

Sunday April 20th 2025

Easter Sunday

Anglican Parish of Lantz



Our Mission

*To be a diverse ministering community
making Christ's presence known in the world around us.*

Sunday Morning Worship

9:30 St. George's Church: 1089 Highway 277, Dutch Settlement
11:00 Christ Church: 14 Church St., Lantz

Parish Clergy

Rev'd Dr. Jane Magrath
Rev'd Patty McKenna

Call to Worship: *(standing)*

Alleluia, Christ is risen! **He is risen, indeed -- Alleluia**

The darkness is gone! **Bright light floods into this new day of hope.**

Those who went to the tomb received good news. **Christ was not there!**

Christ is risen in our hearts and our spirits!

Christ is risen from the dead! Alleluia! Amen!

Gathering:

God of the bright and morning star, God of the rising sun, God of darkness banished, we praise and worship you! We thank you for empty tombs, For disciples running with good news, For the presence of Christ, alive, powerful, resurrected. Help us to grasp *resurrection*; to understand its power, to see its force at work in our world, overturning evil empires, softening the hearts within us, moving the world slowly, forcefully, bending us towards love and truth and justice. On this day of great gladness, empower us to be your ambassadors, proclaiming good news. Help us to be that good news, walking softly on this good earth caring gently for all people, living hopefully into your kingdom. **Amen**

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.**

The Summary of the Law:

Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets. **Amen**

Opening Hymn: Jesus Christ is Risen Today (CP#203)

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!

Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!

Suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!

Unto Christ, our heav'nly King, Alleluia!

Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!

Sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!

Our salvation have procured; Alleluia!

Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia!

Where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!

The Collect:

God of new creation, from the womb of earth you raised the Lord of life: may we receive the word of women who braved the soldier's spears and met him in the dawning light; may we live with morning joy so that love may never die; though Jesus the Christ, the resurrection and the life. **Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination:

O risen Christ, open us to the power of your resurrection as we hear it proclaimed anew this day, that we too might rise to new life in you. **Amen**

Proclamation of the Word:

The 1st Reading: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (65:17-25)

(After the reading) Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The 2nd Reading: A Reading from the Book of Acts (10:34-43)

(After the reading) Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Gradual: (3x: quietly and then louder and louder)

Christ has died, Alleluia; Christ has risen, Alleluia;

Christ will come again, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Gospel:

God be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to John (20:1-18):

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(After the reading)

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

Sermon:

Easter Creed (Andreas Wagner):

I believe in the God of Easter morning, who awakes us from our darkest dreams; and leads us into the light of a new day; Who meets our pessimism with the stunning hope of angelic proclamation.

I believe in the God of Easter Day, who beats us to the obstacles in our lives And empties the dark tomb for us; Who appears in surprising ways when we least expect it; Walking with us on our detours.

I believe in the God of Easter evening, who breaks into the prisons of our world and our minds, Holding us in our fear and bringing peace.

And I believe in the risen Christ who meets us, with wounds on his hands and feet; Who grants us his spirit, Sending us out to bring peace to the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People:

We pray for the church, the world, our community, and those known to us, remembering especially those in particular need. We respond to ‘Life-giving God’ with ‘give us new life in you.’

Confession & Absolution:

Call to Confession

God, you call us to step out of the tombs that aim to consume us and more intentionally into the fullness of life that abounds in your presence. In stillness and in silence, let us acknowledge the ways we have been separated from the richness of all you have called us to be. We admit that we have not always remembered the creative power of resurrection. In a world where dreams and joy have been entombed, and chaos is celebrated and normalized, we have not always considered the divine ingenuity at work that calls us toward the ways of peace, love, and hope. Although we may have strayed from the places where we meet you, we trust that not even death can separate us from you and the creative ways you show your love for us.

Confession:

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:

May the God of love and rebirth forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Celebrations:

We celebrate special occasions in the lives our parish family

O God, our times are in your hand: look with favour, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Exchanging of the Peace:

May the peace of the risen Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: Yours Be the Glory (CP#210)

Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you won;
angels robed in splendour rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes, where your body lay.
Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you won.

See, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord is living, death has lost its sting.
Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you won.

No more we doubt you, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without you: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors through your deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to your home above.
Yours be the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory over death you won.

Prayer over the Gifts: The gifts that we bring to this community compound and create resurrection power, helping us to awaken wholeness in the broken, strength in the weakened, and liberation for all living in the midst of injustice. Let this offering, and the works of our hands and feet, be the resurrection we need to see in the world. Amen

Eucharistic Prayer for Easter

God be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**
Let us give thanks to God our Creator.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, Holy Love, Holy Wonder: out of silence and emptiness, you created the heavens and the earth. The oceans sing your praise. The rivers chant your glory. The whole earth hums with your song of life, your song of love. Through all generations, you have sustained your people with new life, new hope: Out of Abraham and Sarah's ending, you brought a new beginning; you made promises, you granted laughter, you brought forth descendants to continue your story. Out of the deathly power of oppression and slavery, you brought freedom. You liberated your people and blessed them with water, bread, wine. Out of communities of fear and sin and shame, you raised prophets to reflect the truth and offer hope.

Therefore, we join our voices to the universal song of praise, singing:

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.

In your great compassion for all people, you sent Jesus, to bring everyone out of the tomb of hatred and sin and into the life of your love. He fully embodied your compassion, your love, your justice. 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 commandment, to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love, and to proclaim our faith.

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

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine; so that the endless love of Jesus the Christ may dwell in us and flow from us – so that we might be filled with the joy and hope of the resurrection. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,
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.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

The gifts of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God**

People are invited to sit while awaiting Communion

Announcements: As Jesus calls us as disciples, God sends us out to serve others in the world. Let us share with one another the events of our parish and community this week.

Closing Prayers: *Standing, let us return our thanks to God.*

Draw us forth, God of all creation. Draw us forward and away from limited certainty into the immense world of your love. Give us the capacity to, even for a moment, taste the richness of the feast you give us. Give us the peace to live with uncertainty, with questions, with doubts. Help us to experience the resurrection anew with open wonder and an increasing ability to see you in the people of Easter. **Amen.**

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: Go now, with wonder at the empty tomb to amaze you, with the joy Mary felt in the garden to lift your hearts, and the disciples' hope at news Jesus had risen to encourage you. And may God's resurrecting love open the future for you, empowered by the Spirit and led by Jesus the Christ, **Amen**

Closing Hymn: Living Christ

Living Christ, bring us love, love for every stranger;
Living Christ, bring us love, love from cross and manger.

Living Christ, bring us joy, joy of earth and heaven;
Living Christ, bring us joy, joy of sin forgiven.

Living Christ, bring us peace, peace with God and neighbour;
Living Christ, bring us peace, peace in all our labour.

Living Christ, bring us love, love shared at your table;
Living Christ, bring us love, love from cross and stable.

Living Christ, lead us out, out to tell the story;
living Christ, lead us out, out to show your glory.

Dismissal:

Let us go out as people of the resurrection -- shining in and with the light of Christ. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Easter Memorials

We remember our loved ones, with contributions towards our altar flowers

From Patty McKenna & family:
In loving memory of Kenny.

From Jessica Wolf & the girls:
In loving memory of Barry, Jamie, & Donna

From Wendy Carroll & Jane Magrath:
In loving memory of Wendell Carroll & Kim Carroll

From Bev MacDonald:
In loving memory of Ora & Ruth Isenor;
Ralph & Ina Ashley; Dora Richard

From Jo Lundrigan:
In loving memory of William & Lenora Lundrigan;
& Kenny McKenna

From Bill & Heather Smith:
In loving memory of family members and good friends

From Barb Brown:
In loving memory of Margaret and Francis Craig.

From Robert Carroll, Susan, & Mark:
In loving memory of Pat Carroll

Always in our hearts



*May light perpetual shine upon them
May they rest in peace and rise in glory*