

Sunday March 19th, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Lent



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)*

The Lord is our Shepherd.

God leads us by still waters.

Christ restores our souls.

The Spirit leads us in right paths.

Let us worship God who is always with us.

We will praise our God, trusting in God's goodness and mercy!

Gracious God, who created us in God's own image,
we are grateful for all that you have done for us,
for all that you are doing in us,
and for all that you will do through us.

Open our eyes to see your presence among us,
moving in powerful ways at all times and in all places.

Open our ears to hear familiar words in new ways—
ways that will change us and challenge us
to become the people you created us to be.

Grant us the power and the courage
to come out of the darkness
and into the light of Jesus Christ,
that we may serve you by serving others,
and love you with all our heart, soul, mind,
and strength. **Amen.**

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 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 for ever.

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 spread'st a table in my sight;
Thy unction, grace bestoweth:
And O 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 for ever.

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

Creator and Healer,
you work your Sabbath will in the chaos of our life:
teach us the insight that gives true judgement and praises you
wherever you are found, making miracles and opening our eyes to see them;
through Jesus Christ, the Son of earth. **Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination:

Light of the world, your **Word** brings new vision and hope.
Shine your Spirit on us as we listen to the Scriptures,
to open our eyes on your **Word** at work in the world
and show us the path we can follow. **Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word:

The First Reading:

A Reading from the Book of First Samuel (16:1-13)

(After the reading)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Psalm: (23) *Together*

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the 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 runs over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life;

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever. Amen

The Gospel:

God be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to John (9:1-41):

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(After the reading)

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon:

Confession of Faith

(Standing)

We are not alone,

we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.**

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: Trisagion (Ortega's Version)

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty
Holy, Immortal One
Have Mercy, Have Mercy On Us (X3)

Call to Confession

Forgiving God, in a world filled with so much pain,
we would often rather shut our eyes and be blind
than see things as they really are.
Grant us the courage to face the reality of our world,
and give us the strength to bring your light
to those who walk in darkness.
Help us see others as you see them,
and forgive us when we do not trust you enough
to open our eyes to the possibilities before us.
Heal our self-inflicted blindness, O God,
and lead us in the footsteps of the Light of the World,
who reveals your glory in his life,
his teachings, and his love.
In his holy name, we pray. **Amen.**

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:

Christ came to lead us in paths of righteousness
and to guide us through our lives.
Christ is with us in times of danger and times of peace.
The goodness and mercy of God are given to us
each and every day of our lives.
God forgives us for our failings, upholds us in love,
and leads us to the place that Christ has prepared for us.
Know that you are deeply loved and always forgiven. **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.
Peace be with you.
And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: Amazing Grace (CP# 352)

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found
Was blind but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed**

**When we've been here ten thousand years
Bright, shining as the sun
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun**

Prayer over the Gifts:

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

Shepherd God:

**We give you thanks for guiding us to this place:
where we may rest beside the still waters of your grace,
where we are filled with the good gifts of your goodness and mercy.
We worship you with all that we are,
and we bless your name for all that we will be.
We offer you these gifts, that you might bless them
and send them out into the valley of the shadow of death,
and everywhere in need of your light. 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: The Lord is My Shepherd

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.

Compassionate God,
you have fed us with the bread of heaven.
Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage;
may our fasting be hunger for justice;
our alms, a making of peace;
and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts;
through Jesus the Christ. **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 we continue our Lenten journey,
remember the words from Ephesians: “Live as children of light.”
So may the light of God’s love surround you,
The light of Christ’s mercy renew you,
And the light of the Spirit guide you this day and every day to come.

Closing Hymn: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (CP# 508)

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was,
so weary, worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.**

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one;
stoop down and drink and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“I am this dark world's light.
Look unto me; your morn shall rise
and all your day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till trav'ling days are done.

Dismissal:

Let us go out as lights in our dark world, and let us serve God by serving others.

Thanks be to God.

Parish Notices and Announcements

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

World: The Anglican Church of Southern Africa
Diocese: St. Andrew's, Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia
The Reverend Katherine Bourbonniere and Brian
The Reverend Walter Beazley, Associate Parish Priest, and Brenda
The Reverend Gary Giles, Associate Parish Priest, and Dawn-Marie
St. Luke's, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
The Reverend Matthew Sponagle and Katie

Next Sunday's Readings: Ezek 37:1-14; Ps 130; Rom 8:6-11; Jn 11:1-45.

Read Your Bible

Mon- Eph 5:1-14	Tue- Ezek 37:1-14	Wed- Ps 130
Thu- Jn 11:1=16	Fri- Jn 11:17-44	Sat- Lk 1:26-38
	Sun- Rom 5:1-21	

Weekly Wisdom: *"It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye"* -- Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Events this Week:

Parish Council Meets on Tuesday March 21 @7:00, Christ Church
Meditation Group: Wednesday 1:30 @ Felicity's
"Ask" Wednesday @7:00pm, Christ Church

This Week and Upcoming:

Our Lenten fish chowder take-out continues, 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. Meals will be ready for pick up on Fridays at St George's between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm

Food Bank: The first Sunday of the month (02 Apr) is Food Bank Sunday.

Monday Music Jams: Our next Jam session is Monday 03 April

Holy Week Services in our Parish for 2023

Palm Sunday Service: Regular Service Times on the 2nd of April
Stations of Justice and Peace: Wednesday @7:00pm, Christ Church
Maundy Thursday Service: Thurs @7:00pm, St. George's
Good Friday Passion Tenebrae: Friday @7:00pm, Christ Church
Holy Saturday Vigil: Saturday @7:00pm, St. George's
Easter Sunday: Regular Service Times on the 9th of April

Contact Information

Parish Phone: (902) 883-2898

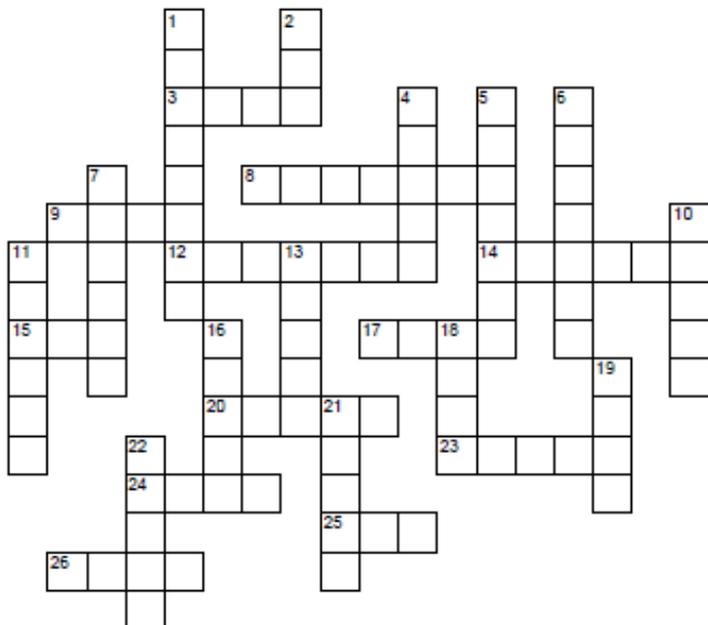
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Website: www.parishoflantz.ca

Psalm 23 Cross Word



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

Across

- 3 wicked
- 8 land use for grazing
- 9 word that designates a person
- 12 to bring back into existence
- 14 smear with oil
- 15 to rest in a horizontal position
- 17 opposite of death
- 20 hostile opponent
- 23 correct
- 24 to lack
- 25 drinking vessel
- 26 to go by foot

Down

- 1 person who tends sheep
- 2 greasy liquid
- 4 building in which people live
- 5 to make ready
- 6 to give strength and hope
- 7 area between mountains
- 10 long stick, used for support in walking
- 11 to come after
- 13 piece of furniture, used for eating
- 16 colour associated with life
- 18 to be afraid of
- 19 way
- 21 compassion
- 22 to live as a resident

created by Astrid Schlueter, using CrosswordWeaver.