



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.*

Father Alvin's Message

Welcome to the Church of Saint John this morning.



Today's Holy Gospel story tells us of the owner of a vineyard hiring workers for the harvest. This is a common scene that we are familiar with at the time of harvest. Sometimes the abundance of the harvest or the weather causes the farmer to seek workers to collect the harvest.

Often we are small and petty in the way we think and act. Fortunately, for us there is nothing small or petty about our compassionate and merciful God. His ways are as high above our ways as the

heavens are above the earth. Isaiah tells us that "God's thoughts are not our thoughts, nor are our ways God's ways; as high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts." (Isaiah 55:6-9)

In our Gospel story for today, Jesus, God's only Son, tells of the generosity of God, which soars above our human standards. God's generosity transcends human generosity. The parable of the "Labourers in the Vineyard" was aimed at the Pharisees. The Pharisees were legalistically minded men who were critical of Jesus because He befriended the outcasts and sinners.

In the parable Jesus faces His critics and shows them what God, His father is like: God is full of generosity, compassion, and mercy for all His children. In many respects the parable is similar to the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost or prodigal son. God is always ready to welcome us home. Let God's generosity serve as a model for how we deal with those around us.

Alvin+

LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Reader: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Kevin Skinner, Robert MacMillan
Lectors: 8:30 am Ed Jordan, Sandra Jordan
10:30 am Heather Eisenhauer, Lori & Peyton Nickerson
Greeters: 10:30 am Oran Hyson & Heather Hyson,
Lori & Peyton Nickerson, Brooke & Morgan Nodding
Offertory: Audrey Morgan, Debbie Chapman
Collection: Lori & Peyton Nickerson, Jeff, Brooke & Morgan Nodding

NEXT SUNDAY OCTOBER 1ST Lay Reader: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Robert MacMillan, Susan MacMillan
Lectors: 8:30 am Susan Foote, Duncan Crowdis
10:30 am Robert MacMillan, Mary Meisner
Sidespersons: 10:30 am Oran Hyson, Heather Hyson

The Holy Eucharist

Communion Setting Proulx

Prelude: Soliloquy - Willan

The Gathering of the Community

Please stand for Processional Hymn

Hymn #388 'Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken'

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.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Almighty God,

All 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.

The Collect of the Day

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 Hymn #555 'O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand'

The Gospel

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.

Father Alvin's Altar Talk

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
Response: Lord, hear our prayer.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for Southeast Florida - (IV, The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Leopold Frade; Coadjutor Bishop - (IV, The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Peter David Eaton.
Diocesan Cycle: Pray for The Staff and Students at the Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax, Rev. Neale Bennet, President, and Sharon, Rev. Debra Burleson, Director of Anglican Formation, and Chris, Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke and Beth, Rev. Dr. Paul Friesen and Janet, Rev. Kyle Wagner and Julie; The Staff and Students at the University of King's College, Halifax, Mr. William Lahey, President, and Kathryn; The Staff and Students at Kings-Edgehill School, Windsor, Joseph Seagram, Headmaster, and Belinda. The programmes of Discernment, Training and Formation for Ordained Ministry.
Local Ministerial: Pray for the Congregation of Central United Church and Rev. Grace Caines-Corkum and Barry. Please continue to keep Father Michael Mitchell and his wife, Holly in your prayers.
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 different countries. St. John's is one of the many churches informally linked to this church.
Fisheries: Adams & Knickle - Maude Adams;
Clearwater - Atlantic Protector; Tall Ship - Picton Castle.

Confession and Absolution ~Brooke & Morgan Nodding

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. Morgan and Peyton address 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

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 Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn #435 'Take My Life, and Let It Be'

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 I

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 that we should praise you, gracious God, for you created all things. You formed us in your own image: male and female you created us. When we turned away from you in sin, you did not cease to care for us, but opened a path of salvation for all people. You made a covenant with Israel, and through your servants Abraham and Sarah gave the promise of a blessing to all nations. Through Moses you led your people from bondage into freedom; through the prophets you renewed your promise of salvation. Therefore we praise you Lord, with all the angels, in their song of joy.

CP #732 Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will.

On the night he freely gave himself to death, 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."

Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith. (Sung)

CP #733 Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

Amen. (Sung 3x) CP #734

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 Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

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, grant us peace.

The celebrant and people then receive communion.

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

The Anglican Church of Canada, welcomes to the Lord's table for Holy Communion all who are baptized and who wish to be nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ.

Communion Hymns #72 'Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed'; #73 'One Bread, One Body, One Lord of All'

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.

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

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: Postlude: Finale in D Minor – Thiman

*Service adapted from the Book of Alternative Services
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Guest Presenters/Upcoming Events

With the summer months almost behind us, we have a busy schedule lined up this fall. The following is a list of currently scheduled events and guests coming to share their clerical insights with us:

Sunday, Oct. 1st – Lisa Vaughan; Diocesan Parish Vitality Coordinator
Sunday, October 22nd – Archbishop Fred Hiltz followed by a
Congregational Potluck lunch
Sunday, November 5th – Archbishop Ron Cutler followed by a
Congregational Potluck lunch.
Sunday, Nov. 5th at 4pm – 300th Celebration of the Vinegar Bible.

FAMILIES WORSHIP TOGETHER DAY

To provide more opportunities for all of our parish families to become involved, we plan to have one Sunday each month as Family Worship Together Day. On this special day each month, several members of the same family will share in the readings and church duties. Not only will this give support to our Sunday School children to have their siblings and parents involved, it will also provide another opportunity for all families, of all ages, whether involved with our youth programs or not, to have a special day of worship with their families. Any families wishing to participate can email Brooke Nodding at brooke@coastalaction.org

ALTAR SERVICE TRAINING

Father Alvin will provide Altar Service Training on the fourth Sunday of each month as part of the church service. Sheila Morris and Roger Demone will give further instruction immediately following. Emmi Fraser will be present with the students at service for support and make sure all their questions and concerns are addressed. It is hoped that the parents can be in attendance as support as well to be part of this growth in faith as a family. Once completed those who are ready may participate as part of the Altar Serving team.

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 tomorrow.

Everyone is invited to attend the Celebration of New Ministry for Rev. Louis Quennelle and the Parish of Blandford September 29th at 7 p.m. at St. Barnabas, Blandford (4936 Highway 329, Blandford).

THANKSGIVING TUBS AND BARRELS

Each year at this time we ask for your generosity as we fill the trawl tubs and barrels with donations of food and money for our local Food Bank. Next Sunday we will be receiving your donations which help our local folks in need of some assistance. You are always so very generous and we thank you for that kindness.

Meals on Wheels are looking for a volunteer driver. This is a commitment once every 6 weeks, Tuesday and Friday mornings, for about 1- 1/4 hours. For more information, call Carolyn McAllister (902-634-8513) or Brenda Bachman (902-634-8066).

Music Announcement:

The Chester Brass together with the Riverport Choir will perform in concert here at St. John's on Sunday, October 15 at 3 pm. Tickets are \$15 and will be available at the door.

SUNDAY'S DUTY SCHEDULE

Nursery: 10:30am; Sunday School attends Church Service
Duty Schedule: Nursery....Missy Romkey....with assistant
Sr. Class....Emmi Fraser; Family Schedule Coordinator....Brooke Nodding

Please note the Wednesday, September 27th worship service at 10 o'clock has been cancelled.