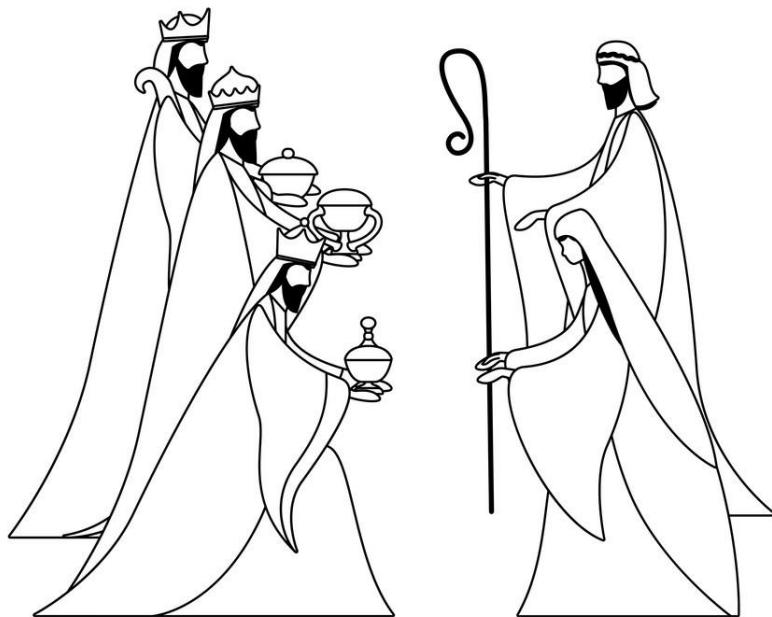


**Holy Communion
Feast of the Epiphany
January 4, 2026**



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. See Tasha for details.

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

Have you ever had an epiphany?

Christians celebrate the feast of the Epiphany on or around January 6th. It marks the moment when Jesus is shown to the wider world, not just to his own people. The story most often told on Epiphany is the visit of the Magi — travelers from far away who follow a star to Bethlehem. They are outsiders, yet they recognize something special in the child Jesus and offer him gifts. Their journey shows that God's light is meant for everyone.

The word *epiphany* comes from a Greek word that means "appearance" or "showing." In the first century Mediterranean world, it described something important being revealed. Over time, the word came to describe a sudden moment of understanding — the kind of moment when things finally make sense. When someone says, "I had an epiphany," they mean they suddenly saw something clearly.

Epiphany brings these two meanings together. It is about God being made known, and about people learning to see in a new way. The Magi do not just see a baby; they understand that this child matters. That new understanding changes them. The Bible says they return home by a different road, a story that tells us that when we truly see something important, it can change the direction of our lives.

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The Gathering of the Community

Today we are observing Epiphany, beginning with a prayer of blessing for ourselves, our church and the world. Following the welcome, all are invited to gather in the front hall.

Opening Prayer

Presider: God shall watch over your going out and your coming in
People: from this time forth for evermore.

Presider: Visit, O blessed Lord, this place with the gladness of your presence.
Bless it and all who visit here with the gift of your love;
and grant that we may show your love to each other
and all whose lives we touch.
Lord Jesus Christ, be with us now and forever. **Amen.**

You are invited to remember a blessing that you received in 2025 for which you are grateful, and/or ask for a blessing that you hope for in 2026—for yourself, for the church or for the wider world.

Song #151 All Poor Folk and Humble

1. All poor folk and humble, all lame folk who stumble,
come haste ye, and be not afraid;
for Jesus, our treasure, whose love passes measure,
in lowly poor manger was laid.
Though wise men who found him laid rich gifts around him,
yet oxen they gave him their hay; and Jesus in beauty
accepted their duty: contented in manger he lay.

Refrain:

*Then haste we to show him the praises we owe him;
our service he ne'er can despise, whose love still is able
to show us that stable where softly in manger he lies.*

2. The Christ child will lead us, the good Shepherd feed us,
and with us abide till his day.
Then hatred he'll banish, then sorrow will vanish,
and death and despair flee away.
And he shall reign ever, and nothing shall sever
from us the great love of our King.
His peace and his pity shall bless his fair city;
his praises we ever shall sing. *Refrain*

Text: St.1 Katherine E Roberts, alt; st. 2, William Thomas Pennar Davies

Music: Melody Welsh trad; arr Erik Routley

Prayer of the Day

Presider: Creator of the heavens,
All: who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, so that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Common Worship: Additional Collects (2004)

Proclamation of the Word

First Reading

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah
(Isaiah 60:1-6)

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept.

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

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.
⁴ He shall defend the needy among the people, *
rescuing the poor and crushing the oppressor.
⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
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.
¹⁰ The rulers of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the rulers of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
¹¹ All rulers 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.
¹³ He shall have pity on the lowly and poor *
and 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.

Second Reading

Reader: A reading from the letter to the Ephesians
(Ephesians 3:1-12)

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Silence is kept.

Song #150 On This Day Earth Shall Ring

1. On this day earth shall ring
with the song children sing
to the Lord, Christ our King,
born on earth to save us;
him the Father gave us.

Refrain:

Id-e-o-o-o, id-e-o-o-o-o,
Id-e-o gloria in excelsis Deo!

2. His the doom, ours the mirth;
when he came down to earth
Bethlehem saw his birth;
ox and ass beside him
from the cold would hide him. *Refrain*

Text: Piae Cantiones, 1582; tr. Jane M. Joseph (1894-1929)

Music: Piae Cantiones, 1582; harm. Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934)

Gospel Reading

Reader: May God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
(Matthew 2:1-12)

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

Reader: The Gospel of Christ.

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

Reflection

The Rev. Tasha Carrothers

Following a period of silence, all are invited to share a brief thought or story evoked by the readings or the reflection.

#159 Brightest and Best

1. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid:
gem of the East, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.
2. Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
angels adore him in slumber reclining,
maker and Monarch and Saviour of all.
3. Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
odours of Edom and offerings divine,
gems of the mountains and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?
4. Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
vainly with gifts would his favour secure;
richer by far is the heart's adoration,
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.
5. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid:
gem of the East, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Text: Reginald Heber (1783-1826), alt.

Music: Healey Willan (1880-1968)

Affirmation of Faith

All

**We believe in God, the Source of Life,
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.

In the prayers of the people, the people who have gathered join their prayers to bring to God the needs of the Church, the world, and all who are in need. If you would like to add a person to the prayers, please speak to the Vicar. There is also a book on the front hall table where you can add names of people for whom you would like prayer.

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

#161 Wise Men, They Came to Look for Wisdom

1. Wise men, they came to look for wisdom,
finding one wiser than they knew;
rich men, they met with one yet richer—
King of the kings, they knelt to you:
Jesus, our wisdom from above,
wealth and redemption, life and love.
2. Pilgrims they were, from unknown countries,
searching for one who knows the world;
lost are their names and strange their journeys,
famed is their zeal to find the child;
Jesus, in you're the lost are claimed,
aliens are found and known and named.
3. Magi, they stooped to see your splendour,
led by a star to light supreme;
promised Messiah, Lord eternal,
glory and peace are in your name.
Joy of each day, our song by night,
shine on our path your holy light.
4. Guests of their God, they opened treasures—
incense and gold and solemn myrrh;
welcoming one too young to question
how came these gifts, and what they were.
Gift beyond price of gold or gem,
make among us your Bethlehem.

Text: Christopher Idle (1938-)

Music: Georg Newmark (1621-1681)

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 shout for joy at the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

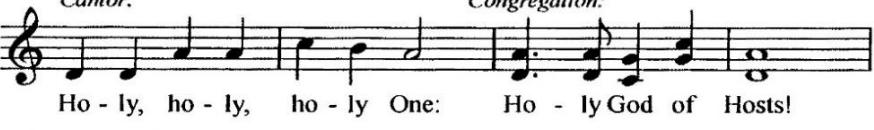
Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006) alt.

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.

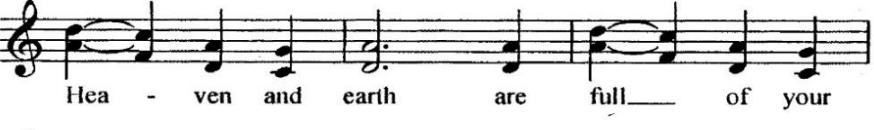
Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth;
we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who in the mystery of his incarnation
was made fully human of the flesh of Mary his mother;
in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory.
Therefore with all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

Cantor:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One: Ho - ly God of Hosts!

Congregation:



Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry! Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Cantor:



Blessed are those who come bearing God.

Congregation:



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 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All:

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.
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.
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

Go Tell It on the Mountain

1 E♭ A♭ E♭ B♭ E♭

Go, tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry- where;

4 E♭ A♭ E♭ Cm Fm E♭/B♭ B♭7 E♭

Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born. While The Down

8 E♭ A♭ B♭ E♭

shep-herds kept their watch-ing Over si - lent flocks by night, Be -
shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo! A - bove the earth, Rang-
in a low - ly man-ger Our hum-ble Christ was born, And

12 E♭ Cm7 F7 B♭ B♭7

hold, through-out the heav ens Thereshone a ho - ly light.
out the an - gel chor-us That hailed our Sav - ior's birth:
God sent us sal - va - tion, That bles - sed Christ-mas morn:

16 E♭ A♭ E♭ B♭ E♭

Go, tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry- where;

20 E♭ A♭ E♭ Cm Fm E♭/B♭ B♭7 E♭

Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.

Dismissal

Presider: Go in peace, the beloved of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Everyone is invited to stay for coffee, tea and possibly even some treats

This Week at St. Mary Mags

Weds, January 7	12 noon	Centering Prayer
	12:30 pm	Holy Communion
Saturday, January 10	12 noon	Drum Circle
Sunday, January 11	10:30 am	Holy Communion

Next Sunday's Readings

January 11, 2025 | The Baptism of the Lord
Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

St. Mary Magdalene Anglican Church

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The Rev. Tasha Carrothers, Vicar
Dave Dagta, Musician

