

16 August 2026

10:30 a.m.



Herman and Jean Limbourg, Herman, approximately 1385-1416, Limbourg

12th Sunday after Pentecost

St. John's Anglican Church Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Dawna Wall
Director of Music: Donald Russell, ARCO

Prelude: Ich hab in Gottes Herz und Sinn

J.C. Oley (1738-1789)

Mass Setting: Mass of St Thomas

David Thorne

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Welcome and Announcements

Standing, we sing

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

372 Praise to the Holiest in the Height

Gerontius

OPENING GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God and the fellowship
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.

KYRIE

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

THE COLLECT

Holy God, you restore what is lost, heal what is wounded, and gather in those who have been rejected. Give us the faith to speak steadfastly, that your saving love may be known in all the world and all people may be blessed in your name. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Sitting, we listen to the FIRST READING.

Genesis 45:1-15

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty. And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here." Then he

fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them, and after that his brothers talked with him.

For the word of God in scripture
For the word of God among us
For the word of God within us
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 133

Refrain: God has ordained blessing: life for evermore.

Oh, how good and pleasant it is, *when kindred live together in unity!
Refrain

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.
Refrain

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.
Refrain

Sitting, we listen to the SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy

because of their disobedience, so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

For the word of God in scripture

For the word of God among us

For the word of God within us

Thanks be to God.

Standing, we sing THE GRADUAL HYMN

612 Healer of Our Every Ill

Healer of Our Every Ill

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE GOSPEL READING

Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28

Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then Jesus said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of

the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sitting, we listen to: THE SERMON

Standing we say together: THE SHEMAH
(The prayer Jesus recited twice a day)

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength.**

This is the first and great commandment.

The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

Sitting for:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of Reconciliation, you are always seeking new ways to bring grace into our lives. We pray that your church will live into that spirit of grace in ways that help bring healing and renewed relationships to all. We give thanks for prayers heard and answered, and for your gracious and faithful companionship with us. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

God of Creation, you are with us in each season and cycle; in life and death, planting and harvest. Accompany us with good humour and wisdom that we may see you at every turn, pointing the way to hope and renewal. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

God, our comforter, relieve the suffering of those who struggle in body, mind, or spirit, and bring respite and encouragement for those who care for them. We pray for those we hold in our hearts, and those known to you alone, **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

God of Peace, we pray for our world, and for an easing of tensions and conflicts in all places. Give us eyes to see and ears to hear of ways we can be a peaceful presence in our daily life and work, and strengthen our hearts to be your peace. **Gracious God, hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for your generous call to explore the complexities of our sacred story. Guide us in our work of tending and caring for all entrusted to us, encourage us with your lifegiving word and help us to trust your wisdom. **Amen.**

CONFESSION

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.

ABSOLUTION

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.

Standing for

THE PEACE

OFFERTORY HYMN

292 We Cannot Measure How You Heal

Ye Banks and Braes

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Receive these gifts, O God, and transform us through sharing them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand your call to follow you faithfully all our days. Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC 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 truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe. At your word the earth was made and spun on its course among the planets. Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth and set us among all your creatures, to love and serve you.

When we were unfaithful to you, you kept faith with us; your love remained steadfast. When we were enslaved in Egypt, you broke the bonds of slavery, led us through the sea to freedom, and made a covenant to be our God.

By a pillar of fire you led us through the desert to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. You spoke of love and justice in the prophets, and in the Word made flesh, you lived among us manifesting your glory. He died that we might live, and is risen to raise us to new life. Therefore we praise you, singing with angels and archangels and all the faithful of every time and place, to the glory of your name:

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord whom you sent to save us. He came with healing in his touch, and was wounded for our sins. He came with mercy in his voice, and mocked as one despised. He came with peace in his heart and met violence and death. On the night before he died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to the disciples saying, "Take, eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup, giving thanks and saying, "This cup is the new covenant, poured out for the forgiveness of sins, Do this in remembrance of me."

In remembrance, we take from your creation this bread and this wine, and celebrate his rising to new life, as we await the day of his coming again. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you, to be a living, holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that as we share this meal, our eyes will be opened to recognize Christ with us. By your Spirit, make our hearts burn within us, that we may recognize and welcome him as host and anticipate the day when we will feast with him in heaven. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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 gifts of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God

THE COMMUNION

(All are welcome to receive. We share the bread and the common cup.
Gluten free, with protocols available, likewise please signal if you'd like a
blessing. If you would like communion to be brought to you, please
signal an usher.)

AGNUS DEI

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 peace.

THE COMMUNION HYMN

78 Deck Thyself, My Soul, With Gladness

Schmücke Dich

Standing, we pray the

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Author of life divine, in the breaking of bread we know the risen Christ. Feed us always in these mysteries, that we may show your glory to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

BLESSING

(followed by the people's Amen.)

RECESSIONAL HYMN

577 God of grace and God of glory

Cwm Rhondda

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Allegro, "Concerto del Signor Meck"

J. G. Walther (1684-1748)

St John's Contact Information

Website: stjohnslunenburg.org

Email: office@stjohnslunenburg.org

Telephone: 902-634-4994