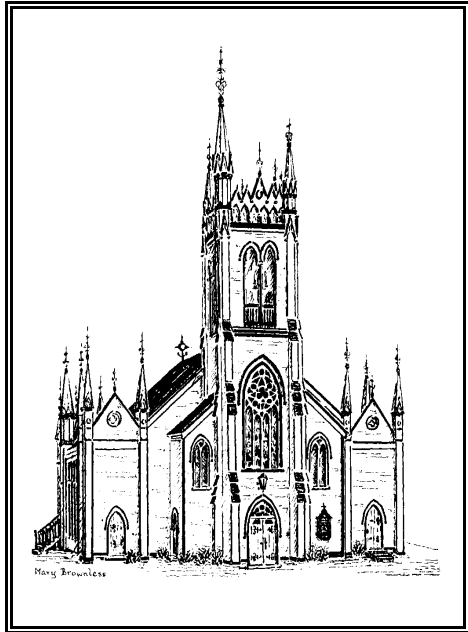


First Sunday after Christmas December 28, 2014



St. John's Anglican Church

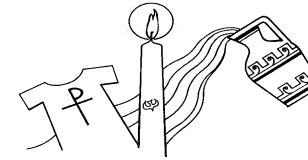
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Rector: Archdeacon Michael H. Mitchell

*To all who mourn or need comfort,
To all who are weary and need rest,
To all who seek friendship,
To all who desire to grow in relationship with God
To all who yearn to pray,
To all who need a Saviour, And to all who ever will worship,
This Church of St. John's opens wide its doors
and in the name of Christ our Lord, says - WELCOME.*

Heritage  Faith  Vision
St. John's - A National Historic Site - Founded 1793

Welcome parishioners and visitors to St. John's in the midst of the 12 days of Christmas. Our celebration of Christmas is not a single day, but rather a 12 day celebration, culminating with the Feast of the Epiphany on January 4th. I hope you enjoy the entire season and all that the Lord desires for us and for our parish in a new year.
Michael+



Today we will baptise three young children and welcome them into the family of God. Let us celebrate with them as we pray for them, and for their parents and godparents.
Baby Anna Marion Bower, daughter of Adam and Christina Bower.
Baby Ellen Jane Spence, daughter of Lorne and Anne Spence.
Baby Lexi Mary Sue Wagner, daughter of Drew & Jay Wagner.

A New Year With The Lord

A new year is about to unfold
With new opportunities to explore
Doors will open for new experiences,
New adventures with the Lord

Remember not the former things,
The things of this past year,
The Lord will do new things in us
Much more than we are aware

For He will make a way for us
As we put our trust in Him
And He will guide our every step
By His presence we have within

What God has placed within our hearts,
We find we'll be able to do
If we look for the opportunities,
We'll see the door to go through

We mustn't let anything hold us back
But rise up and take our place
And be all that God wants us to be.

M.S.Lowndes

Service of The Word with Baptism

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude: Allemande - J. S. Bach

Announcements

Gathering Carol # 143 'Angels From the Realms of Glory'

Greeting

Celebrant: There is one body and one Spirit.
People **There is one hope in God's call to us;**
Celebrant One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
People **One God and Father of all.**

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.

For to us a child is born
to us a Son is given.

His name will be called
**Wonderful counsellor, mighty God,
the everlasting Father,
the Prince of Peace.**

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

Celebrant

As we come to the Lord near the start of this New Year,
let us seek his grace to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to
wisdom as we confess our sins in penitence and faith.

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace:
*Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.***

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:
*Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.***

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh and splendour of the Father:
*Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.***

Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with
a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

The community prays silently as the celebrant says the collect.

Almighty God, you have shed upon us the new light of your
incarnate Word. May this light, enkindled in our hearts, shine forth in
our lives today and throughout the coming year; through Jesus Christ
our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

A Reading from the First Book of Isaiah

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me
with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a
garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth
brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring
up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before
all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake
I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her
salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all
the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth
of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. **ISAIAH 61:10-62:3**
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL # 145 'Good King Wenceslas'

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a
woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the
law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are
children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba!
Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an
heir, through God. **GALATIANS 4:4-7**
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN # 153 'Good Christians All Rejoice'

THE GOSPEL

Reader The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.**
The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke
People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Jesus' parents brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him. The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** LUKE 2:22-40

Reflection

Solo by Edmund Brownless 'This is the Truth Sent from Above'
- arr. Richard Lloyd

Presentation and Examination of Candidates

The families of those presenting children for Holy Baptism are invited to stand and present their child.

Parents and sponsors say,
I present (*Name of child*) to receive the sacrament of baptism.

When all have been presented the celebrant asks the parents and sponsors,
Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community?

Parents and sponsors, **I will, with God's help.**

Celebrant Will you by your prayers and witness help this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?

Parents and sponsors, **I will, with God's help.**

The Celebrant asks parents, sponsors and congregation the following:

Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God? **Answer I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God? **Answer I renounce them.**

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God? **Answer I renounce them.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour? **Answer I do.**

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love? **Answer I do.**

Do you promise to obey him as your Lord? **Answer I do.**

Question to the congregation,

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ? **People We will.**

Prayers for the Candidates

Let us now pray for *Anna, Ellen and Lexi* who are to receive the sacrament of new birth.

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open *their hearts* to your grace and truth.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Fill *them* with your holy and life-giving Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Teach *them* to love others in the power of the Spirit.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Send *them* into the world in witness to your love.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Leader Bring *them* to the fullness of your peace and glory.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Other prayers are added, using the same response.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. **Amen.**

Baptism Procession Hymn #35
“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

1. Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow. Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago. Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.
2. We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed. Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread. God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

Thanksgiving over the Water - *The celebrant blesses the water.*

The Lord be with you. *People* **And also with you.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, almighty God and Father, for by the gift of water you nourish and sustain all living things.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea, you led your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks for sending your Son Jesus. For us he was baptized by John in the river Jordan. For us he was anointed as Christ by your Holy Spirit. For us he suffered the baptism of his own death and resurrection, setting us free from the bondage of sin and death, and opening to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit who teaches us and leads us into all truth, filling us with his gifts so that we might proclaim the gospel to all nations and serve you as a royal priesthood.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks for you have called (*Name of child*) to new life through the waters of baptism. Now sanctify + this water, that your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in his death and resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin. Anoint them with your Holy Spirit and bring them to new birth in the family of your Church, that they may become inheritors of your glorious kingdom. We give you praise and honour and worship through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

All Blessed are you, our strength and song, and our salvation.

The Baptismal Covenant

Let us join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, The Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers? *People* **I will, with God's help.**

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord? *People* **I will, with God's help.**

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ? *People* **I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself? *People* **I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? *People* **I will, with God's help.**

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth? *People* **I will, with God's help.**

The Baptism

Each candidate is presented by name to the celebrant, who then pours water upon, the candidates, saying,

N. . . , I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The celebrant makes the sign of the cross on the forehead with Holy Chrism, saying, I sign you with the cross, and mark you as Christ's own for ever.

The celebrant and families go into the Chancel to present the newly baptized to the congregation.

Baptism Procession Hymn #35
“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honour! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water washed and Spirit born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

The following prayer is said together:

Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon these your servants the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. Amen.

The Giving of the Light

The newly baptized are given a candle lit from the Paschal (Christ) Candle.
Receive the light of Christ,
to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

When all of the newly baptized have received candles, the people say,
Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.
We receive you into the household of God.
Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.
We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All And also with you. *The Peace is exchanged in the name of Christ.*

OFFERTORY

*Each one as they are able, makes an offering to the Lord,
for the needs and responsibilities of the Church to be placed on the alta.*

CAROL # 139 ‘The First Nowell’

When the offering is received, all say:
God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own do we give you. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer - Filled with Christmas joy, let us pray:

**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. Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and watch over you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you,
the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace;
and the blessing of God the Father + the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be with you this day and all throughout the coming New Year. **Amen.**

Sending Forth

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CAROL # 154 ‘Joy to the World’

Postlude: Jubilate Deo - Handel

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LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Sharon Green, Sheila Morris, Holly Mitchell
Lectors: 8:30 am Ben & Roxie Smith
10:30am Rosalie Osmond, Ann Perry; **Server:** Aisling Curtin
Sidesperson: Hazel Oliver

NEXT SUNDAY JANUARY 4TH

Lay Reader: **8:30 am** Barbara Eisenhauer
Lectors: 8:30 am Susan Foote, Jo Eisenhauer

NOTICES

ANNUAL REPORTS

It is time once again to start preparation of **Committee Reports** for our Annual Report. We are asking that **all reports be emailed to Mary** at the Parish Office.

Please note:

- The last date to make a contribution for **2014 Income Tax Receipts** is Sunday, December 28th (TODAY).
- We would like Committee Chairs to start working on their budget items for the year 2015 and to contact Treasurer, Cammy Tibbo at 902-530-6034 or email cammytibbo@eastlink.ca

COMBINED ANGLICAN/LUTHERAN SERVICE

Our congregation will join with the congregation of Zion Lutheran Church for a special worship on **January 4th at 11:00 am**. We encourage all parishioners to come out to this shared worship. A time of fellowship with refreshments will follow the service. Please note the 8:30am service is as usual. Also note the time of 11am for the joint service at Zion.



Have a blessed week. We look forward to welcoming you back next week.

Here are our numbers if you need to reach us:

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CHAIR OF PARISH COUNCIL

Heather Eisenhauer 902-634-4713

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CHIMER Peter Allen 902-634-4668

TREASURER Cammy Tibbo 902-530-6034

ALTAR GUILD Joyce Creaser 902-634-4635

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PRAYER & HEALING MINISTRY

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HERITAGE Roger Demone 902-543-5753

MUSIC Jane Ritcey Moore 902-275-4834

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Bruce Holdbrook 902-634-3510

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ACW CATERING Patty Tanner 543-3474

LAY READERS Roger Demone 543-5753

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Jennifer Green

TOURS Peter Allen 902-634-4668

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FOOD BANK Barbara Simonds 902-634-3319

MEALS ON WHEELS

Jo Eisenhauer 902-634-4463

PLANNED GIVING

Jim Eisenhauer 902-634-4713

PWRDF Katharine Owen 902-273-2279

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Mary Meisner, Velvet Eliuk, Betty Lou Olivier

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Robert MacMillan, Mike Lee, Katharine Owen

CUSTODIAN Bruce Holdbrook 634-3510

CHURCH SEXTON Paul Woodley 212-1890

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