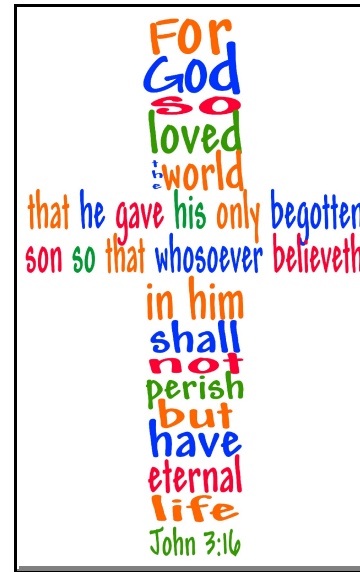


St. John's Anglican Church

Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Priest-in-Charge: Reverend Alvin Westgate
Organist & Choir Director: Barbara Butler

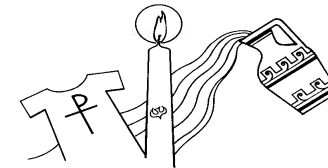
*To all who mourn or need comfort,
To all who are weary and need rest,
To all who seek friendship,
To all who desire to grow in relationship with God
To all who yearn to pray,
To all who need a Saviour, And to all whoever will worship,
This Church of St. John's opens wide its doors
and in the name of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



This Sunday has many names: 4th Sunday in Lent; Mothering Sunday; Refreshment Sunday, Laetare (Rejoice) Sunday. The Anglican and Church of England today celebrate our “mothers”, our earthly mothers, our mother Church – All Saints Cathedral, Halifax and Mary mother of our Lord and model of all who follow Jesus. “Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your Word.” Luke 1:38. Like Mary, we all place ourselves before the Grace, compassion, and love of our Master to do His will and to travel to wherever He calls. Today is Mother’s Day in the UK. Children come home to visit their mother, laden with flowers, gifts and food, especially simnel cake. In some parishes a special offering is received

and given to the Cathedral – the Mother Church of the Diocese. Hymns are offered to Saint Mary, the Mother of our Lord. The Mother’s Day in May is an American, secular celebration started in 1914. Mothering Sunday, however, is rooted in the liturgy of the Church. *Fr. Alvin*

Today we baptize Emily Izilda Pittman, daughter of Alexander and Jamie-Lee Pittman and welcome her into the family of God. Let us celebrate with her as we pray for her, and for her parents and godparents.



The Holy Eucharist

Mothing Sunday

Prelude: Music from the 'Seasons' - Tchaikovsky

Hymn #418 'Draw the Circle Wide'

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 There is one body and one Spirit,
All There is one hope in God's call to us;

Celebrant One Lord, one faith, one baptism,
All One God and Father of all.

The Collect of the Day

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world, evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him, 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 NUMBERS

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.
NUMBERS 21:4-9

PSALM REFRAIN



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endures for ever. Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe. R

He gathered them out of the lands; from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. R

Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; they were afflicted because of their sins. They abhorred all manner of food and drew near to death's door. R

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He sent forth his word and healed them and saved them from the grave. R

Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy and the wonders he does for his children. Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving and tell of his acts with shouts of joy. R
PSALM 107:1-3, 17-22

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved - and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.
EPHESIANS 2:1-10

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

HYMN #606 'There's a Wideness in God's Mercy'

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.

Jesus said, "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. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

JOHN 3:14-21

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

Presentation and Examination of Candidates

Parents and sponsors say,
I present Emily Izilda Pittman to receive the sacrament of baptism.

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 this child to grow into the full stature of Christ?
Parents and sponsors, I will, with God's help.

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 Emily in her life in Christ? People We will.

Prayers for the Candidates

Let us now pray for Emily Izilda, who is to receive the sacrament of new birth. Deliver her, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

Open her heart to your grace and truth.
People Lord, hear our prayer.
Fill her with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
People Lord, hear our prayer.
Teach her to love others in the power of the Spirit.
People Lord, hear our prayer.
Send her into the world in witness to your love.
People Lord, hear our prayer.
Leader Bring her to the fullness of your peace and glory.
People Lord, hear our prayer.

For all mothers: That we will show forth our appreciation and thankfulness to our mothers who nurture us with their love and compassion.
For this we pray to the Lord, saying,
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who are afflicted with pain, sorrow, loneliness, the frail aged, the disabled, and those who care for them. Please mention aloud or silently those loved ones for whom you wish to pray: Lilian Hall, Lynn Burton.
For this we pray to the Lord, saying,
People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son 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 Emily 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 her with your Holy Spirit and bring them to new birth in the family of your Church, that they may become inheritors 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 join with those who are committing themselves to Christ and 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

Emily Izilda Pittman, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Holy Chrism

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'

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 Emily your servant the forgiveness of sin, and have raised her to the new life of grace. Sustain her, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give her 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

Receive the light of Christ,
to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

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

The Welcome

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 Celebration of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn #494 'Not For Tongues of Heaven's Angels'

The Prayer over the Gifts

God of mercy and compassion, your Word calls us home to faith and love. Accept all we offer you this day, in the name of Jesus Christ the 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 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, with them, and with all your saints who have served you in every age, we give thanks and raise our voices to proclaim the glory of your name.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, (Sung CP#722)
Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full,
full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes,
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna,
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. Therefore we proclaim our hope.

(Sung) CP #723

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

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, amen. CP #725

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant We break this bread,
All Communion in Christ's body once broken.

Celebrant 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.
People: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God

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
Music by Marjorie Landsmark-DeLewis

Choir Anthem during Communion:
Jesus, My Breath, My Life, My Lord - Carter

Prayer after Communion

Patient and merciful God, you do not condemn us but raise us up
with Jesus your Son who lifts us from our guilt and sorrow. Empower
us to lift up the fallen and brokenhearted, to bind their wounds that
they may see their full human dignity as your sons and daughters in
Jesus Christ our 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 & Sending Out

May the Spirit who led Jesus into the desert, lead you this Lent into
the depths of your heart so that you may experience the joys of
Easter.
May the blessing of God almighty, 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 #486 'Love Divine, All Love's Excelling'
(tune: Hyfrydol)

Postlude: Lord, To Thee I Make Confession – Marpurg

LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer

10:30 am Susan MacMillan

Lectors: 8:30 am Maureen Moffatt, Sandra Jordan

10:30 am Bruce Holdbrook, Haigh Carthew; Server: Aisling Curtin

Sidespersons: 10:30 am Heather & Oran Hyson

NEXT SUNDAY MARCH 18TH

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer

10:30 am Susan MacMillan, Robert MacMillan

Lectors: 8:30 am Roxie Smith, Ben Smith

Lectors: 10:30 am John Collins, Rose Conrad

Sidespersons: Heather & Oran Hyson; 10:30 am Server: Aisling Curtin

NOTICES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held TODAY after the 10:30am
church service. The Pot Luck Luncheon will follow the service.

Next Sunday, March 18th, The Reverend Linda Macdonald will
celebrate at the 8:30am and 10:30am services.

LENTEN CAFÉ, FELLOWSHIP & WORSHIP

The Lenten Café will be held at Zion Lutheran Church on Wednesday
from 11am - 11:45am. March 14 - St. Barnabas Anglican, Blue Rocks,
March 21 - St. Andrew's Presbyterian.

Music and Meditation this Wednesday at noon:

Our guest this week is vocalist Thomas Owen, a student at Parkview
Education Centre in Bridgewater. Our Lenten Series on Wednesdays
features friends of St. John's Music program and is followed by 'Julia's
Music', an outreach program at Harbour View Haven.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE MARCH BREAK - EASTER

March 11th....No Sunday School or Nursery..March Break

March 18th....Full Sunday School/Nursery

March 25th....Full Sunday School/Nursery....Palm Sunday

EASTER SUNDAY April 1st....Families attend Church Service

EASTER SUNDAY April 1st....No Sunday School/Nursery