

Sunday April 21st, 2024
Anglican Parish of Lantz

**4th Sunday of Easter
& the Celebration of
St. George's 150th Anniversary**



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

Our Worship Today

We acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq, on whose land and by whose waters we gather to listen, learn, share, and walk together in the name of our Creator, the Holy One of Blessing.

Welcome

Greetings from the Town Crier

Processional

Call to Worship: *(standing)*

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed -- Alleluia

Let us pray: Holy One, give us the bravery of St George to stand up for what we believe. Give us the strength to overcome the dragons in our lives and in the world. And where we see people in distress, give us the compassion to help them.

We have come from many places, following different roads.

We come hungering for greater understanding.

We have come to hear the wisdom of Scripture.

We come seeking companions in the faith.

We have come to discover the One revealed in the breaking of the bread.

We come to grow as disciples of Christ.

Come, let us worship God, made known in Christ Jesus. **Amen**

Words from the Bishop: The Right Rev'd Sandra Fyfe

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.**

Opening Hymn: The King of Love my Shepherd Is (CP 520)

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.
Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

The Collect:

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

Let us pray: God of hosts, who so kindled the flame of love in the heart of your servant George that he bore witness to the risen Lord by his life and by his death: give us the same faith and power of love, that we who rejoice in his triumphs may come to share with him the fullness of the resurrection; through Jesus Christ, our pattern and our purpose, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination:

God of Word and Wisdom, send us your Holy Spirit as we listen to the witness of your people in the Scriptures. May we claim the story of your redeeming love again, and praise you with our lives through Christ, our inspiration and our Guide. Amen.

Proclamation of the Word:

The 1st Reading: A Reading from the Book of Acts (4:5-12)

(After the reading)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23: *Together*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in the paths of righteousness, for his name's sake.
Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord, forever. Amen

The 2nd Reading: A Reading from the Letter to the Ephesians (6:11-18)

(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 is 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 (10:11-18):

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(After the reading)

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon: The Rev'd Dr. Jane Magrath

Affirmation of Faith: from Iona

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon, of water and earth,
of humans in all their glorious diversity.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the word made flesh,
born of a woman, servant of the poor,
tortured and nailed to a tree.
A man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief,
he died alone and forsaken.
He descended into the earth
to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven,
to be everywhere present throughout all ages,
and His kingdom will come on earth.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit burning with Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of all resurrection and of eternal life. 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 "God in Heaven," with "please hear our prayer."

Confession & Absolution:

Call to Confession

God of mercy: You lead us into green pastures,
but our lifestyles put those pastures at risk.
You offer us rest, but we like to pursue our goals,
whatever the cost to the earth or to our fellow creatures.
You call us to show compassion, but we are quick to judge others.
Forgive us, and humble us to live in right relationship with all creation,
respecting the dignity of all living beings and treading lightly on the earth.

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.**

Assurance of Pardon:

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

Exchanging of the Peace:

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

Please exchange a “covid-safe” sign of peace with those around you

Offertory Hymn: Be Thou My Vision (CP 505 with an extra verse)

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art
Thou my best thought by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord
Thou great Creator, thine own may I be
Thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
Be thou my armour, and be thou my might;
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my strong tower,
Raise thou me heavenward, oh power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor the world's empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and thou only the first in my heart
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, when vic'try is won,
May I reach Heaven's joys, bright Heaven's Sun;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Prayer over the Gifts:

The gifts of bread and wine, together with the offering of our means, are presented with prayer:

Let us pray, together:

Gracious God, we give you these gifts as symbols of our lives. Receive them with love, bless them with grace, and use them according to your will. Send us into the world to share all that we have, knowing that it is yours, with joyful and trusting generosity, in the name and the Spirit of Christ. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer (ACC: Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 1)

May 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, Lover of creation, we give you thanks and praise;
for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of
your Spirit in our hearts.

When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us. Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah, through prophets, sages, and saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new creation. Joining in the song of the universe we proclaim your glory 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.**

Gracious God, in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity. Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you. 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.**

Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies, that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose.

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 say,
**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

All are welcome to share in the bread and/or the wine. Please note that drops of the wine are placed on the bread – so you will want to hold onto your bread if you would like to share in the wine. People are invited to sit while awaiting Communion

Music at Communion:

One Bread, One Body: sung by Joanna Lundrigan

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.*

Faithful God: in the wonder of your wisdom and love you fed your people in the wilderness with the bread of angels, and you sent Jesus to be the bread of life.
We thank you for feeding us with this bread.
May it strengthen us that by the power of the Holy Spirit we may embody your desire and be renewed for your service through Jesus the Christ, our pattern and our purpose. **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

Closing Hymn: When a Knight Won His Spurs

(by Jan Struther, 1931)

When a knight won his spurs, in the stories of old,
He was gentle and brave, he was gallant and bold;
With a shield on his arm and a lance in his hand,
For God and for valour he rode through the land.

No charger have I, and no sword by my side,
Yet still to adventure and battle I ride,
Though back into storyland giants have fled,
And the knights are no more, and the dragons are dead.

Let faith be my shield and let joy be my steed,
'gainst the dragons of anger, the ogres of greed;
And let me set free with the sword of my youth,
From the castle of darkness, the power of the truth

Dismissal:

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

Parish Notices and Announcements

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

World: The Anglican Church of Australia

Diocese: Holy Trinity Emmanuel, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

The Rev'd Marilyn Newport, Priest-in-Charge

Holy Spirit, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

The Rev'd Edwin Ebsary, Rector

Read Your Bible:

Mon- Acts 8:26-40

Tue- Isaiah 52:1-12

Wed- Isaiah 52:13-
53:12

Thu- Mark 16:9-20

Fri- 1 John 4:1-16a

Sat- 1 John 4:16b-5:5

Sun- John 15:1-17

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 8:26-40; Ps 22:24-30; 1 Jn 4:7-21; Jn 15:1-8

Weekly Wisdom: "Be careful," warned Nietzsche, "lest in fighting the dragon you become the dragon." – Philip Yancey

Events this Week:

Wednesday, 10:00am @St. George's: *Living with Loss* (where we support each other as we walk the path of grief).

Meditation: Wed Apr 24th @ 1:30pm at Felicity's

Prayer Ministry - Prayer Chain

If you, or someone you know would like to be put on the prayer list, please send information to carolyn.mcnally@ns.sympatico.ca

Upcoming Events:

- **Food Bank Sunday**- The first Sunday of the month, 05 May, is Food Bank Sunday

-**Monday Music Jam**- Next Jam will be Mon May 6th from 1-3 pm downstairs at Christ Church

Giving:

We now have an account with *Canada Helps.org*, which people are invited to use if they would like to make a donation to our parish. We are easy to find on the *Canada Helps* website – by searching for *Lantz* or *Dutch Settlement*. And we also have this handy QR code which you can access right from your smartphone. A tax receipt is emailed directly from *Canada Helps*. Thank you for helping us to continue to serve our communities.

**Contact Information**

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