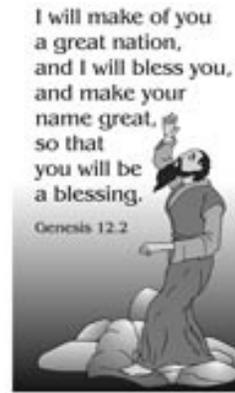


Born of the Spirit



Welcome everyone on this Second Sunday of Lent. Today's scriptures present two great characters, Abram, who responds in faith to God's gift of new life, and Nicodemus, who remains in the dark, because he chooses not to respond to Jesus' invitation.

Abram and his wife Sarai, are presented as our new father and mother in faith, in contrast to Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve said no to God, resulting in sin and death entering our world. Abraham and Sarah said yes to God, resulting in the gift of a new Covenant between God and humankind.

Nicodemus, like many of us, struggles with trying to understand what it means to let go and trust God. Being a good Pharisee, he seeks to gain God's favour by observing all the laws. Jesus invites Nicodemus to 'open up to God' and to see salvation as a gift and not as something we earn. By accepting God's gift, we are born of the Spirit and supported in our journey of faith.

The Gospel writer, John wants us to understand that God offers all persons eternal life and reconciliation through Jesus Christ. For Christians, Baptism is the Way by which we are born again by water and the spirit. In this Holy Eucharist, let us give thanks for God's give and trust it in our daily lives. Blessings. on your 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 Kevin Skinner, Sharon Green

Lectors: 8:30 am Ben & Roxie Smith

10:30am Margaret Shirley, Kevin Skinner; Server: Aisling Curtin

Sidespersons: 10:30 am Mike & Denyse Lee

NEXT SUNDAY MARCH 19TH

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer

10:30 am Heather Hyson, Holly Mitchell

Lectors: 8:30 am Duncan Crowdis, Susan Foote; Server: Aisling Curtin

10:30 am Rosemary Smith, John Collins

Sidespersons: 10:30 am Mike & Denyse Lee

The Holy Eucharist

Missa Nova in C – Tilley

Prelude: O God Be Merciful to Me – H. Isaac

Please stand for Processional Hymn

Hymn # 536 'Singing Songs of Expectation'

The Gathering of the Community

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

People 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.

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

The Collect of the Day

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

Almighty God, you show those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant that we may be like Father Abraham, ready to respond in faith to your free gift of salvation, in your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him. GENESIS 12:1-4A
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Psalm Refrain:



I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. R

He will not let your foot be moved and he who watches over you will not fall asleep. Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep; R

The Lord himself watches over you; the Lord is your shade at your right hand, So that the sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. R

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; it is he who shall keep you safe. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth for evermore. R PSALM 121

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")-in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. ROMANS 4:1-5, 13-17



815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
 2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
 3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to

fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
 look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
 be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with

light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
 shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain
 In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the

day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the
 cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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.



Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"

Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these

things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." JOHN 3:1-17
The Gospel of Christ. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Apostles 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.

Response: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for Maseno South - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Francis Abiero, Maseno West - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Joseph Wasonga.
Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Pray for the Parish of Canso, and Parish of Three Harbours, Rev Sue Channen and Bob.
Local Ministerial: The congregation of St. John's Anglican Church and Rev Michael Mitchell and Holly.
Fisheries: Adams & Knickle - Maude Adams; Tall Ship - Bluenose II.

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,

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. 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.

All And also with you.

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

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Offertory Hymn #543 'Unto the Hills around Do I Lift Up'

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 together

God of wisdom, may the light of the eternal Word, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, guide us to your glory. We ask this in his name. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer #2

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.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who was tempted in every way, yet did not sin. By his grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore with angels and archangels and all who have served you in every age, we raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

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.

Holy and gracious God, accept our praise, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; who on the night he was handed over to suffering and death, took bread and gave you thanks, saying, "Take, and eat: this is my body which is broken for you." In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This is my blood which is shed for you. When you do this, you do it in memory of me."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.
Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we offer you this bread and this cup, giving thanks that you have made us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon the offering of your holy Church. Gather into one all who share in these sacred mysteries, filling them with the Holy Spirit and confirming their faith in the truth, that together we may praise you and give you glory through your Servant, Jesus Christ. All glory and honour are yours, Father and Son, with the Holy Spirit in the holy Church, now and for ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray in confidence to our Father in heaven, saying:

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,

All: Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

All: If we have died with him, we shall live with him;
if we hold firm, we shall reign with him.

The Gifts of God, for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

The celebrant and people then receive communion.

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

The communicant responds each time, Amen.

*This community of faith,
welcomes to the Lord's table all who wish to be
nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ.*

Communion Hymn # 74 'For the Bread Which You Have Broken'

Announcements

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray. Standing, the community prays in silence.

Creator of heaven and earth, we thank you for these holy
mysteries, which bring us now a share in the life to come, 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

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him;
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 #481 'May the Grace of Christ Our Saviour'

Postlude: Postlude – Couperin

NOTICES

WEDNESDAY DURING LENT THIS WEEK:

10am Mid Week Eucharist
11am Lenten Café at Zion Lutheran Church
Music and Meditation at noon, Nick Veltmeyer, organ.
All are welcome to attend!

If you are the holder of offering envelope #81, please call Mary at the Parish office. For some reason, we do not have a name attached to this envelope and we would like to get this corrected.

The church sexton and custodian, Paul Woodley has tendered his resignation in pursuit of his career goals. While Paul will continue to work with us, in the meantime we are now searching for his replacement. If anyone is interested in this part time, flexible job, please let Michael or one of the wardens know.

LOBSTER SUPPER FUNDRAISER

Saturday, March 25th, 5pm – 6:30pm at Holy Trinity Parish Hall
\$30.00 per ticket, includes 1 ½ lb lobster, baked potato, coleslaw, roll, tea/coffee and dessert. Tickets available from Karen 902-523-3144 or the office 902-543-3440. Proceeds will be used for the final phase of Holy Trinity Church, Bridgewater restoration.

HERITAGE FAITH VISION

Herbert “Leonard” Haslam born in PEI, 1878/80, the son of Robert and Jane Haslam. He studied at Wycliffe for a BA and King’s College for MA. Ordained a Deacon in 1906 and Priest in 1907. He was in the Parish as Curate for about 2 years. In June 1907 his engagement as Curate had expired. He told the Parish he could not accept the job for \$500.00 and they agreed to pay him \$600.00 provided Blue Rocks paid \$400.00 and Lunenburg the balance. By Sept. 1908 he was Rector of Liverpool and had married Agnes Creighton of Lunenburg. In 1920 he became Rector of Yarmouth until 1936. He died in 1937 at Yarmouth. Our story will continue.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEAM THIS WEEK

Nursery...Missy Romkey...Assistants Nikki Saunders, Laura Eisner
Grade One...Sherry Skinner...Assistant...Sebastian Haumering
Grade Two...Louise Holdbrook...Assistant...Alex Payne
Upper Class... Emmi Fraser and Wayne Dodge

Parish Contacts

RECTOR: Rev. Fr. Michael H. Mitchell
email: rectorlunenburg@gmail.com • 902-634-8477
SECRETARY: Mary Wagner • PARISH OFFICE: 902-634-4994
email: stjohndlunenburg@bellaliant.com; WEB:www.stjohndlunenburg.org
PRIEST ASSISTANT: (on leave) Rev. Louis Quennelle 902-527-0122
• louisq@eastlink.ca
HONORARY ASSOCIATES: Rev. Linda Macdonald • 634-9473,
Rev. Oliver Osmond • 634-8589, Rev. Alvin Westgate • 640-2484

PARISH WARDENS

Duncan Crowdis 902-521-9724 • Blake Starratt 902-644-3555
• Robert MacMillan 902-527-0122

CHAIR OF PARISH COUNCIL

(to be determined)
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR
Barbara Butler 902-624-0506
HAND BELLS Sharon Hill 902-634-8781
HONORARY ORGANIST James Aulenbach
CHIMER Peter Allen 902-634-4668
TREASURER Dan Sargeant 902-
ALTAR GUILD Maureen Moffatt,
Ann Grandy, Barbara Simonds
PASTORAL VISITATION
PRAYER & HEALING MINISTRY
Holly Mitchell 902-634-8477
SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT
HERITAGE Roger Demone 902-543-5753
MUSIC Jane Ritcey Moore 902-275-4834
PROPERTY Wayne Dodge 902-634-4885
LADIES' GUILD
Susan MacMillan 902-634-3019
ACW Barbara Nowe 902-634-4473
ACW CATERING Patty Tanner 543-3474
LAY READERS Roger Demone 543-5753
SERVERS Sheila Morris 902-634-3713

SUNDAY SCHOOL & NURSERY

Rena Demone 902-634-9644
TOURS Peter Allen 902-634-4668
CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Mary Meisner 902-634-8429
FOOD BANK Laura Roblee 902-521-4823
MEALS ON WHEELS Laura Roblee
902-521-4823, Barbara Simonds 902-634-3319
PLANNED GIVING
Jim Eisenhauer 902-634-4713
PWRDF
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Mary Meisner, Betty Lou Olivier
SAFER CHURCH
Duncan Crowdis 902-640-2214
SYNOD DELEGATES
Holly Mitchell, Mary Wagner
CUSTODIAN Paul Woodley 902-212-1890
SEXTON Paul Woodley 212-1890
NEWSLETTER
Janice & Brian Kenefick 902-764-2145
WEBSITE Grant Dixon 902-640-2897

A Chuckle:

It's Lent, but apparently someone forgot to tell Mother Nature as she hasn't given up snow for Lent!