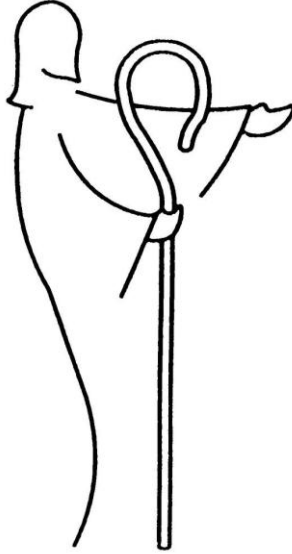


Sunday May 11th 2025
4th Sunday of Easter



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

Call to Worship:

Alleluia, Christ is risen! **He is risen, indeed – Alleluia**

With all those in heaven and on earth, let us say together:

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

Let us praise God with joyful hearts:

We come before the throne of God to worship day and night.

Called together by the Holy Spirit, let us rejoice and sing:

We will hunger and thirst no more; Christ brings us eternal life.

God of the ages, God of today, you are compassion; our cup overflows.

You are hope; you lead us into green pastures.

You are truth; you lead us beside quiet streams.

You are life; you restore our souls.

Morning, noon and night, O God, you are the source of our joy.

We gather to worship you as one family of your people,
honoring you as our Creator, trusting you as our Saviour,
celebrating you as the Spirit who gives us life. 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: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (CP # 322)

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall.

**Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him, crown him, crown him
crown him Lord of all.**

**Hail him the heir of David's line,
Whom David Lord did call
The God incarnate, life divine
And crown him, crown him, crown him,
Crown him Lord of all.**

**Let every tongue and every tribe,
delivered from the fall,
to Christ all majesty ascribe,
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
Crown him Lord of all.**

**Oh, that with heaven's sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
Lift high the universal song
and crown him, crown him, crown him,
Crown him Lord of all.**

The Collect:

Eternal God, from whose gentle hands none can snatch us away: give us faith to believe that we are known and loved with a passion strong enough to bring the whole world back to you; through Jesus Christ, who is one with you, the Source of life. **Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination:

God of wisdom, as we listen to your Word recorded by generations of your people, fill us with understanding by the power of your Holy Spirit. Reveal the mysteries of faith to us, so that we may grow in faithfulness, following Jesus, your Living Word. **Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word:

The First Reading: A Reading from the Book of Acts (9:36-43)

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

The Second Reading: Psalm 23

What is the Lord, your God, like in your life?

The Lord is my shepherd.

And how does that shepherd care for you?

I lack nothing. I want for nothing. I have everything I truly need.

How else does that shepherd care for you?

God makes me lie down in green pastures.

God leads me beside quiet waters.

**God encourages me to rest, to take time out of my busy life –
to know that it's ok to just BE and not always have to DO.**

That sounds lovely and peaceful and restful – an oasis in our frantic world.

Yes! God refreshes my soul.

But what happens when you have to get moving?

God guides me along the right paths.

Why does God do that?

For God name's sake. Because God's name is LOVE; and I am beloved.

What does this mean to you?

Even though I walk through the darkest valley ...

even though the world might be scary and people might be anxious....

I will fear no evil, for God is with me;

God's rod and God's staff, they comfort me.

In God, I find protection and learning that leads me through the dark places.

How does the shepherd show you that you are beloved?

God prepares a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

God anoints my head with oil; my cup overflows.

God is abundance; God is healing. God is love.

And what is the deep knowing you take from all of this?
**Surely goodness and mercy will 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 (10:22-30)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Sermon

Easter Creed (Andreas Wagner):

We believe in the God of Easter morning

Who awakes us from our darkest dreams

And leads us into the light of a new day,

Who meets our pessimism with the stunning hope

Of angelic proclamation.

We believe in the God of Easter Day

Who beats us to the obstacles in our lives

And empties the dark tomb for us;

Who appears in surprising ways when we least expect it;

Walking with us on our detours.

We believe in the God of Easter evening

Who breaks into the prisons of our world and our minds,

Holding us in our fear and bringing peace.

And we believe in the risen Christ who meets us

with wounds on his hands and feet;

Who grants us his spirit,

Sending us out to bring Peace to the world. 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 'Direct our
hearts, O God' with 'to love you more and more'.*

Confession & Absolution:

Call to Confession

Merciful God, we confess we stray from your ways like lost sheep; we follow the devices and desires of our own hearts, ignoring the needs of others and seeking more for ourselves. We judge ourselves more generously than others and fail to offer others the forgiveness we seek from you. Forgive the ways we betray your love, and return us to your paths of truth and mercy.

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.

Words of Forgiveness:

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

Celebrations:

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: The King of Love My Shepherd Is (CP # 520)

1. The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

2. Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth

3. 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.

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

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

The Eucharist

Prayer over the Gifts:

In the Easter season, we celebrate God's most precious gift to us in Christ's dying and his rising. As we present our offering, may our generosity reflect God's goodness to us, and the hope we have in Christ Jesus, even in these troubled times.

Generous God, thank you for all we have received from you in Christ and in creation; your generosity to us overflows. Bless the gifts we bring and use them and us in the service of your reign of justice and peace, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Pattern and our Purpose. 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 died with you on the cross. **Now we are raised to new life.**
We were buried in your tomb. **Now we share in your resurrection.**
Live in us -- **that we may live in you.**

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. People are invited to sit while awaiting Communion

Communion Music: The Lord's My Shepherd (CP# 519)

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:

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of 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:

May the Great Shepherd gather you in his arms, carry you close to his heart and watch over you always. May his rod and his staff defend you, guide you in paths of righteousness, protect you in the valleys of life and lead you in the way everlasting, now and forever, Amen.

Closing Hymn: What Wondrous Love Is This (CP # 400 v 1,3,4)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing.

To God and to the Lamb who is the great "I AM,"
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on
And when from death I'm free I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing his love for me
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
And through eternity I'll sing on.

Dismissal:

Let us go out as people open to the way of the Christ -- walking in the footsteps
of Jesus. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

Parish Notices and Announcements - see insert at back of church

Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 11:1-18 (or alt. Lev 19:9-18); Ps 148 (or alt. Ps 24:1-6); Rev 21:1-6; Jn 13:31-35

***** On Sunday May 18, there will be ONE PARISH SERVICE at Christ Church at 10:00am**

***** On Sunday May 25, there will be ONE PARISH SERVICE at St. George's at 10:00am. THIS is a special musical sing-a-long service for all ages.**

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

- **Choir Practice:** Our next practice will be Tue May 13th 7pm @ Christ Church.

Contact Information

Parish Phone: (902) 883-2898; **Email:** jane.magrath@gmail.com

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