

19 July 2026

10:30 a.m.



Jacob's Dream, Marc Chagall (1887-1985)

8th Sunday after Pentecost

St. John's Anglican Church
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

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

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Welcome and Announcements

Standing, we sing

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

384 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vs 1-3, 6) Lobe den Herren

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

Almighty God, your Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence. Give us pure hearts and constant wills to worship you in spirit and in 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

Sitting, we listen to the FIRST READING

Genesis 28:10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place--and I did not know it!" And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

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 139:1-12, 23-24

Refrain: Your hand will hold me fast.

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Refrain

Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Refrain

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

Refrain

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

Refrain

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Refrain

Sitting, we listen the SECOND READING

Romans 8:12-25

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will

live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

631 The Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy

Paderborn

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 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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 all our journeys, we give thanks that you meet us on the road and help us explore life's complexities. Meet our meanest judgements with your infinite grace. Encourage our hearts with your gracious and faithful companionship at every turn. **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 the roots of your goodness that run deep in our sacred story. You call your people to faithful living. Help us to have ears to hear and eyes to see your goodness and the courage to proclaim it. **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

434 The Love of Jesus Calls Us

Aurelia

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

498 How Lovely Is Thy Dwelling Place

Brother James' Air

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

643 Holy Spirit. Come with Power

Hyfrydol

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Grand Choeur

Cesar Franck (1822-91)

19 July 2026

9th after Pentecost

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week in the life of the church:

Family Play Group (Lower Hall) Tuesday 10:00 a.m.

Music at Noon Wednesday, 12:00 p.m.

Assisting with the Service today:

8:30 Lector: Bruce MacAdam

10:30 Lectors: Lynn Ellis, Andrew Griffin

Licensed Lay Minister: Susan MacMillan

Live Stream Tech: Hans Van Nie

Greeters: Andrew & Hannah Griffin,

Jim Shephard

Assisting with the Service next week:

8:30 Lector: Margaret Murray

Lectors: Wendy Dean, Maureen Moffatt

Licensed Lay Minister: Jim Shephard

Live Stream Tech: Ron Wall

Greeters: Pam and Duncan Crowdis

St John's Contact Information

Website: stjohnslunenburg.org

Email: office@stjohnslunenburg.org