, pain, and hope are not obstacles to God but the very place where God is revealed. The incarnation grounds Christian faith in the conviction that divine love is not abstract or theoretical, but embodied, relational, and committed to the real conditions of human life.

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The Gathering of the Community

We sing as the light is welcomed into our gathering.

Song

#118 O Come All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:
come and behold him, born the King of angels.

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

2. God of God, Light of Light,
lo, he abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created:

Refrain

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
glory to God in the highest:

Refrain

4. See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
we too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:

Refrain

5. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

Refrain

*Text and Music: John Francis Wade (1711-1786),
Alt. harm. The English Hymnal 1906*

Greeting

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all

All: **And also with you**

Presider: Do I not fill heaven and earth?' says the Lord.

All: **Now the Word is made flesh and laid in a narrow manger.**

Presider: From eternity to eternity you are God,

All: **and now we see you as a newborn child.**

Prayer of the Day

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ,

All: **your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder
at heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen.**

Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004)

Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah
(Isaiah 9.2-7)

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept.

Psalm 96

- ¹ Sing to the Lord a new song; *
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.
- ² Sing to the Lord and bless the divine name; *
proclaim the good news of our salvation from day to day.
- ³ Declare the glory of the Lord among the nations *
and the wonders of God among all peoples.
- ⁴ For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, *
more to be feared than all gods.
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; *
but it is you, O Lord, who made the heavens.
- ⁶ Oh, the majesty and magnificence of your presence! *
Oh, the power and the splendour of your sanctuary!
- ⁷ Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; *
ascribe to the Lord honour and power.
- ⁸ Ascribe to the Lord the honour due the divine name; *
bring offerings and come into the courts of the Lord.
- ⁹ Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth tremble before God.
- ¹⁰ Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord reigns! *
**The Lord who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peoples with equity.”**
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
**let the sea thunder and all that is in it; *
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.**
- ¹² Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy
**before the Lord who is coming, *
who is coming to judge the earth.**
- ¹³ The Lord will judge the world with righteousness *
and the peoples with truth.

Second Reading

Reader: A reading from the book of Titus
(Titus 2.11-14)

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept.

Song

#138 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"*

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail the incarnate deity,
pleased as one of us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel. *Refrain*

3. Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

*Text: Charles Wesley (1701-1788), alt
Music: Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy (1831-1915)*

Gospel Reading

Reader: May God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of Jesus according to Luke.
(Luke 2.1-14)

All: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Reflection

Silence is kept.

The Rev. Tasha Carrothers

Song

#137 What Child Is This?

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

*This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the Son of Mary!*

2. Why lies he in such mean estate,
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain*

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him. *Refrain.*

Text: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Music: Melody English Trad. (Greensleeves)

Affirmation of Faith

Presider: We believe in God, the Source of Life,
All: **by whom every being in heaven and earth
is created, named, and sustained.**

**We believe in God, the Living Word,
who restores us to relationship
and speaks to us through faith.**

**We believe in God, the Holy Spirit,
who comforts, guides, and strengthens us
to share the good news of grace.**

**We believe in God, one, holy, undivided Trinity:
Source of Life, Living Word, Comforter:
Mystery. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Please stand or sit as you prefer for prayer.

Leader: In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, "Lord, grant us peace."

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

Leader: Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

All: **Lord, grant us peace.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of God be with you all.

All: **And also with you**

We share the peace of God with one another with a gesture of greeting.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

To make a financial offering, please place it in the offering plate by the door.

Song #153 Good Christians All, Rejoice

1. Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Listen now to what we say: Jesus Christ was born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now!
Christ is born today; Christ is born today!

2. Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Hear the news of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this;
he has opened heaven's door, and we are blessed for evermore!
Christ was born for this; Christ was born for this!

3. Good Christians all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!
Now you need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save;
come at his most gracious call to find salvation, one and all!
Christ was born to save; Christ was born to save!

*Text: tr. John Mason Neale Music: Melody Geistliche Lieder,
Wittenberg, . Robert Lucas Pearsall; arr. John Stainer*

Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Good and loving God,

All: **we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,
who came among the poor
to bring the riches of your grace.**

**As you have blessed us with your gifts,
let them be a blessing for others.**

**With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,
we should for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: May God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to God.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to God, our Creator.

All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the mystery of his incarnation
was made fully human of the flesh of Mary his mother;
in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven, we lift our voices
and sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Presider: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the
remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

All: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Presider: With this bread and cup we remember your Word
dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Presider: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

Presider: All praise and glory are yours, Source of all being,
eternal Word and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Cantor

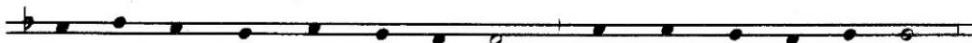


As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

All



Our Fa - ther in hea - ven, hal - lowed be your Name,



your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in hea - ven.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.



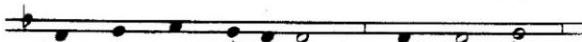
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us.



Save us from the time of tri - al, and de - liv - er us from e - vil.



For the king - dom, the power, and the glo - ry are yours,



now and for ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider: 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.**

Communion

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please remain at your places. The consecrated bread and wine will be brought around to all who wish. Everyone is welcome at the table.

Sending Out of the Disciples

Prayer after Communion

Presider: Radiant God,

All: **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.

Doxology

Presider 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

Song

#154 Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come
let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns:
let us glad songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

*Text: Isaac Watts alt. Music: George Frideric Handel
adapt. William Holford*

Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace, the beloved of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

This Week at St. Mary Mags

Sunday, Dec 28 10:30 am Lessons and Carols

Centering prayer and mid-week Communion are cancelled on Wednesday, December 31. Back on Wednesday, January 7, 2026.

Next Sunday—Lessons and Carols. The tradition at St. Mary Mags is to pull out all the stops on the first Sunday after Christmas. Stand by for your favorite Christmas carols (now that it's formally Christmas season). Bonus: The Vicar gets a break from preaching to make room for even more singing!

Next Sunday's Readings

December 28, 2025 | First Sunday After Christmas

Isaiah 63:7-9; Isaiah 43:5-7; Psalm 148; Hebrews 2:10-18; Luke 2:22, 25-35; Matthew 2:13-23

St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church

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The Rev. Tasha Carrothers, Vicar
Dave Dagta, Musician

