

St. John's Anglican Church
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Rector: Reverend Michael H. Mitchell

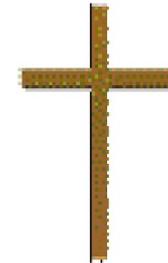
*To all who mourn or need comfort,
 To all who are weary and need rest,
 To all who seek friendship,
 To all who desire to grow in relationship with God
 To all who yearn to pray,
 To all who need a Saviour, And to all whoever will worship,
 This Church of St. John's opens wide its doors
 and in the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



Today as we gather at The Altar, in The Church of Saint John, the theme of wisdom dominates the liturgy. The parables that we hear, this morning, have the same message. The kingdom of heaven is worth investing everything we have to acquire the treasure. Wisdom is a priceless gift and is a gift that we all need. We are all human, thus, at times we act foolishly. Since the dawn of time we have been looking for the treasure. In by gone

days we searched in fields, the mountains, and crossed the seas to find the treasure of gold, diamonds, or pearls. If we found the treasure we would be happy. Today we are still looking for the treasure, the lottery, the casino or the stock market. If only we could hit the jack pot, we would be happy and all our troubles would be over. Today in the gospel story Jesus offers us another alternative, the kingdom of God, his Father. Lord give us the wisdom to know what to keep and what to throw away. *Father Alvin+*

How we rejoice at material prosperity, and how we find ourselves worked into a fury when we lose even a minimal amount of money. If only we could be so conscientious about our heavenly spiritual treasury, a treasury that is built up with virtue and diminished in vice. True and lasting treasure is much more valuable than any price tag could express. We are truly wise when we recognize the vast fortune that awaits those who put their trust in the Lord, strive to do His will and follow in His ways.



The Holy Eucharist

Communion Setting - Land of Rest

Prelude: Chorale Prelude on a melody by Orlando Gibbons - Willan

The Gathering of the Community

Hymn #388 'Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken'

Greeting

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

Celebrant Glory to God in the highest,
All 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.

The Collect of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy, increase and multiply upon us your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country - giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GENESIS 29:15-28

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. Sing to him, sing praises to him, and speak of all his marvellous works. R

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. 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 is the Lord our God; his judgements prevail in all the world. He has always been mindful of his covenant, the promise he made for a thousand generations: R

The covenant he made with Abraham, the oath that he swore to Isaac, Which he established as a statute for Jacob, an everlasting covenant for Israel, Saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan to be your allotted inheritance." Hallelujah! R PSALM 105:1-11, 45C

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:26-39

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Procession #621 'Before the World Began'

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 put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable:

"The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

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

REFLECTION

The Nicene Creed In unity with all Christians, let us confess our faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God, of God; Light, of Light; very God, of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made: who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets. And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for Pennsylvania - (III, The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Daniel Gutierrez Pittsburgh, The Rt Revd Dorsey W M McConnell.
Diocesan Cycle: Pray for Retired Clergy of Fort Sackville Region: Rev Dennis Andrews and Marion, Rev Leslie Ball, Rev Arthur Cuzner, Rev James Greene and Linda, Rev Tom Kerr and Aileen, Rev Judy Lafford and Arthur, Rev John Mills and Marsha. Clergy Widows: Judy Appleton, Barbara Corbin, Sandra Hutchins, Greta Moore, Joyce Pretty, Barbara Tuck.
Local Ministerial: The congregation of St Andrews Presbyterian Church Rev Dr. Laurence Mawhinney and Marion. Please keep Father Michael and Holly in your prayers.
Fisheries: Adams & Knickle - Cachalot I
Clearwater - Atlantic Protector; 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,
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 #628 'O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High'

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

Lord our God, receive all we offer you this day. Create between you and us a holy communion of love. Come among us in Jesus Christ in this Eucharist and in our daily life. We ask 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.

It is indeed right to thank you and praise you, holy and gracious God, creator of all things, ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life, for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people in every generation, and your word endures for ever. We praise you Lord, with all the angels, in their song of joy.

CP #719 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.

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."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith. (Sung)
CP#720 Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

We offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. 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 sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours almighty Father, now and forever. Amen. (Sung 3x) CP #721

The Lord's Prayer

With Jesus we pray to our Father in heaven that his kingdom come on earth:

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.
The gifts of God for the People of God.

All Thanks be to God.

The Communion CP#745

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us 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.

Music during Communion: #178 'Restore In Us, O God'
Solo: Edmund Brownless

Prayer After Communion

God of grace, in this Eucharist, we have received the memorial of the death and resurrection of your Son. May your love, poured into us, bring us to your everlasting promises. We ask this in the name of our Redeemer Jesus Christ. 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 Christ be our treasure and joy now and always,
and may 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: #378 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Postlude: Postlude for Organ – Bedard

Service adapted from the Book of Alternative Services
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NOTICES

BAPTISM will be held Sunday, August 6th at the 10:30 am service. Please contact the Parish Office, if you are interested in having a child or adult baptised, at 634-4994 or stjohnslunenburg@bellaliant.com.

Music Announcements:

Wednesdays at Noon this week features pianist Walter Delahunt. Walter will also play for the residents at Harbour View Haven at 1 pm on Wednesday for our added new series called Julia's Music.

Musique Royale presents Northern Lights: Songs Made in Canada at Cecilia's Retreat in Mahone Bay on Monday, August 14 at 6 pm. If you would like to attend this event please contact Barbara at 902-624-0506 or email barbara.butler@ns.sympatico.ca for reservations. Dinner and performance - \$35.

LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Susan MacMillan, Heather Hyson
Lectors: 8:30 am Ed Jordan, Sandra Jordan
10:30am Robert MacMillan, Mary Meisner
Sidespersons: Lillian Keeping, Howard Keeping
Hostesses: Ann Grandy, Carolyn White

NEXT SUNDAY AUG 6TH

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Bill Black
10:30 am: Charlene Demone, Roger Demone
Lectors: 8:30 am Linda Macdonald, Ben Smith
10:30am Judy McPherson, Hazel Oliver
Sidespersons: Lillian Keeping, Howard Keeping
Hostesses: Sheila Hutchinson, Susan MacMillan

HYMN SING AT ST. BARNABAS

A Hymn Sing will be held today at St Barnabas Anglican Church, Blue Rocks at 7pm. Music will be led by Barbara Butler. Free Will offering.



Parish Contacts

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PARISH WARDENS

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• Robert MacMillan 902-527-0122

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SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT
HERITAGE Roger Demone 902-543-5753
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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 David Penney 902-209-1626
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Mary Meisner, Betty Lou Olivier
SAFER CHURCH
Duncan Crowdis 902-640-2214

CHURCH HUMOUR

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, "If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?" A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence: "I think I'd throw up."

DID NOAH FISH?

A Sunday school teacher asked, "Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?" "No," replied Johnny. "How could he, with just two worms?"