

Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
5<sup>th</sup> Sunday After the Epiphany



## **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 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.*

## **Call to Worship:** *(standing)*

We are called to the work of Israel, to the work of Jesus.

**We are called to spread God's love in this world.**

We can do this work, as we are, because of the Holy Spirit.

**By God's grace, we are salt.**

We purify, we cleanse, we bind, we bring out the best in people.

**By God's grace, we are light.**

We allow things to be seen as they are. We point to holiness.

**By God's grace, we follow the commandments and the law.**

We love the Lord our God and our neighbors as ourselves.

**By God's grace, we are salt. We are light. God transforms us and uses us.**

Let us worship our God, so full of transforming grace.

## **Gathering:**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you**

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 Church's One Foundation*

The church's one foundation

Is Jesus Christ her Lord;

She is his new creation

By water and the Word.

From heaven he came and sought her

To be his holy bride;

With his own blood he bought her,

And for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,

Yet one o'er all the earth;

Her charter of salvation,

One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,  
With every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore;  
Till, with the vision glorious,  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious  
Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly,  
On high may dwell with thee.

**The Collect:** *(prayer of the Day) is said by the Presider*

God of hope and love, Who created us in the glorious diversity of salt  
And to be bearers of your light in our world:  
Continue to transform us, so that we can be agents  
Of transformation in this world;  
And co-creators in your Kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**Prayer for Illumination:**

May we listen with open hearts to these words of Scripture;  
May they be like salt for us -- flavouring our lives and our actions.  
And may they provide inspiration, as a light on our path. **Amen.**

**Proclamation of the Word:**

**The First Reading:**

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah (58:1-9A):

*(After the reading)*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Psalm:** (read responsively)

(Psalm 112: 1-9):

1 Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord \*  
**and have great delight in his commandments!**

2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land; \*  
**the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

3 Wealth and riches will be in their house, \*  
**and their righteousness will last for ever.**

4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright; \*  
**the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

5 It is good for them to be generous in lending \*  
**and to manage their affairs with justice.**

6 For they will never be shaken; \*  
**the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumours; \*  
**their heart is right; they put their trust in the Lord.**

8 Their heart is established and will not shrink, \*  
**until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

9 They have given freely to the poor, \*  
**and their righteousness stands fast for ever;  
they will hold up their head with honour.**

God of light, teach us to love each other as you love us,  
that we may bring peace and joy to the world,  
and rejoice in the kingdom of your Son, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

## **The Gospel:**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Matthew (5:13-20):

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

(After the reading)

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **Sermon:**

**Affirmation of Faith** (from Iona): (Standing)

We believe in God

**in whom is power and compassion.**

**We believe in the Creator who gave birth to the universe,  
set solar systems dancing in space, shaped molecules and mountains,  
and conceived beauty beyond our imagining.**

God's power topples tyrants, and brings down walls of separation;  
God's love embodies the tenderness of a perfect parent,  
encouraging and caring for each of us.

We believe in Jesus, born in obscurity in an occupied land;  
a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution and grief.

He understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil,  
spoke the truth with courage and clarity,  
forgave his enemies and changed lives.  
In his living, dying and rising again  
he showed love strong enough to save the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who sustains, comforts and empowers us,  
opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness.  
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 each petition  
saying, Hear our Prayer*

### **Confession & Absolution:**

#### **Call to Confession**

God of the passing years, in you all time and space are perfectly at one:  
we lift up our hearts to you, with gratitude for your faithfulness to us.

#### **Confession:**

God of salt and light, earth and sky,  
We who have received much have not always been grateful.  
We who have been called to work with God for the good of others as well as  
ourselves have sometimes been selfish.  
We who have been called to live in the light sometimes choose darkness.  
We who have been called to be salt to the world sometimes fail to respond  
to the needs we see.  
Our failures and mistakes and mis-steps are human – and we confess them in  
the certainty of the forgiveness that helps us to transform ourselves and to  
shine our light in the world.

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:**

Hear the words of assurance, for all who come in hope and faith.  
I have formed you and call you; I will take you by the hand.  
Behold, I am making all things new. **Thanks be to God.**

Loving 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.**

### **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:**

*We share a Covid-safe gesture of love and reconciliation with one another.*  
The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

### **The Eucharist**

**Offertory Hymn: *Thou Whose Almighty Word***

**1 Thou, whose almighty word,  
chaos and darkness heard,  
and took their flight:  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel-day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light.**

**2 Thou who did come to bring  
on your redeeming wing  
healing and sight,  
health to the sick in mind,  
sight with illusions blind:  
now to all humankind  
let there be light.**

**3 Spirit of truth and love,  
life-giving, holy dove,  
speed forth your flight;  
move o'er the water's face,  
bearing the lamp of grace  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light.**

**4 Holy and blessed Three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might,  
boundless as ocean's tide  
rolling in fullest pride  
through the earth, far and wide,  
let there be light.**

### **Prayer over the Gifts:**

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

Holy one,  
**you call us to be salt and light in our world;  
to transform our world and make it a better place to be.  
Receive these gifts we bring -- at this table and from our labours  
and of ourselves -- and use them, we pray, as agents of your will; to season  
and brighten your world.  
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 saying:

**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:** *We are a Rainbow ( David Kai)*

We're the light of all the world, we are a city on a hill  
We're a candle on a stand proclaiming light  
We will not hide our lamp beneath a bushel any more  
We will shine a ray of hope that's burning bright  
    We are a rainbow, sign of covenant and peace  
    For the flood of tears will finally cease to be  
    Come shine your rainbow, splash your hues across the sky  
    Paint the world in colors proud and bold and free  
We're a coat of many colors, sewn from many different threads  
Covering all in warmth, in welcome and in grace  
God said "Let there be light," created every varied shade  
In the rainbow each of us can find a place  
    (refrain)

We are hope to still believe in tomorrow's better day  
We are peace in a world that's torn apart  
We are joy that will last in all the struggles that we face  
We are love that blooms and grows in every heart  
    (refrain)

When we face the storms of life, we will never be alone  
For our God will be with us on the way  
Hand in hand, side by side, we won't be frightened any more  
As the mourning night of tears breaks into day  
    (refrain)

## **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 and loving God, you created salt within the earth to protect and heal; to cure and add flavor to the food we eat. When you created our bodies, you put that salt in us. And in you, we are the salt of the earth.

You created light to warm the world so that life could exist and find order. You came to us as light so that we would not be overcome by the darkness. And you place that light in us and call us to be the light of the world.

As we reflect on these mysteries, we give you thanks for the sustenance you have provided at your table. May our light so shine before people so that you will be glorified and the whole world would join us in our praise of you. 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:**

As you leave this space, may you remember that you are the salt of the earth. Go today, with the Spirit, and bring out the best of the world — the goodness that God has already created. Love, inspire, transform. And may the blessing of God — ground of being, word of creation, and spirit of life — go with you all. **Amen**

## **Closing Hymn: Shine, Jesus Shine**

**Lord, the light of your love is shining  
In the midst of the darkness, shining  
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us  
Set us free by the truth you now bring us  
Shine on me, shine on me**

**Shine, Jesus, shine  
Fill this land with the Father's glory  
Blaze, Spirit, blaze  
Set our hearts on fire  
Flow, river, flow  
Flood the nations with grace and mercy  
Send forth your word  
Lord, and let there be light**

Lord, I come to your awesome presence  
From the shadows into your radiance  
By the blood I may enter your brightness  
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness  
Shine on me, shine on me

(Refrain)

As we gaze on your kingly brightness  
So our faces display your likeness  
Ever changing from glory to glory  
Mirrored here may our lives tell your story  
Shine on me, shine on me

(Refrain)

### ***Dismissal:***

Let us go out into the world -- as salt and light -- serving God by serving others.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **Parish Notices and Announcements**

### **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:**

World: The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

Diocese: Canso, Nova Scotia

The Reverend Susan Slater and Reverend Leif Vaage

*All Saints by the Sea, Canso*

*Holy Trinity, Whitehead*

*Christ Church, Queensport*

*Good Shepherd, Tor Bay*

*St. James', Halfway Cove*

*Christ Church, Guysborough*

Three Harbours, Nova Scotia

The Reverend Natasha Garrison Brubaker

*St. Paul's, Antigonish*

*St. Mary's, Bayfield*

*Holy Trinity, Country Harbour*

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Is 58:1-9a, (9b-12); Ps 112:1-9, (10); 1 Cor 2:1-12, (13-16); Mt 5:13-20;

## Read Your Bible

Mon- Prov 8:22-36

Tue- Mt 5:13-37

Wed- Lev 19:1-16

Thu- Lev 19:17-37

Fri- Ps 119:33-48

Sat- 1 Cor 3

Sun- Mt 5:38-48

**Weekly Wisdom:** *We should not ask, ‘What is wrong with the world?’ for that diagnosis has already been given. Rather we should ask, “What has happened to salt and light? John Stott*

## Events this Week:

Monday Music Jam Session: Mon 06 Feb, 2:00-4:00 @Christ Church

Meditation Group: Wednesday 1:30 @ Felicity’s

## Upcoming:

Annual General Meeting: Sunday, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>: There will be ONE service on this Sunday -- at 9:30@ St. George’s. The service will be immediately followed by coffee/tea/muffins -- and the AGM for the Parish. Both congregations are invited to worship together and then to converse together about this coming year, at the AGM (reports are due to Rev. Jane by Jan 29<sup>th</sup>).

Our Lenten fish chowder take-out will be held for 6 weeks this year, beginning on Fri. Feb.24 and concluding on Fri. Mar.31. The meal will be \$10 and includes a bowl of chowder, biscuit and 2 sweets. Order forms will be left in each church, or you may call Felicity at 259-2506 or Heather at 883-9755 to order.

Please note: We are putting together an email list for communications from the rector and/or wardens. If you received the emails on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> — about weather-related service cancellations and with Rev. Jane’s reflection on the gospel — then you are already on the list! If you didn’t receive those emails, please send Rev. Jane an email at her email address, and we can add you to that list.

## Contact Information

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