

Open To The Light
ST Catherines
ANGELICAN CHURCH



Christmas Eve
December 24, 2025 at 5 p.m.

Holy Eucharist

St. Catherine's Mission, Vision and Values

St. Catherine's Anglican Church, near the heart of Edgemont Village in North Vancouver on the ancestral lands of the Coast Salish peoples, including the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and səlililwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations, is a contemporary community of Christian seekers

We welcome you to join us in the journey.
We provide a place of spiritual growth through Christ
and we respond with gratitude to God's
through service to our brothers and sisters in the world.

Our **Vision** is to:

- Be an inclusive and thriving community of faith for all generations
- Continually invite others to join us in our journey of faith and Christian discipleship
- Honour the strengthening of relationships and development of community, both within our walls and outside them
- Minister to those in need in Christ's name

Our Values:

St Catherine's is a community that aspires to be:

Welcoming, Inclusive, Curious, Creative,
Sustainable, Caring and Humble



**All songs not in the hymnal are licensed with:
CCLI License # 2890999, and A-711268 Onelicense.net

As you enter the church, we invite you to light a votive candle at the back of the church to remember a person or situation that you carry on your heart. Candles are also available during Communion.

Liturgical Note

In the context of Christian liturgy, Israel and Zion do not refer to the modern political state, but either to the historic Hebrews of the ancient Near East or, in Christian theology, to all who put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

The Rev. Sarah Lehman

Please rise, in body or in spirit.

Presider We acknowledge that we live, work, and worship on the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. We are grateful for and will advocate for Indigenous communities, we mourn those who were forcibly removed, and we grieve the legacies of colonialism. We seek to hold ourselves accountable to taking up the work of truth and reconciliation ever more meaningfully.

All **May we be ministers of the reconciling love of the Risen Christ.**

GREETING

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

All **And also with you.**

Presider 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.

GATHERING HYMN: SHEPHERDS IN THE FIELD ABIDING (CP 135)

Shepherds in the field abiding,
tell us, when the seraph bright
greeted you with wondrous tiding,
what you saw and heard that night.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

We beheld it (it is no fable),
God incarnate, king of bliss,
swathed and cradled in a stable,
And the angel strain was this: (*Refrain*)

Choristers on high were singing
Jesus and his virgin birth,
heavenly bells the while a-ringing,
"Peace, good will to all on earth." (*Refrain*)

Thanks, good shepherds, true your story;
let us go to Bethlehem.
Angels hymn the king of glory;
carol we with you and them. (*Refrain*)

THE COLLECT

Presider Eternal God,
**All this holy night is radiant
 with the brilliance of your one true light.
 As we have known
 the revelation of that light on earth,
 bring us to see the splendour of your
 heavenly glory;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you and the
 Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
 Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:2-7

Reader A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
 on them light has shined.
You have multiplied exultation;
 you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest...
For the yoke of their burden
 and the bar across their shoulders,
 the rod of their oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Great will be his authority,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Reader Holy word, holy wisdom.

***People* Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 96

Led by Claire Louie

Leader Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.

***People* Sing to the Lord and bless the divine name;
proclaim the good news of our
salvation from day to day.**

Leader Declare the glory of the Lord among the nations
and the wonders of God among all peoples.

***People* For great is the Lord and greatly to be
praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

Leader As for all the gods of the nations,
they are but idols;
but it is you, O Lord, who made the heavens.

People Oh, the majesty and magnificence of your presence!

Oh, the power and the splendour of your sanctuary!

Leader Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples; ascribe to the Lord honour and power.

People **Ascribe to the Lord the honour due the divine name;**

bring offerings and come into the courts of the Lord.

Leader Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth tremble before God.

People **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.”

Leader 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.

People **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord who is coming, who is coming to judge the earth.**

Leader The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with truth.

SECOND READING: TITUS 2: 11-14

Reader: A reading from the letter to Titus

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good.

Reader Let us hear what the Spirit is saying.

All Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN: WHAT CHILD IS THIS? (CP 137)

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!

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 2:1-14

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ,
according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from the Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the inn.

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favours!"

Presider The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GOSPEL HYMN continued (CP 137)

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:

This, this is Christ, the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring Him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

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*]

HOMILY

The Rev. Sarah Lehman

CHOIR ANTHEM: O Holy Night (Adolphe Adam)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

Please rise, in body or in spirit.

Presider Let us affirm our faith, saying,

All **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified
under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand
of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and
apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Water is poured into the font.

Presider

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through water you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, into everlasting life.

Breathe your Spirit, O God, upon this water that all your servants who are washed and anointed with it may share with your Christ in his death and resurrection. Let there be no distinction among those whom one font, one Spirit, one faith make one people.

All

**May we become a sign and
foretaste of your Kingdom,
a diverse people, open to the light.**

We give you praise and honour and worship through your Child, Jesus the Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Water is sprinkled on the congregation as we remember our baptismal vows.

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please stand, sit, or kneel, as is your custom for prayer.

CONFESSION

Presider 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.

Presider Most merciful God,
All **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.**

Presider 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.

All Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

The community, standing at our seats, greet one another saying or gesturing: "Peace be with you".

COMMUNION

PREPARING THE TABLE: THE FIRST NOWELL (CP 139)

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:

Nowel, nowell, nowell, nowell,
born is the King of Israel.

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. [Refrain]

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. [Refrain]

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. [Refrain]

Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold and myrrh and frankincense. [Refrain]

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. [Refrain]

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER 3

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **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 perfect man
of the flesh of the Virgin 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.

All

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

Presider

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;

Presider

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.

Presider

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 children;
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.

All

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (*Sung*)

All

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil,
For the kingdom, the power and the glory
are yours, now and forever.**

BREAKING 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.**

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God.
People **Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION

*All people are welcome to receive Communion in one kind
(Bread or Wafers) or in both kinds (Bread and Wine).*

Please sanitize your hands before receiving.

Please do not instinct (dip) the Bread or Wafer in the cup.

*While Communion is being received, please hold the peaceful
space for others. Communion is not filmed or live-streamed
for the privacy of worshippers.*

Candle lighting during this time is welcomed.

COMMUNION MUSIC: SILENT NIGHT (CP 119)

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight:
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand, sit, or kneel, as is your custom for prayer.

Presider Let us pray.
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.**

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Churchwarden

BLESSING

The Rev. Sarah Lehman

CLOSING HYMN: JOY TO THE WORLD (CP 154)

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

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.

No more let wrongs and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as our sin is found,
far as our sin is found,
far as, far as our sin is found.

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.

DISMISSAL

Presider: Go forth, open to the dawning Light of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE



*If you wish to make a gift,
there are offertory plates as you enter and leave the service
or you can [give online](https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-parish-of-saint-catherines-capilano/) at*

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/the-parish-of-saint-catherines-capilano/>

We wish you and your family
a blessed and peaceful
Christmas and New Year!

Do you have questions about bringing your family to church, introducing your children (or yourself) to life's "Big Questions", or the baptism of babies, children, or adults, please reach out to our priest, Rev. Sarah Lehman at rev.sarah@saint-catherines.org.

Thank you for ministering this evening:

Priest-in-Charge & Preacher: The Rev. Sarah Lehman
rev.sarah@saint-catherines.org

Musician & Choir Director: Hyejung Jun

Altar Guild
Greeters
Eucharistic
Administrators

Bonnie Grundy
Tony Dodd & Gillian Holland
Vivan McGie and
Susana Wensley
Heather Luccock
Claire Louie and Sharon Fedorak
Ashkon Vahedi

Intercessor
Readers
Livestream

Vivian McGie & Rhonda Garton

Wardens.
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