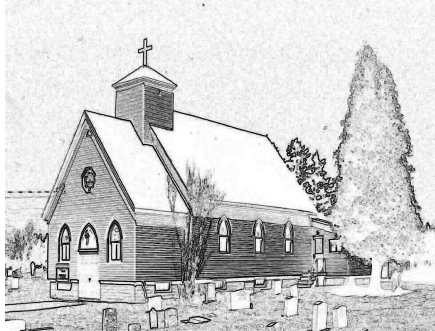


Third Sunday (**Gaudete**) of Advent

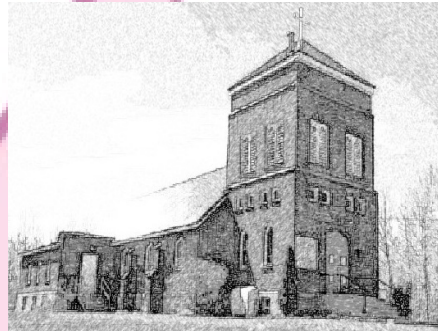
December 12, 2021



St. George's Church
Dutch Settlement

Our Mission

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



Christ Church
Lantz

Sunday Morning Worship

8:00 (Christ Church: 14 Church St., Lantz)

9:30 (St. George's Church: 1089 Highway 277, Dutch Settlement)

11:00 (Christ Church: 14 Church St., Lantz)

Parish Office

1135 Highway 2, Lantz, NS B2S 1P5
Telephone - (902) 883-2898

Web Presence

www.parishoflantz.ca OR Anglican Parish of Lantz on 

Parish Clergy

Rt Rev'd Sandra Fyfe, Diocesan Bishop
Rev'd Canon David Fletcher, Rector
Rev'd Patty McKenna

Our Worship Today

While we are living in a new age of hope with the introduction of a vaccines for CoVid-19, it will be months before we can relax matters of Public Health (and personal responsibility) with regard to public worship.

- Have you a mask with you? As per the Department of Health, masks inside are mandatory, with the exception of the officiant or readers while carrying out their ministries. We have disposable masks available if you haven't one with you.
- Did you notice the hand sanitizer as you entered the building? Did you use it?
- If you have been in a contact area, traveled or been part of a large gathering, consider seeking out asymptomatic testing as a way of protecting everybody.
- If you have a 'smart phone' (either Android or Apple IOS) have you downloaded and activated the COVID-19 App? If not, why not?
- Did you leave your offering at the table as you came in?
- Did you pick up a service leaflet (you will notice there are no books in the pews) and will you take it with you when you leave?
- While proof of vaccination is not required for regular services of worship (assuming masking and contact tracing), we expect you to be responsible about spacing yourselves and not compromising the community if you are, in fact, not vaccinated. This week's guidelines from the Department of Health indicate that our practices here fall within the purview of the Covid protocols, including our Christmas plans.

We acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq who have been living on these lands since time immemorial. Recognizing this is a small but meaningful step in reconciliation and the continued efforts of building a strong Nation-to-Nation relationship, as we are all Treaty People.

The Third Sunday of Advent is traditionally marked with the lighting of a pink candle, indicating the quality of joy. We also use a pink awareness ribbon reminding us of the prevalence of Breast Cancer, but also the excellent and successful range of treatments.

Welcome to all! The texts of our services are based on those printed in the green BOOK OF ALTERNATIVE SERVICES (BAS) and our hymns are found in the blue COMMON PRAISE (CP) or as noted. Our traditions are rooted in almost 2000 years of Christian history, but our expressions of prayer and praise are contemporary. You are invited to participate as you are able, and share in communion at the Lord's Table as you feel called. Our clergy or greeters will happily assist you in any way that we can!

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Gathering: And also with you.

Leader: Give ear to our prayers, O Lord, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation, and grant us your joy that we may see you in all things, as we await your coming again in glory, for the sake of him whose Advent we hail, your Son, Jesus Christ the Lord.

Gathering: Amen.

A passage of scripture is read (Zephaniah 3:14-20). As the candle is lit, the Leader continues:

Leader: We light this candle as a symbol of God's joy for all of us.

Gathering: Lord Jesus, come in glory!

The following verse is sung: (9:30 and 11:00)

**A candle is burning, a candle of joy. A candle to welcome brave Mary's new boy.
Our hearts fill with wonder, and eyes light and glow as joy brightens winter like sunshine on snow.**

We gather in God's name *(Greeting one another standing)*

The Advent Prose is sung.



Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever;
thy holy cities are a wilderness, Sion is a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation:
thy holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee. **(Antiphon)**

We have sinned, and are as an unclean thing, and we all do fade as a leaf:
and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away:
thou hast hid thy face from us: and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. **(Antiphon)**

Behold, O Lord, the affliction of thy people, and send forth Him who is to come:
send forth the Lamb, the ruler of the earth,
from the stones of the desert to the mount of the daughter of Sion:
that He may take away the yoke of our captivity. **(Antiphon)**

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people: my salvation shall not tarry:
I have blotted out as a thick cloud thy transgressions:
fear not, for I will save thee: for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.
(Antiphon)

We gather in God's name *(Greeting one another standing)*

Introit (or Entrance) Hymn (ie.song) (Common Praise #90)

**How the world longs for your birth, bearing news of human worth;
To our labour bring your mirth: Maranatha, come, Lord, come!**

**How the earth awaits your seed, parched and barren from our greed;
Now to hallow it we need: Maranatha, come, Lord, come!**

**How we ache to know your peace; wars and weapons still increase;
Bid our fears and hate to cease: Maranatha, come, Lord, come!**

**How our minds for healing long, broken bodies to be strong,
Wounded hearts to learn your song: Maranatha, come, Lord, come!**

**God, who sets your people free, God, who comes, our flesh to be,
Now we wait, your reign to see: Maranatha, come, Lord, come!**

**To our darkness bring your light; fill our longing eyes with sight.
In our lives shine ever bright: Maranatha, come, Lord, come!**

Presider: Almighty God

**All: 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 Trisagion ("thrice Holy") canticle is said or sung three times.

**All: Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One have mercy upon us.**

After a time of silent prayer, the COLLECT (prayer of the day) is said by the Presider.

Presider: God of power and mercy, you call us once again to celebrate the coming of your Son. Remove those things which hinder love of you, that when he comes, he may find us waiting in awe and wonder for him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

We proclaim God's Word *(Seated, we listen and respond to scripture)*

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Zephaniah (3:14-20)

IN A PROCLAMATION FILLED WITH HOPE, THE PROPHET DESCRIBES THE MIGHTY POWER OF GOD TOUCHING THE LIVES OF EVEN THE POOR AND THE OUTCAST, SAVING THE PEOPLE AND DESTROYING THEIR OPPRESSORS
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Gathering: Thanks be to God.

After the first reading, a responsive passage (Canticle 3 - Song of Thanksgiving) is offered to help us think about the reading.



A second reading, usually from a letter to the early church, is read.

Reader: A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Philippians (4:4-9)

PAUL'S HYMN OF REJOICING AND PRAYER OF COMMENDATION ARE BOUND TOGETHER BY HIS BIDDING OF PEACE

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Gathering: Thanks be to God.

We welcome the Gospel with singing (the Gradual – or hymn – as the Gospel Book is brought amongst the people), and stand facing the Gospel Book as a sign of reverence and respect. The "SEQUENCE" (CP #94) is an act of praise. The "TRACT" or scripture verse focuses our attention.

Gradual Hymn (C.P. #103)

**On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings glad tidings of the King of kings.**

**Then cleansed be every breast from sin; make straight the way for God within.
Prepare we in our hearts a home, where such a mighty guest may come.**

**For thou art our salvation, Lord, our refuge and our great reward;
without thy grace we waste away, like flowers that wither and decay.**

**To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and bid the fallen sinner stand;
shine forth, and let thy light restore earth's own true loveliness once more.**

**All praise, eternal Son, to thee whose advent doth thy people free;
whom with the Father we adore and Holy Ghost for evermore.**

Reader: Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.
All: Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

Reader: The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me to bring good tidings to the afflicted
All: Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart.

Reader: The Lord be with you.
Gathering: And also with you.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to ☩ Luke (3:7-18)
Gathering: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

JOHN THE BAPTIST PROCLAIMS HARD NEWS TO THOSE WHO ARE WEALTHY, BUT GOOD NEWS TO THOSE WHO ARE POOR, IN ANTICIPATION OF THE COMING OF THE LORD
The Gospel of Christ.

Gathering: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

A homily or reflection on the deepens our understanding and helps us think more about the readings.

We respond in faith, hope and love

We recite a definition of our faith in the words of one of the historic documents of the church (THE CREED)

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

We pray for the church, the world, our community, and those known to us, remembering especially those in particular need. We respond to each petition saying, **YOUR KINGDOM COME.**

We recall with sorrow our sins and offenses that separate us from God and one another.

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
welcoming sinners and inviting us to this table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

Presider: Most merciful God,
All: **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.**

Presider: 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.**

We celebrate special occasions in the lives our parish family

All: **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.**

With the EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE we share a gesture of love and reconciliation with one another.

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All: **And also with you.**

We celebrate Eucharist together

We prepare the table and offer our gifts with singing and prayer. (COMMON PRAISE #109)

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places, where the Lord our God may go!**

**O Zion, give voice to good tidings, ascend to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King.
The works of pride all perish, like flowers they shall decay;
the power and pomp of nations shall pass like a dream away.**

**But your word, O God, is faithful, your arm, O Lord, is strong;
you stand in the midst of nations, and you will right the wrong.
You will feed your flock like a shepherd, and fold the lambs to your breast;
in pastures of peace you'll lead them, and give to the weary rest.**

**There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places, where the Lord our God may go!**

The gifts of bread and wine, together with the offering of our means, are presented with prayer:
All: **God of hope, renew in us the joy of your salvation and make us a living sacrifice to
you, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer 5

Presider: The Lord be with you.
Gathering: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.
Gathering: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Gathering: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider: We give you thanks and praise, almighty God, for the gift of a world full of wonder,
and for our life which comes from you. By your power you sustain the universe.
Gathering: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Presider: You created us to love you with all our heart, and to love each other as ourselves,
but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.
In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world and gather us into one great family.
Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven,
we praise your wonderful name, as we sing (say),

All: **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.**

Presider: We give you thanks and praise, loving Father,
because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us you showed us how much you love us.
He cares for the poor and the hungry. He suffers with the sick and the rejected.
Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back but overcame hatred with love.
On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death.
By raising him from the dead you show us the power of your love
to bring new life to all your people.
Gathering: **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Presider: On the night before he gave up his life for us, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "Take this, all of you, and eat it: this is my body which is given for you."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant, which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven. Do this in memory of me."

Gathering: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Presider: Gracious God, with this bread and wine we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus, and we offer ourselves to you in him. Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread, and share in the life of the family of your children.

Gathering: Glory to you for ever and ever.

Presider: Father, you call us to be your servants: fill us with the courage and love of Jesus, that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father, through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

Gathering: Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.

Presider: In anticipation of the coming of our Lord, let us pray as we have been taught:

**All: 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.**

Presider: God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.

Community: Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God.

Gathering: Thanks be to God.

As the community of the baptized, we share in communion. Mindful of distancing (come up on the left, return on the right) you are invited to approach the front of the church to receive the Host (bread).

We go out into the world

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

Announcements: we share our ministry together in the news and events of our parish and community.

Presider: Standing, let us return our thanks to God.

The presider offers the prayer after communion. We respond with the DOXOLOGY (or "Glory to God")

Presider: Merciful God, may this eucharist free us from our sins, fill us with unending joy, and prepare us for the birthday of our Saviour. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who is Lord now and for ever. **Amen.**

Presider: Glory to God,

**All: 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.**

A concluding hymn dismisses us. (Common Praise #116)

**Your kingdom come! On bended knee the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see on earth that kingdom's day.**

**But the slow watches of the night not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right the silent stars are strong.**

**And lo, already on the hills the flags of dawn appear;
gird up your loins, you prophet souls, proclaim the day is near:**

**The day in whose clear-shining light all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned in might, and every hurt be healed;**

**When knowledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth abroad:
the day of perfect righteousness, the promised day of God.**

Presider: Go out into the world

Gathering: Thanks be to God.

Parish Notices and Announcements

Cycle of Prayer

World: Anglican Church of Canada (Most Rev'd Linda Nicholls)

Diocese: Maitland (Rev'd Glenn Eason, priest-in-charge, and Terry Lea)

Stewiacke and Shubenacadie (Rev'd Glenn Eason, priest-in-charge)

Birthdays This Week

PARISH BIRTHDAYS ARE NOT PUBLISHED ONLINE

Stewardship Thought for the Week

The storm on Thursday reminded us that time is also a gift of God, and I am as bad as school-kids in hoping for the snow. A storm day cancels everything that requires leaving the house, which gives me an opportunity to get caught up on things. So often we think of 'stewardship' as a discipline regarding things financial; so is time, which is a gift that can't be used frivolously.

Next Sunday's Readings

First Reading - Micah 5:2-5a

Second Reading - Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Reading - Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)

Weekly Wisdom

A person wrapped up in themselves makes a very small package.

Read Your Bible

Monday - Micah 1:1-16

Tuesday - Micah 2:1-13

Wednesday - Micah 3:1-12

Thursday - Micah 5:2-15

Friday - Micah 6:1-16

Saturday - Micah 7:1-20

Sunday - Ezra 1:1-2:1

Mark Your Calendar

Daily through Advent 9:00 Morning Prayer/Saturday 8:00 (Christ Church)

Tuesday 11:00 Clericus (Christ Church Lantz)

Wednesdays 1:30 Meditation (Felicity Jeppessen's home)

Thursday 11:00 Magnolia Service

Saturdays 10:00 EfM Education for Ministry (Hubbards)

December 15 St George's Guild Christmas Party (Sandra Gloade's home)

December 21 Parish Council Meeting

January 29 Special Diocesan Synod to elect General Synod Delegates (St John's Truro)

February 27 David retires

Stocking Stuffers for the Magnolia

Shampoo, Soft Candy, Pens, Pencils, Erasers, Pencil Sharpeners, Writing Pads, Deodorant (men and women), Sudoku or Word Search puzzle books, Jewelry, Coloring Books and Crayons, Trinkets, Shaving Cream, Aprons/Blbs, Socks

Family Ministry Team

In support of the Family Ministry team, the online auction continues this week. Your help in caring for our Christmas family is deeply appreciated. There will be an evening of wrapping this week on Tuesday, around 6:30.

Christmas Weekend

On Christmas Eve, Friday December 24, our services will be:

4:00 Christmas Crib Service Christ Church
(no communion, intended for younger children)

6:00 Family Communion Service Christ Church

8:30 Sung Eucharist St George's
NO 10:30 SERVICE

Christmas Day - 10:00 St Andrew's Church, Wallace

Sunday December 26

8:00 Christ Church

10:00 St George's Dutch Settlement

NO 11:00 SERVICE

Parish Envelope Secretary

Wendy Mayers-Peters will be stepping back from the position of Envelope Recording Secretary at the end of this year, although she has indicated she will prepare the Income Tax Receipts for 2021 and provide any assistance she can in getting her successor the system she has been using. This is a highly responsible position in the parish, requires a police background check, and the capacity to work unsupervised with confidential information. Expressions of interest may be directed to the Parish Wardens who will screen and interview candidates.