

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.*

Heritage Faith Vision

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



Rector's Message

A warm word of welcome to parishioners and visitors with us this weekend.

Jesus tells us today a challenging parable about workers in a vineyard that is meant to stretch our understanding of God's limitless generosity. It is difficult for us to grasp God's love for us. When you come to think of it, often we cannot understand God's goodness. Why is God so patient with sinners? Why does God give gifts to people who, in our opinion, do not deserve them, or even waste them? God's ways are not our ways, God's thoughts are not always our thoughts. God is just and good, because God is grace. God's gifts are free and more than we dare to expect. The first and the last receive love. The first and the last are invited to the table. Let us pray in this Eucharist that our thoughts and actions may become more like those of God.

Michael +

Back to Church Sunday is Next Sunday

Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury writes this about Back to Church Sunday: *"I think one-to-one invitation is not only the most effective way to grow the church, it's not far off being the only way to grow the church . . . I came to the Christian faith because someone asked me along to church when I was about 20 years old . . . the fact that they asked, that it mattered enough to them to ask me, had an impact on me, and it enabled us to start a conversation about what it means to be a Christian."*

Back to Church Sunday is all about parishioners asking this question to a friend: *"Would you like to come to church with me?"* Inviting a friend to something you love can be life changing, as it was in the case of Archbishop Welby. Several folks who are active in our congregation now began their journey with us through Back to Church Sunday.

Please take an invitation card and then reach out and invite a friend. Pray for them this week, arrange for transportation and make sure to introduce them to other parishioners and help them in the service.

Back to Church Sunday happens in 17 countries worldwide, involving 50 Christian denominations, including Anglican, Lutheran and United Churches. Let us pray God's blessing upon our efforts.

The Holy Eucharist

Missa Nova in C - Alexander Tilley

Prelude: Prelude in G Major - Mendelssohn

The Gathering of the Community

Please stand for Processional Hymn

Processional Hymn #7 'New Every Morning is the Love'

Greeting

Welcome

Celebrant 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.**

All 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

**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.

The Collect of the Day

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

Lord our God, you say of yourself that you are good with a love that surpasses even justice. Thank you for accepting the little ones as much as the great, those who turn to you at the last hour as well as the labourers who have toiled all their lives. Open us to receive the free gifts of your grace with gratitude. Turn our ways into your ways of love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EXODUS

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him - what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** *EXODUS 16:2-15*

PSALM REFRAIN

The Lord has always been mindful of his covenant.

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples. **R**

Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvellous works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Search for the Lord and his strength; continually seek his face. **R**

Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgements of his mouth, O offspring of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen. **R**

He led out his people with silver and gold; in all their tribes there was not one that stumbled. Egypt was glad of their going, because they were afraid of them. He spread out a cloud for a covering and a fire to give light in the night season. **R**

They asked, and quails appeared, and he satisfied them with bread from heaven. He opened the rock, and water flowed, so the river ran in the dry places. For God remembered his holy word and Abraham his servant. **R**

So he led forth his people with gladness, his chosen with shouts of joy. He gave his people the lands of the nations, and they took the fruit of others' toil, That they might keep his statutes and observe his laws.

Hallelujah! **R**

PSALM 105:1-6, 37-45

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well - since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

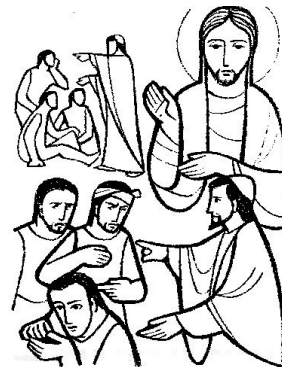
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Procession #445 'God the Creator'

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

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**



Jesus said, "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

MATTHEW 20:1-16

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

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.

The Prayers of the People *Please kneel or sit for the prayers*
Refrain: Lord, hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
God welcomes sinners and invites them to the table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

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.

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

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn #388 'Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken'

Representatives of the parish present the gifts of bread and wine for the Eucharist. 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 altar.

The Prayer Over The Gifts *Read by celebrant*

Generous Father, in these signs of bread and wine you give us, weak and tired as we are, your Son as our companion, we open ourselves to his strength and love. May he help us in the heat of the day to bear the burdens of our struggles and to seek your will in all we do. Grant this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer

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. 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 sing.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power, God of 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. Hosanna in the highest.**

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for sending us Jesus, the Christ, who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, gave it to his friends, and said, "Take this, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper, he took the cup of wine; he gave you thanks, 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."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, we recall the death of your Son Jesus Christ, we proclaim his resurrection and ascension, and we look with expectation for his coming as Lord of all the nations. We who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring you these gifts. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this offering of your Church, that we who eat and drink at this holy table may share the divine life of Christ our Lord.

Gather your Church together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, where peace and justice are revealed, that we, with all your people, of every language, race, and nation, may share the banquet you have promised; through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, creator of all. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

We rely on the generosity of our Father as we pray in the words of Jesus.

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread for distribution, and says:

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

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

The celebrant invites the people to share in communion and may say,

The gifts of God for the People of God.

All **Thanks be to God.**

The Communion

**Jesus Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus Bread of life, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus Prince of Peace you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Jesus Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.**

The celebrant and people receive communion.

The sacrament is given with the following words.

The body of Christ (given for you). The blood of Christ (shed for you).

The communicant responds each time, Amen.

Communion Hymn #84 'Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendour'

Children's Time and Music Moment

God is so good

1. God is so good, God is so good,
God is so good, God is good to me
2. God answers prayer, God answers prayer,
God answers prayer, God is good to me

Prayer After Communion

Generous Father, in this Eucharist we have experienced again that life and all that we are is nothing else than a gift from you. May the challenging word of your Son stir us to accept and serve our neighbour as you have accepted and loved us without any merit on our part. And may the body of your Son give us the courage to put his word into practice. Grant us through 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

May 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 almighty God, the Father, + the Son and the 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 #565 'Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah'

Postlude: Fugue in G Major - Mendelssohn

Following the Service, you are cordially invited to gather in the Plaza for fellowship and refreshment.

*Service adapted from the Book of Alternative Services
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LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer

10:30 am Charlene Demone, Sharon Green, Roger Demone

Lectors: 8:30 am Sandra Jordan, Ed Jordan

10:30am Cathy Ramey, Rosemary Smith

Hostesses: Mary Francis, Doreen Dixon; **Server:** Aisling Curtin

Sidespersons: Denyse Lee, Michael Lee

NEXT SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28TH

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer

10:30 am Heather Hyson, Velvet Eliuk, Susan MacMillan

Lectors: 8:30 am Linda Macdonald, Gill Osmond

10:30 am Margaret Mason, Roger Mason; **Server:** Aisling Curtin

NOTICES

INFINITELY MORE GOSPEL MUSIC CONCERT

On Sunday, September 28th at 3:00pm, St. John's Anglican Church will host three-time Covenant Award Nominee, **Infinitely More**, for an afternoon of inspirational entertainment!

The concert will be followed by a fabulous fall BBQ. Tickets for the concert: \$10.00. Children under 12 are free. Tickets for the BBQ: \$10.00. Children under 12 are free. We hope this will be an exciting event for individuals and families in the community.

PLAN TO ATTEND THE ACW FUN - FUNDRAISER ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH FROM 10am TO 2pm

There will be a bake table, flea market and silent auction table. A lunch canteen will serve fish chowder, lobster burgers, chicken burgers, desserts, tea, coffee and juice. Good quality items are needed for the flea market (no clothes or large appliances please) and special items for the Silent Auction Table. Donation of rolls, bread and sweet treats, as well as jams, jellies and pickles would be great for the bake table. This is a fun way to raise some money for St. John's. Last year's sale was a huge success. We need YOUR help to make this one even better! Thank you.

THANKSGIVING NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Our Thanksgiving Newsletter will soon be produced and we need your items to make it a 'parish newsworthy document. If all heads of our ministries would send a short outline of what is happening within their group, it would make for some interesting parish reading. Please send your articles to Brian and Janice Kenefick cynffig@eastlink.ca or phone 902-764-2145 no later than September 24th.

CALLING ALL KNITTERS

Aisling Curtin is looking for folks interested in knitting socks for a fundraiser for the Food Bank. Please speak with Aisling to let her know you are able to offer assistance.

THANK YOU

A special word of thanks to all the kind parishioners who graciously served refreshments after the 10:30am services during the summer. We would like to thank Velvet Eliuk for placing and caring for the planters that adorn the entrance to the church. As well thanks are extended to Holly Mitchell for placing the beautiful planters at the entrance of the Parish Hall. These are very welcoming additions to our buildings.

Tomorrow Evening, September 22 at 7:30 pm - a concert with organist, Shawn Potter. Shawn is the winner of the 2013 Royal Canadian College of Organists' National Organ Competition and currently the Director of Music at First Baptist Church, Ottawa. Tickets are \$20 (\$10 students) and are available at the door.

MADAGASCAR SCHOOL

Kathy Lucking of the Madagascar School visited the Parish office recently. She mentioned how incredibly generous people have been in sharing their home knit items with the people of Madagascar. The cost of shipping items is extremely expensive. At present there are ample supplies of the pneumonia vests waiting to be shipped to the school. Kathy is extremely grateful for the tremendous response.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for The Church of the Province of Uganda and The Most Revd Stanley Ntagali, Archbishop of Uganda & Bishop of Kampala.

Diocesan Cycle: Pray for the Retired Clergy of the Valley Region.

Local Ministerial: Pray for the Congregation of Central United Church and Rev. Grace Caines-Corkum and Barry.

Partnering Prayer: Pray for our linked church St. Eadburgha's in Ebrington UK. This small village church in the North Cotswolds has become popular all over the world after partnering with churches in 28 different countries. 60 churches are informally linked to the church, St. John's being one of those.

Fisheries: Adams & Knickle - Chockle Cap; Clearwater - Atlantic Guardian; Lunar Fisheries - Dual Venture; Tall Ship - Picton Castle.