



St. John's Anglican Church

Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Rector: The Rev. 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.

In today's Holy Gospel story, we are invited to participate in a royal banquet. Each Sunday, when we gather at church for the Holy Eucharist, we are here at Jesus' invitation. The Holy Eucharist is a royal banquet. However, like the Holy Gospel story, we too make our excuses. We have no shortage of excuses.

In its original form, the parable made the point that the invitation was first sent to the chosen people - the Israelites; however, they refused it and their place has been taken by others, the outcasts and the Gentiles.

A royal wedding feast was and is a wonderful event and to be invited is a marvellous privilege. The question then arises: Why would people refuse such a wonderful invitation? The things (excuses) which keep people from accepting the invitation are not bad things, rather they are good things.

There is that letter I know I should write, but not right now, I am not in the mood. There is that sick person I know and should visit, but not today, I need to get this job done first. I know I need to pray daily, but I do not seem to find the time for it. One could go on and on.

The greatest danger that we face is not that we might abandon God and turn to evil, rather that we might ignore His invitation. To ignore God's invitation altogether, is the worst form of refusal. It implies indifference. An indifferent individual can always find an excuse.

Alvin

LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Kevin Skinner, Susan MacMillan, Velvet Eliuk
Lectors: 8:30 am Carolyn Hogg, Maureen Moffatt
10:30am Kevin Skinner, Rosemary Smith
Sidespersons: Fred Rhineland; Server: Aisling Curtin

NEXT SUNDAY OCTOBER 22ND

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Roger, Velvet, Susan, Heather, Robert, Charlene
Lectors: 8:30 am Cathy Ramey, Ben Smith
10:30am Haigh Carthew, Sharon Green; Server: Aisling Curtin
Sidespersons: Hazel Oliver, Susan MacMillan

We welcome for Holy Baptism, Maxime Owen Karunaratne, son of Anuk Karunaratne and Tiffanie Demone; Lincoln Matthew Whynot, son of Nicholas and Meghan Whynot. May God's blessing be upon the families and upon this parish as we welcome these children into God's family today.

Holy Eucharist with Holy Baptism

Communion Setting Missa Nova in C - Tilley

Prelude: Fond D'Orgue - Marchand

The Gathering of the Community

Please stand for Processional Hymn

Hymn #429 'For the Beauty of the Earth' (tune Dix)

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.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty God, in our baptism you adopted us for your own.
Quicken, we pray, your Spirit within us, that we, being renewed
both in body and mind, may worship you in sincerity and truth;
through 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 EXODUS

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to

Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel. The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation." But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

EXODUS 32:1-14

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN

Remember me, O Lord, with the love you have for your people.

Hallelujah! Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures for ever. Who can declare the mighty acts of the Lord or show forth all his praise? Happy are those who act with justice and always do what is right! R

Remember me, O Lord, with the favour you have for your people, and visit me with your saving help; That I may see the prosperity of your elect and be glad with the gladness of your people, that I may glory with your inheritance. We have sinned as our forebears did; we have done wrong and dealt wickedly. R

Israel made a bull-calf at Horeb and worshipped a molten image; And so they exchanged their Glory for the image of an ox that feeds on grass. R

They forgot God their saviour, who had done great things in Egypt, Wonderful deeds in the land of Ham, and fearful things at the Red Sea. So he would have destroyed them, had not Moses his chosen stood before him in the breach, to turn away his wrath from consuming them. R

PSALM 106:1-6, 19-23

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, to together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn #43 'From All the Wind's Wide Quarters'

The Gospel The Lord be with you. People And also with you.
The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Saint Matthew
All: Glory be to thee, O Christ.

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen." MATTHEW 22:1-14
The Gospel of Christ. Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Presentation and Examination of Candidates

I present Maxime Owen Karunaratne and Lincoln Matthew Whynot to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant: Will you be responsible for seeing that the child you present is nurtured in the faith and life of the Christian community?
Parents and sponsors, I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you by your prayers and witness help your child to grow into the full stature of Christ?
Parents and sponsors, I will, with God's help.

The Celebrant asks parents and sponsors:
Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God? Answer I renounce them.

Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God? Answer I renounce them.

Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God? Answer I renounce them.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Saviour? Answer I do.

Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love? Answer I do.

Do you promise to obey him as your Lord? Answer I do.

Question to the congregation,
Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Maxime and Lincoln in their life in Christ? People We will.

Prayers for the Candidates

Let us now pray for Maxime Owen and Lincoln Matthew, in their sacrament of new birth.

Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Open their heart to your grace and truth.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill them with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours,
that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit John
Dodge, Bernard Loyer, Laurence Mawhinney, and Father Michael;
give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy
of your salvation.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ;
Rev. Chad Honneyman and Mary Smeltzer. According to your
promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus the
Christ may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to
come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

Baptism Procession Hymn #35

'Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters'

1. Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters
flow. Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long
ago. Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with
love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and
heart's delight.
2. We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

Thanksgiving Over the Water - The celebrant blesses the water.

The Lord be with you. People And also with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, almighty God and Father, for by the gift of water
you nourish and sustain all living things.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks that through the waters of the Red Sea, you led
your people out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks for sending your Son, Jesus. For us he was
baptized by John in the river Jordan. For us he was anointed as Christ
by your Holy Spirit. For us he suffered the baptism of his own death
and resurrection, setting us free from the bondage of sin and death,
and opening to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks for your Holy Spirit who teaches us and leads us
into all truth, filling us with his gifts so that we might proclaim the
gospel to all nations and serve you as a royal priesthood.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

We give you thanks for you have called Lincoln and Maxime to new
life through the waters of baptism. Now sanctify + this water, that
your servants who are washed in it may be made one with Christ in
his death and resurrection, to be cleansed and delivered from all sin.
Anoint them with your Holy Spirit and bring them to new birth in the
family of your Church, that they may become an inheritor of your
glorious kingdom. We give you praise and honour and worship
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

All: Blessed are you, our strength and song, and our salvation.

The Baptismal Covenant

Let us renew our own baptismal covenant.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, The Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the
breaking of bread, and in the prayers? People: I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin,
repent and return to the Lord? People: I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ?
People: I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?
People: I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?
People: I will, with God's help.

Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?
People: I will, with God's help.

The Baptism

The candidate is presented to the celebrant, who then pours water upon the child saying,

Lincoln Matthew/ Maxime Owen, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The sign of the cross is marked on the forehead with Holy Chrism, saying,
I sign you with the cross +, and mark you as Christ's own for ever.

Baptism Procession Hymn #35

'Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters'

3. Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honour! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water washed and Spirit born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

The following prayer is said together:

Heavenly Father,
we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit
you have bestowed upon these your servants
the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them
to the new life of grace.
Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit.
Give them an inquiring and discerning heart,
the courage to will and to persevere,
a spirit to know and to love you,
and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. Amen.

The Giving of the Light

The newly baptized is given a candle lit from the Paschal (Christ) Candle.
Receive the light of Christ,
to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

The people say,
Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome Lincoln Matthew and Maxime Owen into our parish family.

We receive you into the household of God.
Confess the faith of Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn #379 'Rejoice, the Lord is King'

The Prayer over the Gifts

God of constant love, in this eucharist you renew the covenant made once with us in baptism. As you are faithful in all things may we, in our offering, be faithful to our calling. We ask this in the name of Jesus 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.

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. 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 our faith.
Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.

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.

The Lord's Prayer

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

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 gifts of God for the People of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us your peace.

Communion Hymns #61 'As We Gather' #408 'Wind Upon the Waters'

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, in baptism and eucharist we are made one with you. May we who have shared in holy things always bear witness to your covenant, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Doxology

Celebrant Glory to God,
All 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 God almighty, the Father, + the Son,
and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in peace and let your light shine as you serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn #455 'Dear God, Compassionate and Kind'

Postlude: Fugue – Merkel

