

For many people, their understanding of the Epiphany comes from a hymn about three oriental kings, each bringing one valuable gift to the infant Jesus. The hymn writer, however, took quite a few liberties. The evangelist reveals a different narrative, one of educated men of wisdom who were astute enough to recognize the sign of cosmic revelation. As a result, these men (of a very different religion) spent years travelling great distances with their entourages (one does not venture out alone across the desert with treasure-chests!). They did not know how long it would take them, or what their final destination was: but they knew it was worth it, that God was revealing something fantastic to the world, and that they were privileged to participate in it. So they faithfully followed the star, trusting that their journey was part of a greater ministry - and for thousands of years we have all been the better for it. May we all have such faith, wisdom, and commitment to follow where God is calling us to service in the world! *Laura Marie*

Beautiful blessing for the Feast of the Epiphany:  
 May the star of Jesus our Lord shine on you  
 and on all the nations of the earth.  
 May you live in his light today and in the year ahead  
 and may the Lord Jesus be always with you.

# St. John's Anglican Church

Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Rector: Reverend Laura Marie Piotrowicz  
 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.*

**LAY MINISTERS TODAY**  
 Lay Readers: 8:30 am Robert MacMillan  
10:30 am Susan MacMillan  
 Lectors: 8:30 am Sandra Jordan, Roxie Smith  
10:30 am Rosemary Smith, John Collins  
 Sidespersons: 10:30 am Betty & Elroy Creaser

**NEXT SUNDAY JANUARY 13th**  
 Lay Readers: 10:30 am Robert MacMillan  
 Lectors: 8:30 am Ben Smith, Susan Foote  
10:30 am Lillian Keeping, Lynn Ellis  
 Sidespersons: 10:30 am Carrie & Audrey Skinner

# The Holy Eucharist

Communion Setting - Land of Rest

Prelude: Now Blessed be Thou, Christ Jesus - J. S. Bach

Hymn # 118 'O Come, All Ye Faithful' (verses 1-3, 5a)

## 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.

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

Celebrant Let us pray. The community prays silently. The celebrant says the collect.

Eternal God, who by a star led wise men to the worship of your Son. Guide by your light the nations of the earth, that the whole world may know your glory; 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 ISAIAH

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ISAIAH 60:1-6

### PSALM REFRAIN All nations shall serve him.

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son; That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice; That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness. R

He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. R

The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts. All kings shall bow down before him, and all the nations do him service. For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, and the oppressed who has no helper. R

He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; he shall preserve the lives of the needy. He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, and dear shall their blood be in his sight. R

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

## A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles - for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

EPHESIANS 3:1-12

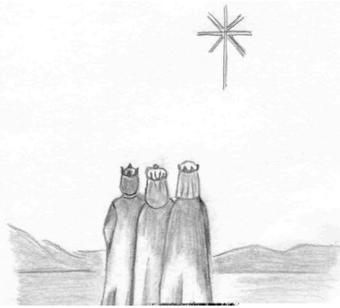
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### Gospel Hymn #161 'Wise Men, They Came to Look for Wisdom'

#### 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.



In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no

means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the

exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

MATTHEW 2:1-12

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

## REFLECTION

### The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We 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: Lead us by your light.

Diocesan Cycle: As we come to the first Sunday of the New Year, we say special prayers for our Bishops and their families of our Diocese: For Ron, Diocesan Bishop, and Marianne, For Retired Archbishop Arthur, and Elizabeth, For Retired Bishop Sue, and Bruce.  
Local Ministerial: Pray for the Congregation of St. John's Anglican Church and Rev. Laura Marie as she starts her 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of worship here.  
Fisheries: Adams & Knickle - Maude Adams;  
Clearwater - Atlantic Preserver; Tall Ship - Bluenose II .

## Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,  
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;  
he welcomes sinners and invites them to his 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.  
And also with you.

The assembly greets one another in the name of the Lord.

Solo - Edmund Brownless:

'Three Kings From Persian Lands Afar' by Peter Cornelius

## The Celebration of the Eucharist

## The Preparation of the Gifts

### Offertory Hymn # 139 'The First Nowell'

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 Read by celebrant

Gracious God, accept the offering of your church, the hearts of your people joined in praise and thanksgiving, in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

## The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer 3

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.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; you have revealed your eternal plan of salvation, and have shown your Son Jesus Christ to be the light of all peoples. Therefore with angels and archangels we raise our voices in joyful praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, (Sung CP#719)  
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. (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; 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. Amen. (Sung 3x) CP #721

### 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:

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.  
God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

The celebrant invites the people to share in communion and may say,  
The gifts of God for the People of God.  
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 then receive communion.  
The body of Christ (given for you). The blood of Christ (shed for you).  
The communicant responds each time, Amen.

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

Communion Hymn #146 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime'  
Anthem during Communion: Brightest and Best - Shepherd

### Prayer after Communion

Celebrant Let us pray. Standing, the community prays in silence.

God of all the nations of the earth, guide us with your light. Help us to recognize Christ as he comes to us in this Eucharist and in our neighbours. May we welcome him with love, for he is Lord now and for ever. 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 & Sending Out

The blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be with you now and remain with you always. Amen.

Go in joyful hope to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### Recessional Hymn #162 'Sing of God Made Manifest'

Postlude: From Heaven above to earth I come - J. S. Bach

## **IN LOVING MEMORY**

*This Edition of the Parish Bulletin*

*is in Loving Memory of*

**Rev. Michael Mitchell**

*from wife, Holly.*

**WE REMEMBER AND JOYFULLY REJOICE THAT  
HE IS AT HOME WITH THE LORDYET EVER PRESENT**

## NOTICES

Following the 10:30 service today, there will be a Gathering with refreshments in the church hall. Come to meet Rev. Laura Marie. Everyone is welcome.

Due to a funeral being held on Wednesday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, the 10am Wed. worship service will be postponed until Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.

### ANNUAL POTLUCK LUNCHEON AND MYSTERY AUCTION

All ladies of St. John's are invited to attend the Annual Potluck Luncheon and Mystery Auction in the parish hall on Monday, January 21 at 12 Noon. There will be lots of good food, fun and fellowship. Plan to attend and bring a friend.

Music Announcement: Our annual presentation of 'To Bethlehem with Kings' with Capella Regalis Men and Boys Choir raised \$3,000 plus many bags of groceries for Lunenburg Interchurch Food Bank. The event is presented by Musique Royale and supported by St. John's Church and many in the community. Appreciation is extended to all for your kind and generous support.

### A REMINDER FROM THE TREASURER

It is time to think about 2019 budgets! Would all Ministries, Committees, or other groups which have budgets and "wish lists" for the new year, 2019, kindly let Dan Sargeant or Mary have your suggested budgets, estimates, and money plans for 2019? They can be emailed to [jdsargeant@eastlink.ca](mailto:jdsargeant@eastlink.ca) or to the Parish Office.

### ANNUAL REPORTS

It is time once again to start preparation of Committee Reports for our Annual Report. We are asking that all reports be emailed to Mary at the Parish Office.

### OUR HERITAGE

#### The Crypt

Underneath the floor of the church are the graves of twenty of the early parishioners, including the first minister, the Rev. Jean Baptiste Moreau, and two other early ministers, Rev. Bryzelius and Rev. Shreve. There is a brass plaque on the floor in front of the chancel naming those buried there, and down the stairs to the left of the pulpit, the crypt can be viewed through a window in the Interpretive Centre.

By Heritage Ministry

Have a blessed week and we look forward to welcoming you back next Sunday.

### Parish Contacts

RECTOR: Rev. Laura Marie Piotrowicz • 902-634-0265  
SECRETARY: Mary Wagner • PARISH OFFICE: 902-634-4994  
email: [stjohnslunenburg@bellaliant.com](mailto:stjohnslunenburg@bellaliant.com);  
WEB: [www.stjohnslunenburg.org](http://www.stjohnslunenburg.org)  
HONORARY ASSOCIATES: Rev. Linda Macdonald • 902-634-9473,  
Rev. Oliver Osmond • 902-634-8589

### 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