***Canon Davis Memorial Church***

***Anglican Church of Canada***

***Sunday, January 1, 2023 – The Epiphany of the Lord***

**We come and worship God.**

**We go our way with souls nourished.**

*Worship Service: Sunday 9:30 a.m.*

*380 Russell St. North (at Maxwell St.), Sarnia, Ontario, N7T 6S6*

*(519) 344-9531 -*[*http://www.canondavis.com*](http://www.canondavis.com/) –[*http://www.canon*](http://www.canon)[*davis.com*](http://davis.com)

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**9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

**Officiant—Rev. Ray Jenkins**

**Assisted By — Bill Blunt**

**Organist—Dorothy Miller**

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

**Opening Hymn #160**​

***As with Gladness Men of Old***

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.**

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.**

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.**

**Lord, have mercy.  Christ, have mercy.  Lord, have mercy.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**Eternal Father, we give thanks for your incarnate Son, whose name is our salvation.  Plant in every heart, we pray, the love of him who is the Saviour of the world, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**1st 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 LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm**  72: 1-7, 10-14 *(to be read responsively)*

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king’s son.*)*

**May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**

May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**

In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moor is no more.

**May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.**

May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

**For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.**

He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

**From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.**

**2nd Reading**:​​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 od 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.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel**​Matthew 2: 1-12

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

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**

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year!  Sally and I truly hope the year 2023 is blessed with many wonderful memories.

Memories come in many forms.  On the bright side, we can find ourselves reflecting on how dedication and prayerful living can lead us to having more interesting lives.

We humans do not take disappointment very easily!  Frequently, we see that in our everyday lives.  It has been pointed out that this is particularly true when we place our expectations on other folk without letting them know just what those expectations actually are.

This can happen when we do something for the first time, say like taking a vacation at a new destination.  The promotional pamphlets may have described exactly what we wanted to experience.  But then, there was the reality on the ground!  We can find ourselves to be bewildered.

What went wrong?  Did we not pay enough attention?

Should we have asked more of the tough questions?  Or did we want it to be so perfect that we heard only what we wanted to hear?  Were we in such a state of denial, that we could hear none of the cautions on what to avoid?

In summary, were we seeing everything through rose coloured glasses?  Were we avoiding the tough questions when we choose to make a purchase?

Successful advertisers often put more effort into promoting experience rather than technical content.  But even this is not always enough to save a client company.

In today’s description of the story of the Epiphany we find little has changed in human behaviour over the past 2,000 years.  Familiar emotions and attitudes are present and complicate the responses to the visit of the Magi to pay homage to the Christ child.

The first thing we notice in Herod’s response are his fears.  Herod was a most fearful man.

The last thing he wanted was to have a competing head of state with which to deal!

History is filled with people who generally seek to acquire power.  Herod was no exception!  It is axiomatic that when one has power, one seeks to hold onto it, regardless of what the costs.  Ultimately, costs may include: gold; other precious metals;  precious gems; individual people; weapons; technology; and more!

The costs of acquiring and holding onto power can be immense.  Also, a person with power  cannot ever truly relax.  Power can be taken away by brute force, by political, by trickery, by other actions, or a combination of these.

In this case, the threat came in the form of a young child—- a young child prophesied born to rule as the king of the Jews.

Sadly, this frightened King Herod —- frightened him a lot!  But, it need not have.  For a little investigation of the situation could have given insights other kings would have treasured.

It was obvious that the visit was no ordinary occasion.  We hear in the first Reading from Isaiah of the whirlwind of activity that was expected to seek out the king of the Jews.   Who knows what benefits would have been experienced, if only Herod would have opened his heart and mind to the child king of the Jews? —- for the nation? —- for Herod?

What a difference can Christ make, if we open our hearts to him in the here and now.

We pray now in the words of David Adam:

*Lord,*

*Whatever we build,*​

*Give us a glimpse of glory.*

*Whatever we make,*​

*Give us a sense of wonder.*

*Wherever we travel,*​

*Give us a sense of reverence.*

*Whoever we meet,*​

*Give us a sense of awe.*

*Whatever we do,*​​

*Give us a sense of achievement.*

*Whatever our situation,*​

*Give us knowledge of you.***Amen.**

**Sermon Hymn #158**​

***Earth Has Many a Noble City***

**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  #9**

(Let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”)

Let us ask the Lord for a day of fulfilment and peace.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us ask the Lord to teach us to love others as he has loved us.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us ask the Lord for peace and justice in the world.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us ask the Lord to strengthen and relieve those who are in need.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Let us ask the Lord to renew the Church through the power of his life-giving Spirit.

**Lord, have mercy.**

**PRAYER FOR A RENEWED CHURCH: Almighty God, give us a new vision of you, of your love, of your grace and power, and then, give us a new vision of what you would have us do as your Church in this nation and at this time, and an awareness that in the strength of your Spirit, we can do it to your glory. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution:** Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.  Let us confess our sins, confident in God’s forgiveness.

**The Confession:** 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 ofyour 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.**

**Absolution:**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**

Gentle peace…

​Flows freely

​​Encircles fully

Refreshes gently

​Comforts warmly

​​Reassures softly

Forgives easily

​Fulfils entirely

​​Gentle peace…

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

**Offertory Hymn #122**​

***In the Bleak Midwinter***

**Offertory Response**​**Doxology**

**Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below.**

**Praise Him above, ye Heavenly Host.**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS:**

**Gracious God, the name of Jesus brings salvation to the world.  In all we offer you this day, may we honour him, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.**

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER # 5**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder, and for our life which comes from you.  By your power you sustain the universe.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves, but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family.  Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven, we praise your wonderful name, as we say,

**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 you thanks and praise, loving Father, because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us.  He cares for the poor and the hungry.  He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love.

On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death.  By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your people.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

On the night before he gave up his life for us,Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, “Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven.  Do this in memory of me.”

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Father, you call us to be your servants; fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.  Amen.**

**The Lord’s Prayer:  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:**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

**The Communion**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

**Father, you have fed us heavenly food in the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ.  Grant that we, sharing in this mystery, may turn always to that name which is above all others, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**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**

The peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his son Jesus Christ and the blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be with you and those you love for ever more.  **Amen.**

**Announcements**

**Recessional Hymn #139**

​***The First Nowell***

**Benediction Song**​***Go Now in Peace***

*(found in the back of the blue hymn book)*

The flowers on the Altar today are given to

the Glory of God and wishing everybody a Happy Year 2023 from the Hayter family.

Please enter names in the**Intercessions Book**each week to be read in the service.

**NEWS AND EVENTS**

·

Please send all announcements for the bulletin to Karen by **11:00 a.m. Tuesday** of each week. E-mail: *canondavis@gmail.com* or call 519-344-9531

·

If you would like a home visit with Communion or know of someone who would, please let Rev. Ray know as he and/or a Lay Visitor will be available in the coming weeks.

·

Please join us for **Coffee Hour**after service for a time of fellowship in the parish hall.

·

**Happy Birthday and best wishes** to Bill Graham, Sarah Hayter, Colleen Reeve, Glen Forbes and Ginny Schleihauf from all your friends and CDM.

**Church calendars** are still available for purchase for $6.00 after church.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Reminders**

**Jan 16**​Vestry reports are due

**Jan 19**​Parish Council Meeting

**Jan 22**​Vestry reports issued

**Jan 29**​Vestry meeting after church               service in the parish hall

You are invited to go each Sunday and/or Wednesday to the link:

[tinyurl.com/StAlbans-CDMC](http://tinyurl.com/StAlbans-CDMC)

That is the link to St. Alban’s Anglican Church in Burnaby B.C.  Follow the instructions.  You will find links to the Rev’d Greg Jenkins officiating at an Anglican church service with a children’s focus, church music, readings, prayers and a sermon.