

6 September 2026

10:30 a.m.



Creation of the Plants Andreea Bagiu (1982-)

Feast of the Creator

St. John's Anglican Church
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Dawna Wall

Director of Music: Donald Russell, ARCO

Heritage  *Faith*  *Vision*

St. John's ~ A National Historic Site ~ Founded 1753

Prelude: Dolcezza
Mass Setting: Mass of St Thomas

Percy Whitlock (1903-46)
David Thorne

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Welcome and Announcements

Standing, we sing

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

355 All Creatures of Our God and King Laast Uns Erfreuen

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

Let us pray: **Creator God, you have wonderfully fashioned the heavens and the earth, and us, in your own image. Teach us to discern your hand in all your works, and your breath in all creatures, that we may work with you for the healing of the earth, through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, through whom you breathe all creation into being. Amen.**

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Sitting, we listen to the FIRST READING.

Proverbs 8:22-31

The Lord created me at the beginning of his work, the first of God's acts of long ago. Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth— when God had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. When God established the heavens, I was there, when God drew a circle on the face of the deep, when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

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 33:1-9

Refrain: Sing praises to God and rejoice in the Lord.

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous; * it is good for the just to sing praises. Praise the Lord with the harp; * play to God upon the psaltery and lyre.

Refrain

Sing for God a new song; * sound a fanfare with all your skill upon the trumpet. For the word of the Lord is right, * and all the works of God are sure.

Refrain

Refrain: Sing praises to God and rejoice in the Lord

God loves righteousness and justice; * the loving-kindness of the Lord fills the whole earth. By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, * by the breath of God's mouth all the heavenly hosts. **Refrain**

God gathers up the waters of the ocean as in a water-skin * and stores up the depths of the sea. Let all the earth fear the Lord; * let all who dwell in the world stand in awe of God. For God spoke, and it came to pass; * God commanded, and it stood fast. **Refrain**

Sitting, we listen to the SECOND READING

Colossians 1:15-20

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. Christ himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

414 God of the Sparrow

Roeder

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE GOSPEL READING

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sitting, we listen to:

THE SERMON

Standing we say together:

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Tirechan's Creed, 7th century

from The Patrician Texts of the Book of Armagh AD 670

**Our God is the God of all humans, the God of heaven and earth,
the God of seas and rivers, the God of sun and moon,
the God of all heavenly bodies,
the God of the lofty mountains, the God of the lowly valleys.**

**God is above all the heavens; and beneath the heavens.
Heaven and earth and sea, and everything in them,
such God has as an abode. God inspires all things
gives life to all things, stands above all things,
and stands beneath all things.**

God enlightens the light of the sun,
strengthens the light of the night and the stars,
makes wells in the arid land and dry islands in the sea,
and places the stars in the service of the greater lights.

And there is the Son who is co-eternal with God,
and similar in all respects neither is the Son younger nor older;
and the Holy Spirit breathes in them.

And the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit are inseparable.

Amen.

Sitting for:

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Creator God, in calling forth creation from the void, revealing yourself in human flesh, and pouring forth your wisdom to guide us, you call us to love and serve you with body, mind, and spirit. Open our hearts in compassion and receive our prayers. **God of Life, hear our prayer.**

God of Life, every creature is a sign of your love, every being a symbol of your grace. The cycles of life and death bring joy and sorrow and are all reminders of our shared partnership in caring for creation.

God of Life, hear our prayer.

We thank you for our partners in caring for our beloved church and ask your guidance for all who share in leadership. Help us to shepherd your people, nurture reconciliation, love your creation, and speak hope to the church and the world. **God of Life, hear our prayer.**

God of justice, you came into this world as one of us to bring peace on earth and just relationships among all peoples. Teach us to act as one human family, sharing the responsibility to provide food and shelter for all. Call us toward belonging and working together, one human communion in justice and peace. **God of Life, hear our prayer.**

God of hope, Jesus shows us in stories and in loving relationships, how we are called to care for the earth, and for the integrity of all creation. When we feel helpless in the face of all that is difficult,, give us courage to respond with clear minds and faithful hearts. Help us to see what is needed, and to trust your promise that you will be with us always. We pray that your healing love will be known in all the earth from generation to generation. **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

429 For the Beauty of the Earth

Dix

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Eternal Creator, Holy Wisdom, all creation yearns in hope to be set free. Receive all we offer you this day and through this Eucharist lead us to be servants of your justice and truth in the name of Jesus. 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.

God of power and might you spoke the Word and all that is in heaven and on the earth came to be. Your Spirit hovered over the primal elements, and you brought forth your creation in forms innumerable, including this fragile earth and our selves, our souls, and bodies.

As our past is in you, so our hope for the future rests with you.

As we have turned from your way, so we turn again to the warmth of your love. Through you all things are brought to new life.

And so with all creation, we raise our voices to proclaim your great and glorious 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.

Christ is the Word that brought order to chaos, bringing all things into being, breathing Spirit into dust. Christ is the Light that overcame the darkness. Christ is the Water that quenches our thirst. Christ is the Bread that rises from the earth, feeding the poor and hungry, giving us wisdom and strength for each day. Christ is the Vine that connects all creation,

binding us together in the unity of the Spirit, causing us to bear fruit for the world. Christ is the Life that death could not destroy.

On the night before he died, when darkness had fallen, 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 these gifts, and the whole earth and make it your new creation.

As we share this meal may we offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven where all creation worships you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit: 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

619 Fairest Lord Jesus

Crusader's Hymn

Standing, we pray the

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Creator of all, in the death and resurrection of Jesus you have reconciled all things in heaven and on earth. May this bread and wine open our eyes to your love and justice woven through all of creation. We ask this through Jesus, your creating Word. Amen.

BLESSING

(followed by the people's Amen.)

RECESSIONAL HYMN

362 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

Woodlands

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten, BWV 647

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week in the life of the church:

Family Play Group (Lower Hall)

Wednesday 10 a.m.

Parish Council

Wednesday 5 p.m.

Foundation Meeting

Thursday 2 p.m.

Lunch and Learn Planning

Thursday 5 p.m.

The Annual Lunenburg Fishers' Memorial Service will be held on the Lunenburg Waterfront on September 13th at 2:00 pm.

Assisting with the Service today:

8:30 Lector: Theo Heffler

10:30 Lectors: Lynn Ellis, Dan Sargeant

Licensed Lay Minister: Jim Shephard

Live Stream Tech: Hans van Nie

Greeters: Dan & Joan Sargaent

Assisting with the Service next week:

8:30 Lector: Gill Osmond

10:30 Lectors: Hannah & Andrew Griffin

Licensed Lay Minister: Susan MacMillan

Live Stream Tech: Ron Wall

Greeters: Dan & Hannah & Andrew Griffin

After a busy summer our tour guides are returning to their studies. We extend our thanks to Annalise, Vivana, and Sophie for being terrific ambassadors for the Church and the Town of Lunenburg. We are looking for volunteer tour guides to take responsibility for 2 hour shifts for September and October. If you are interested please contact Jane Ritcey at jritcey@adamsknickle.ca or see Margaret Murray.