



St. John's Anglican Church
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Priest-in-Charge: Rev. Alvin Westgate
Organist and 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.*

Father Alvin's Message
Welcome to the Church of Saint John this morning.



*"Have you believed, Thomas,
because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen
and yet believe."*

Faith is the most precious thing in the world. However, faith is exposed to the harsh winds of doubt which blow through the world. On this Easter Sunday, we ought to experience the strengthening of our faith. The readings from the sacred scriptures help us.

The image from the first reading gives us a snapshot of how the first Christian community lived. They are a community that is faithful to the Gospel. It is a community of shared faith and shared possessions. The second reading stresses the Christian vocation of love. Through faith in Jesus the Christ, the Christian community has become children of God. They will show their love by keeping the commandments, if they love God they will love their fellow Christians because they too are a child of God. In today's Gospel story Thomas has joined the eleven. Jesus again appears to the assembled disciples and He shows them His hands and His side. Thomas sees and believes - "My Lord and My God." Jesus reminds the eleven that blessed are those who have not seen, yet believe. Jesus is talking about you and I. We have not seen Jesus, however, we believe the message of the early followers of Jesus. Lord Jesus, strengthen our faith by Your steadfast love for us; strengthen our faith by Your presence among us; strengthen our faith by the words You spoke and the food of the Holy Eucharist.

Alvin

LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Robert MacMillan; Server: 10:30 am Aisling Curtin
Lectors: 8:30 am Carolyn Hogg, Sandra Jordan
10:30am Margaret Shirley, Mary Meisner
Sidespersons: 10:30 am Carrie Skinner, Audrey Skinner

NEXT SUNDAY APRIL 15TH

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Susan MacMillan; Server: 10:30 am Aisling Curtin
Lectors: 8:30 am Linda Macdonald, Maureen Moffatt
10:30am Heather Hyson, Ann Perry
Sidespersons: 10:30 am Carrie Skinner, Audrey Skinner

The Holy Eucharist

Communion Setting "Missa Nova in C" - Tilley

Prelude: Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise – Archer

Hymn #220 'Christ is Risen, Christ is Risen'

The Gathering of the Community

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Celebrant May his grace and peace be with you.

People May he fill our hearts with joy.

Celebrant 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 (Spoken)

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.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
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.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
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! Amen!
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

The Collect of the Day

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who is alive 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 ACTS

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. ACTS 4:32-35

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 133

How good it for all is to live together in unity.

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when brethren live together in unity!
It is like fine oil upon the head that runs down upon the beard, Upon the beard of Aaron, and runs down upon the collar of his robe. R

It is like the dew of Hermon that falls upon the hills of Zion. For there the Lord has ordained the blessing: life for evermore. R

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF JOHN

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life - this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us - we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

1 JOHN 1:1-2:2

Hymn #217 'Christ the Lord is Risen Again'

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

**PUT
YOUR
FINGER
HERE**



When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.
JOHN 20:19-31
The Gospel of Christ. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Reflection

The Apostles Creed We confess the faith of our baptism, saying, 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, hear our prayer.

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Pray for The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean, The Most Revd James Richard Wong Yin Song, Archbishop, Province of Indian Ocean and Bishop of the Seychelles.
Diocesan Cycle: Pray for the Parish of Seaforth, Rev Evelyn Knorr, Rev Fred Grainger, Assistant Priest.
Local Ministerial: The Congregation of Zion Lutheran Church and Rev'd Rick Pryce and Deborah.
Fisheries: Adams & Knickle - Cachalot I;
Clearwater - Atlantic Protector; Tallship - Picton Castle.

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. Amen.

The Peace All stand, and the celebrant addresses the people.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.
The assembly greets one another in the name of the Lord.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts

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.

Offertory Hymn #204 'Truly, He Comes to Us'

The Prayer over the Gifts

God of grace, you have freed us from our sins and made us a kingdom in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept all we offer you this day, and strengthen us in the new life you have given us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

Preface for Easter

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. 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.

Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you.

Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was near. His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered together those who loved him.

He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends,

saying, "Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave you thanks, and said "Drink this all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

And now we gather at this table in response to his command, to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love.

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

Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, that we bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose. By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. People 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

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread for distribution, and says:
Lord, we died with you on the cross.

All Now we are raised to new life.
We were buried in your tomb.

All Now we share in your resurrection.
Live in us that we might live in you.
The gifts of God for the People of God.
Thanks be to God.

The Communion

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

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

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins,
the sins of the world,

Grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

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

During Communion, hymns may be sung, silence may be kept.

Communion Hymn #232 'Jesus is Risen from the Grave'

Prayer after Communion

Father, we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands
the bread of life. Strengthen our faith that we may grow in love for you
and for each other; through Jesus Christ the risen 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 and Dismissal

May God, who raised Jesus from the dead, be with us in the days
ahead, that we may rise to new life in God's grace. Amen.
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. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

Closing Hymn #212 'Alleluia! The Strife is O'er'

Postlude: Christ is Risen – J.S. Bach

The Worship has Ended. The Service Begins.

NOTICES

MUSIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Gospel is the theme for music at St. John's Church at next Sunday's
10:30am service. Join us at 10:10am for some spirited gospel singing
before the service begins.

HELP CREATE A SHARED VISION FOR ST. JOHN'S

Please join us at one of the following meetings as we continue to
gather input that will lead to a shared vision of what we, as a parish, want
to create to fulfill our mission as a church in the community of
Lunenburg. All meetings will be held in the Parish Hall other than the one
after the 8:30 service this Sunday which will be in the Interpretive Centre
in the church. Refreshments will be served at all meetings.

Sunday 8 April at 9:30am – after the 8:30 service

Sunday 8 April at 12 noon – after the 10:30 service

Tuesday 10 April at 4:30pm

Monday 16 April at 7pm

If you have not been able to attend one of the meetings, please have a
discussion with any member of our Vision Team (Emmi Fraser, Jane
Ritcey, Wendell Eisener, Duncan Crowdis) to provide your input.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR

A six week lecture series covering "World Religions" will be presented by
Rev. Dr. Wendell Eisener, C.S.C., Department of Religious Studies, Saint
Mary's University. Sessions will be held at the Parish Hall each Tuesday
evening from April 10, 2018 through May 15, 2018, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
1. Hinduism; 2. Buddhism; 3. Sikhism; 4. Chinese Traditions; 5. Judaism;
6. Islam) Everyone is welcome!

Evening Prayer services start Sunday, April 8th at 4pm-4:45pm at the
parish hall. The Evening Prayer service will be contemporary, meditative,
family-friendly, and draws on a variety of musical traditions.

CHURCH SUMMER TOUR GUIDE POSITIONS 2018

We are accepting resumes for Heritage Interpretive Summer Tour
Guides. One position begins mid May and the others late June.
Candidates must be students returning to full time studies in the fall of
2018. Applicant should be outgoing, enthusiastic, team player, and self
starter with excellent communication skills. A keen interest in history and
the ability to speak French and/or German would be considered an asset.
Duties will include providing tours of the church, assisting with special
events and acting as an ambassador for St. John's Church and the Town
of Lunenburg. Please submit cover letter and resume to St. John's
Anglican Church, PO Box 238, Lunenburg, NS B0J 2C0 or email
stjohnslunenburg@bellaliant.com

Aisling is having a local Artisan Crafters Market on Saturday, April 14th
10am - 2pm at the Parish Hall. Admission is \$2.00.

HERITAGE FAITH VISION

Thomas Day Ruddle, Curate, was educated at Trinity College, Dublin and made Deacon by Bishop of Nova Scotia at St. Paul's, Halifax in 1851. He became Curate at St. Margaret's Bay (1851-52), Pugwash (1853), Sherbrooke (New Ross) from 1854-57, briefly in Lunenburg during 1857 and Sydney Mines (1858-1861). Our story will continue.

A holy man was having a conversation with the Lord one day and said, "Lord, I would like to know what Heaven and Hell is like." The Lord led the holy man to two doors. He opened one of the doors and the holy man looked in. In the middle of the room was a large round table. In the middle of the table was a large pot of stew which smelled delicious and made the holy man's mouth water. The people sitting around the table were thin and sickly. They appeared to be famished. They were holding spoons with very long handles that were strapped to their arms and each found it possible to reach into the pot of stew and take a spoonful, but because the handle was longer than their arms, they could not get the spoons back into their mouths. The holy man shuddered at the sight of their misery and suffering. The Lord said, "You have seen Hell." They went to the next room and opened the door. It was exactly the same as the first one. There was the large round table with the large pot of stew which made the holy man's mouth water. The people were equipped with the same long-handled spoons, but here the people were well nourished and plump, laughing and talking. The holy man said, "I don't understand." It is simple" said the Lord, "it requires but one skill. You see, they have learned to feed each other, while the greedy think only of themselves." When Jesus died on the cross he was thinking of you!



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEAM THIS WEEK

PreK....Chasity, Laura
Kindergarten....Christina, Jasmine
Grade I....Wayne, Alex
Grade II....Lori

Parish Contacts

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SECRETARY: Mary Wagner • **PARISH OFFICE:** 902-634-4994
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Rev. Oliver Osmond • 902-634-8589
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PARISH WARDENS

Duncan Crowdis 902-521-9724 • Blake Starratt 902-634-9424
• Robert MacMillan 902-527-0122

CHAIR OF PARISH COUNCIL

Brooke Nodding 902-634-9425
ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR
Barbara Butler 902-624-0506
HAND BELLS Sharon Hill 902-634-8781
CHIMER Peter Allen 902-634-4668
TREASURER Dan Sargeant 902-237-9728
ALTAR GUILD Maureen Moffatt,
Ann Grandy, Barbara Simonds
PASTORAL VISITATION Vacant at this time
PRAYER & HEALING MINISTRY
Linda Macdonald 902-634-9473
SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT
Vacant at this time
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 David Penney 902-209-1626
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Mary Meisner, Betty Lou Olivier
SAFER CHURCH
Duncan Crowdis 902-640-2214
SYNOD DELEGATES
Duncan Crowdis, Robert MacMillan
CUSTODIAN Joseph Carnevale 902-529-3050
SEXTON Joseph Carnevale 902-529-3050
NEWSLETTER
Janice & Brian Kenefick 902-764-2145
WEBSITE Grant Dixon 902-640-2897