

Sunday March 9th, 2025
1st 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

Call to Worship: *(standing)*

We live in the shelter of the Most High,

We abide in the shadow of Almighty God.

Let us worship God who is our refuge and our strength,

For God is the One in whom we trust.

The Lord will deliver us from the perils that threaten us.

Under God's wings, we will find refuge and not be afraid.

So let us praise God, in song and in silence, with thankful hearts!

We will worship God with heart, mind, soul and strength, now and always.

Holy and merciful God, you are our refuge and strength, we rejoice in your grace and love, which has called creation into being, and makes all life complete. We praise you for Jesus the Christ who reveals your loving purposes for all people; in his face we glimpse your love; in his life we see the pattern for our lives.

We bless you for the Holy Spirit who guides us and strengthens us, drawing us into the embrace of your tender love. And so we praise you, O God, our eternal, creating father who loves us with motherly care, united with Christ, our saviour, and your Holy Spirit, the breath of life, Three in One, now and always. **Amen**

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: Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home;

all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.

God our Maker doth provide; for our wants to be supplied;

come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field; fruit as praise to God we yield;

wheat and tares together sown, are to joy or sorrow grown;

first the blade and then the ear; then the full corn shall appear;

Lord of harvest, grant that we, wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come; and shall take the harvest home;

from the field shall in that day, all offenses purge away,

giving angels charge at last; in the fire the tares to cast;

but the fruitful ears to store, in the garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come; bring thy final harvest home;

gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,

there, forever purified; in thy presence to abide;

come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

The Collect:

Holy One: You sent angels to feed your beloved son during his time in the wilderness. Help us to feel your love as we begin our Lenten journey; so that we might appreciate our own wilderness time of reflection and discernment as a pilgrimage of love and toward Jesus the Christ, our pattern and our purpose.

Amen

Prayer for Illumination:

Holy One: grant your people grace to enter into the season of Lent as a people consecrated to you, that we may live through it in love and fervour which no trouble may disturb; may we grow in wisdom as we hear your words, through Jesus the Christ. Amen

Proclamation of the Word:

The First Reading:

A Reading from the Book of Deuteronomy (26:1-11):

(After the reading)

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

The Psalm: 91 (1-2, 9-16)

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, abides under the shadow of the Almighty. He shall say to the Lord, "You are my refuge and my stronghold, my God in whom I put my trust."

He shall give his angels charge over you.

Because you have made the Lord your refuge, and the Most High your habitation. There shall no evil happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your dwelling.

He shall give his angels charge over you.

For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. They shall bear you in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

He shall give his angels charge over you.

You shall tread upon the lion and adder; you shall trample the young lion and the serpent under your feet. Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him; I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring him to honour.

He shall give his angels charge over you.

With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.

He shall give his angels charge over you. Amen

The Gospel:

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

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Luke (4:1-13):

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(After the reading) The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: *Apostles' Creed*

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.

Prayers of the People:

We pray for the church, the world, our community, and those known to us, remembering especially those in particular need. As we make our intercessions we respond to 'Lead us not into temptation' with 'but deliver us from evil'

Trisagion (*Ortega's Version*)

Holy God, Holy and Mighty,

Holy, Immortal One

Have Mercy, Have Mercy On Us (X3)

Confession & Absolution:

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:

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 the Christ. 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 you know the peace which the Spirit brings: a peace rooted in love, patience and self-control, shaped by kindness, generosity and faithfulness, marked by gentleness, and crowned with joy.

Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: Seek Ye First

**Seek Ye first the Kingdom of God; And His righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you -- Allelu, alleluia**

**Man shall not live by bread alone; But by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God -- Allelu, alleluia.**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you; Seek and ye shall find
Knock and it shall be opened unto you -- Allelu, alleluia**

**Seek Ye first the Kingdom of God; And His righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you -- Allelu, alleluia**

Prayer over the Gifts:

Holy God, as we start the journey of Lent, give us a will of repentance, a mind of sacrificial love, and a heart of gratitude. Indeed, you are “gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love...” We offer our gifts and our whole selves, asking that you might strengthen us for the journey, in the name of Christ, our pattern and our purpose. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer for Lent

May the God of the stars and of the soil be with you. **And also with you.**
On this day, let us offer our hearts to God.

We open them so we may be filled with the gifts of Lenten discipleship.
Let us lift glad thanksgiving to our God.

We offer praise to the One who gives us the strength for this journey.

There at the edge of the emptiness of chaos you spoke, God of all graciousness, brightening the shadows with lights in the sky, pouring the waters into rivers and seas, planting seeds to feed all creatures. From the dust of creation, you shaped your children, offering us all the goodness and beauty which overflowed from your heart, but we trampled through your hopes, as we turned from your heart to chase after evil’s false promises. But no matter where we went, or how

far we sought to flee from you, you continued to meet us in all those places, constantly inviting us to return to you and be filled with your steadfast love.

Therefore, from the shadows of our wilderness journey through Lent, we join with the angels, the saints, and with your beloved people everywhere, to offer you songs of thanksgiving:

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.

Your constant love is the seal of your holiness, and Jesus is the One who comes to model that Divine love for us. As the powers of domination closed around him, Jesus gathered his friends and followers. A woman anointed him as king and prophet, sacrifice and blessing. He said that whenever his story is told, her act is to be remembered.

On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he took bread, work of human hands, gift of our earth; and he gave thanks to God. He broke the bread, to speak to us of the breaking of his body upon the cross. He gave it to his friends and said: "Take and eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

He took the wine, work of our human hands, gift of our earth; and he gave thanks to God. He poured out the wine to speak to us of the pouring out of his blood. He gave it to his friends saying: "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you and for all creation for the forgiveness of sins. Every time you drink of the wine, do this in remembrance of me."

Let us remember the gift of Jesus and his life that flows through our lives. As we take our tentative first steps towards Jerusalem, as we are marked as his companions, we remember that mystery known as faith:

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

God made known in Jesus Christ, hear our prayer. And send your holy spirit upon us and upon this table. May this sacrament remind us of your goodness within us and draw us more closely to each other and to the mission of your Beloved. Lift our hearts in hope and stir our imaginations to realize the vision of new birth, the fulfillment of the yearning of the earth.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all time and possibility are yours in unity with the Maker and the Spirit.

And now, as Christ taught, we 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, **Communion in Christ's body once broken.**

Let your Church be the wheat which bears its fruit in dying.

If we have died with him, we shall live with him.

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.

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:

We are a people loved by God. We will live as signs of this love. We are a people blessed with hope. We will live in light of this hope. May the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the courage of the Spirit, strengthen our faith and set us loose to share God's love with all. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Take Time To Be Holy

Take time to be holy, speak oft with the Lord;

Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.

Make friends with God's children, help those who are weak,

Forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;

Spend much time in secret, with Jesus alone.

By looking to Jesus, like Him you shall be;

Your friends in you conduct His likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy, let Him be your Guide;

And run not before Him, whatever betide.

In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,

And, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word.

Take time to be holy, be calm in your soul,
Each thought and each motive beneath His control.
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,
You soon shalt be fitted for service above.

Dismissal:

Let us go out into the world to love and serve God by loving and serving others. **Thanks be to God.**

Parish Notices and Announcements

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

World: The Anglican Church of Canada

Diocese: -Sydney Mines/ Baddeck

Trinity Church- Sydney Mines, NS

-Neil's Harbour with Ingonish, Cape Breton

St. Andrew - Neil's Harbour

St. John – Ingonish

Read Your Bible:

Mon- Zechariah 1:1-17

Tue- Zechariah 1:18-2:13

Wed- Zechariah 3

Thu- Genesis 15:1-16

Fri- Luke 13:22-35

Sat- Psalm 27

Sun- Philippians 3:12-4:1

Next Sunday's Readings: Gen 15:1-12, 17-18; Ps 27; Phil 3:17—4:1; Lk 13:31-35 or Lk 9:28-36.

What's Happening in the Parish- What Do We Need to Know?

- **Choir Practice:** Our next choir practice will be Tue Mar 11th, 7pm @ Christ Church.

- **Wednesdays, during Lent:** Group discussion of *Freeing Jesus* by Diana Butler Bass, followed by a short service of night prayer. Christ Church @7:00pm.

Our Lenten fish chowder take-out continues on Fridays during Lent. Please 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

Contact Information

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For pastoral emergencies, please contact Rev. Jane, directly.