



**W**elcome everyone! A special welcome to our young people at the 10:30am Service.

Turning to today's gospel, have you ever noticed how much energy some folks put into trying to catch someone in the act of doing something wrong? Take the man born blind – he is under the microscope and is blamed for his own blindness, because either he or his parents sinned. The Pharisees challenged the man and then Jesus, for healing on the Sabbath. Jesus puts human need above man-made laws and responds with compassion to this man's suffering. In doing so, he teaches

the disciples and all of us to do the same. Without discounting the law, he reminds them that the most important law is the law of love.

Today's gospel is a study of blindness, not primarily physical blindness, but spiritual and psychological blindness. The Pharisee and disciples choose judgement, legalism and punishment over love. John presents Jesus as the One who understands the fundamental truth of God's unconditional love. Love cannot be imprisoned by a Sabbath law or a blind spirit of legalism.

The only cure for blindness of spirit is a willingness to be open to God's love in the circumstances of life. It is only then that we truly "live as children of light." Have a great week.  
Father Michael+

# 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 whoever will worship,  
This Church of St. John's opens wide its doors  
and in the name of Christ our Lord, says - WELCOME.*

**LAY MINISTERS TODAY**  
**Lay Readers:** **8:30 am** Barbara Eisenhauer  
**10:30 am** Roger Demone, Charlene Demone, Sharon Green  
**Lectors:** **8:30 am** Jo Eisenhauer, Christina Pottie  
**10:30 am** Sunday School; **Server:** Aisling Curtin  
**Sidespersons:** **10:30 am** Angie & Alex Payne

**NEXT SUNDAY APRIL 6TH**  
**Lay Readers:** **8:30 am** Barbara Eisenhauer  
**10:30 am** Susan MacMillan, Robert MacMillan, Roger Demone  
**Lectors:** **8:30 am** Ed & Sandra Jordan  
**10:30 am** Sandra MacDonald, Robert MacMillan; **Server:** Aisling Curtin  
**Sidespersons:** **10:30 am** Angie & Alex Payne

# Morning Prayer - Family Service

## Announcements and Welcome

*Prelude:* 'Rockingham' - Willan

## The Gathering of the Community

**Hymn #465** 'Here in this Place, New Light in Streaming'

*Celebrant* O Lord, open our lips,

**All** And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*Celebrant* O God, make speed to save us.

**All** O Lord, make haste to help us.

**All** **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**Youth** Our way through Lent has brought us to this day.

**All** **We are on a journey seeking God's way.**

**Youth** We choose the light of God's love rather than the darkness of sin

**All** **We know that God has a path for us to follow.**

**Youth** We gather to renew our friendship with God and with one another.

**All** **We come to share in God's gift of amazing Grace.**

*Celebrant*

My life is in your hand, deliver me;

**\* shine on your servant with the light of your love.**

My life is in your hand, deliver me;

**\* shine on your servant with the light of your love.**

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

**\* shine on your servant with the light of your love.**

Incline your ear to me; make haste to deliver me.

**\* shine on your servant with the light of your love.**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;

for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

**\* shine on your servant with the light of your love.**

I put my trust in the Lord;

I will rejoice and be glad because of your mercy.

**\* shine on your servant with the light of your love.**

## The Collect of the Day

Let us pray. *The community prays silently. The celebrant then says the collect.*

Almighty God, through the waters of baptism your Son has made us children of light. May we ever walk in his light and show forth your glory in the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## The Proclamation of the Word

### 8:30am Service

#### A READING FROM THE BOOK OF SAMUEL

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you."

Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** *1 SAMUEL 16:1-13*

**Psalm 23:** Judith Burdett, soprano; Barbara Butler, piano/organ

**(8:30 am) Refrain: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He revives my soul and guides me along right pathways for his name's sake. Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over. Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R**

PSALM 23

**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS**

For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light - for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

EPHESIANS 5:8-14

**Gospel Hymn 'Open Our Eyes, Lord.'**

**Open our eyes Lord, we want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him  
Open our ears Lord, and help us to listen  
O, Open our eyes Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

**10:30am - 'The Visual Bible' - The Good News Bible**

**The Gospel**

Reader The Lord be with you. **People** And also with you.

**THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN** **People** **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

As he walked along, Jesus saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" Some



were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am the man." But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet." The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to be-come his disciples?"

Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he

said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshipped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgement so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** JOHN 9:1-41

## Reflection & Children's Hymn

**Open our eyes Lord, we want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him, and say that we love Him  
Open our ears Lord, and help us to listen  
O, Open our eyes Lord, we want to see Jesus.**

**The Affirmation of Faith** *As Children of the light, let us sing:*

We believe in God the Father, **Refrain: We believe, we believe.**  
We believe he is the Holy One, **R.**  
We believe in Jesus Christ, the Lord, **R. We believe. We believe.**  
We believe he is God's only Son, **R.**  
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit; Born of the Virgin Mary;  
For us he died and was buried; On the third day he rose again.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, **R.**  
We believe in the Holy Church of God, **R.**  
We believe in God's forgiveness, The resurrection from the dead.  
We believe in life everlasting, We believe, we believe. Amen.  
We believe. Amen. We believe.

## The Prayers of the People

*Please kneel or sit for the prayers.* **Response: Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Confession and Absolution

*Loving God, we come to you this day as your children:  
trusting, hopeful, wanting to walk as children of the light.  
We so easily forget how precious we are to you and how we belong to  
you, for you have carved our names on the palms of your hands.  
We forget how you call us to trust, to hope and to love.  
There are times when we have chosen the darkness over light.  
So now we confess our sins.*

*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 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. Amen.**

## Celebrant

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** *All stand, and the celebrant addresses the people.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The assembly greets one another in the name of the Lord.*

## Offertory Hymn #352 "Amazing Grace"

## The Lord's Prayer

*Let us pray to our Father, with Jesus, the light of our lives:*

**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.**

## Prayer

**Gracious God,** you helped the man born blind to believe in Jesus as the Christ, and through that faith to reach the light of your kingdom. Free us from the falsehoods that surround and blind us. Strengthen our hearts with your loving Spirit that truth may be the foundation of our lives. May we live in your light for ever and fearlessly bear witness to what we have seen and heard. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## 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 & Dismissal

God has called us through Christ to be children of light. May we bear witness in everyday life to the light of Christ, in goodness, justice and truth, And the blessing of God almighty, Father + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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

**Recessional Hymn #460** 'Lord, the Light of your Love is Shining'

**Postlude:** *Voluntary in D - Alcock*



## Palm Sunday

Join us on Palm Sunday at 9:30am for our first **'Walk with the Donkey'** as we mark the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem riding a donkey. Holy Scripture tells us that the crowds welcomed Jesus as the Messiah with loud shouts and songs of 'Hosanna'. They waved **Palm Branches** and laid them before his path and they **laid their coats** upon the pathway in front

of him as a sign of respect for Jesus.

Our procession will begin on the Waterfront at 9:30am and we will slowly make our way to the church parade for 10:15am. There we will hold the **Liturgy of the Palms** and then process into the church to continue the service at 10:30am. There is only **one** service on Palm Sunday.

As people brought their coats to Jesus, we invite you to bring along a coat in good condition to be given to those who are in need of a coat. They may be coats of any season. We will bring these in the procession and carry them into the church as an offering to the Lord for those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

This is a new initiative for St. John's and we invite not only parishioners, but the entire community to join in this 'Walk with the Donkey'. Please invite your friends, family and neighbours to join in.

**Daily Prayer Booklets** are available at the back of the church. A donation of \$2.00 will cover the cost of these books.

## **WEDNESDAYS - LENT IN LUNENBURG**

You are invited to participate in the various events taking place on Wednesdays. The Lenten Café at Zion Lutheran, Music & Meditation at St. John's and Soup Luncheons at Central United.

## Seder Supper - Tuesday in Holy Week

Once again, St. John's will celebrate the Seder Meal during Holy Week. The Seder is the meal which Jesus celebrated at the Jewish Passover in the Upper Room with his disciples. We remember this meal as the "Last Supper". We commemorate it every Maundy Thursday and each time we come together for Eucharist.

This year the supper will begin at **6:00PM** in the Parish Hall on **Tuesday, April 15th**. Please mark the date on your calendar. It has become a very popular event for people of all ages.

Would you care to contribute to the meal by helping with food or preparations? Please contact the parish office or Louis at [louisq@eastlink.ca](mailto:louisq@eastlink.ca) or 527-0122.

Sign up sheets will be available at the back of the church to help us plan for the number who will attend.



## MUSIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

This afternoon at 4 pm - Our Rector, Michael with Barbara Butler and St. John's Chancel Choir will participate in a Choral Evensong at St. John's Cornwallis Church in Port Williams. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**Wednesday's Music and Meditation:** Judith Burdett, soprano; Barbara Butler, piano/organ

**Saturday, April 5 at 4 pm - J.S. Bach's great choral masterpiece, the St. Matthew Passion.** First performed in Leipzig in 1727, the St. Matthew Passion sets chapters 26 and 27 of the Gospel of Matthew to music, with interspersed chorales and arias. Paul Halley conducts King's College Chapel Choir, Ensemble Regale and an international roster of soloists. The 'Evangelist' is the English-German tenor Rufus Müller who is considered one of the world's leading interpreters of this role. Montreal baritone Dion Mazerolle will be singing the role of Jesus and Canadian baritone Tyler Duncan sings the role of Pilate. Another guest soloist is the preeminent Canadian countertenor Daniel Taylor. The performance here at St. John's is presented by Musique Royale and will also include an extended intermission where food and refreshments will be served in the church hall. A special fund raising 'Passion' dinner with the guests soloists will be held at the home of Barbara Butler, 1199 Oakland Rd, RR2 in Mahone Bay on Friday, April 4 at 6 pm. Please speak to Barbara or Jane Ritcey if you wish to make a reservation.



Dizolve is a smart new fundraising campaign that many of you will like. Simply buy *Dizolve eco-friendly laundry detergent* and our PARISH receives

valuable financial support. We all need to buy detergent on a regular basis, so this makes a lot of sense. It's a simple way to raise funds, support food banks, and help the environment.

Several folks in our parish have tried Dizolve and really like it: the tiny dissolving strips are much more convenient than liquid detergents, the ingredients are safer, it's kinder to the environment, and it really does a great job of cleaning clothes. No wonder so many people rate it highly and the Sierra Club and other environmentalists endorse it.

And it gets better - One million loads of clean laundry for families in need. Dizolve has pledged to donate up to one million loads of detergent to Canadian families in need. For every package you buy, St. John's parish receives valuable funds AND Dizolve donates a package to Food Banks Canada.

Dizolve laundry Detergent is available scented or unscented. Great value. The price per load is only about 20 cents. That's cheaper than comparable detergent (and nothing really compares!). Simply visit [www.mydizolve.com/campaign](http://www.mydizolve.com/campaign), then look for our campaign page 'St. John's Anglican Church, Lunenburg' and order your Dizolve.

We earn money on every purchase you make, so please try it and keep buying it whenever you run out. Don't forget to tell your friends about it. **This Sunday at church, there will be free samples for you to take home and try for yourself.**

### Heritage Ministry

**The Heritage Ministry** is preparing to set up a display for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World War I (1914-1918) in the Interpretive Centre for the upcoming tour season. Do you have any artifacts, pictures, newspaper articles, King George V pictures? Contact Roger Demone at 543-5753. We would like to loan these items for use in the Interpretive Centre showcase.

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean, Archbishop Ian Gerald James Ernest, Province of Indian Ocean & Bishop of Mauritius.

**Diocesan Cycle:** Pray for **Bishop Sue Moxley as she enters retirement**, and for our new **Diocesan Bishop, Ron Cutler**, as he begins this new ministry in our diocese. May God's blessing be upon each one. **Local Ministerial:** The Congregation of St. John's Anglican Church with Archdeacon Michael Mitchell and Holly and supporting clergy.

**Fisheries: Adams & Knickle** - Chockle Cap; **Clearwater** - Atlantic Preserver.

### Parish Contacts

**RECTOR:** Archdeacon Michael Mitchell • [rectorlunenburg@eastlink.ca](mailto:rectorlunenburg@eastlink.ca). 634-8477 **WEBSITE:** [www.stjohnslunenburg.org](http://www.stjohnslunenburg.org)  
**SECRETARY** Mary Wagner • **PARISH OFFICE:** 634-4994 •  
**FAX:** 634-4231 [stjohnslunenburg@eastlink.ca](mailto:stjohnslunenburg@eastlink.ca)  
**PRIEST ASSISTANT** Rev. Louis Quennelle • 527-0122  
**HONORARY ASSOCIATES** Rev. Capt. Reg MacDonald • 634-4657, Rev. Linda Macdonald • 634-9473; Rev. Oliver Osmond • 634-8589  
 Rev. Alvin Westgate • 640-2484

#### PARISH WARDENS

Wayne Dodge 634-4885 • Bruce Holdbrook 634-3510

#### CHAIR OF PARISH COUNCIL

Heather Eisenhauer 634-4713

#### DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ ORGANIST

Barbara Butler 624-0506

**HAND BELLS** Sharon Hill 634-8781

#### HONORARY ORGANIST

James Aulenbach

**CHIMER** Peter Allen 634-4668

#### TREASURER

Cammy Tibbo 530-6034

#### ALTAR GUILD

Joyce Creaser 634-4635

#### PASTORAL VISITATION

#### PRAYER & HEALING MINISTRY

Holly Mitchell 634-8477

#### SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Louis Quennelle 527-0122

**HERITAGE** Roger Demone 543-5753

**MUSIC** Jane Ritcey Moore 275-4834

#### PROPERTY

#### LADIES' GUILD

Susan MacMillan 634-3019

**ACW** Barbara Nowe 634-4473

#### ACW CATERING

Patty Tanner 543-3474

#### LAY READERS

Roger Demone 543-5753

**SERVERS** Sheila Morris 634-3713

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Jennifer Green-Heisler 640-2088

#### TOUR PROGRAM

Peter Allen 634-4668

#### CONGREGATION DEVELOPMENT

Mary Meisner 634-8429

#### FOOD BANK

Laura Roblee 521-4823

#### MEALS ON WHEELS

Hazel Oliver 634-3236

#### PLANNED GIVING

Jim Eisenhauer 634-4713

**PWRDF** Katherine Owen 273-2279

#### REGIONAL COUNCIL

Velvet Eliuk, Mary Meisner,  
Betty Lou Olivier

#### SYNOD DELEGATES

Robert MacMillan, Mike Lee,  
Katharine Owen

#### CHURCH SEXTON

Ryan Francis 521-5595

#### HALL CUSTODIAN

Bruce Holdbrook 634-3510

#### NEWSLETTER

Janice & Brian Kenefick 764-2145

**WEBSITE** Grant Dixon 640-2897