Sunday September 20th 2026

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Season of Creation

Modified Celtic Morning Prayer

Our Mission

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

Sunday Morning Worship

10:00 St. George's Church: 1089 Highway 277, Dutch Settlement

Parish Clergy

Rev'd Dr. Jane Magrath
Rev'd Patty McKenna

Lay Team

Felicity Jeppesen, Heather Smith, Carolyn McNally, Joanna Lundrigan

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

Opening Sentence: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be God's Kingdom, now and forever. **Amen.**

Gathering *(said responsively):*

The world belongs to God
the earth and all its people
Love and faith come together
justice and peace join hands
If Christ's disciples keep silent
these stones would shout aloud.
Open our lips, O God,
and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Our Place in the World:

Creating God, Maker of all: **be with us this day**
Jesus Christ, Servant of the poor: **be with us this day**
Holy Spirit, Breath of life: **be with us this day**

Penitential Rite:

Holy God, maker of all: **have mercy on us.**
Jesus Christ, servant of the poor: **have mercy on us.**
Holy Spirit, breath of life: **have mercy on us.**

At the centre of our faith is the belief
that God's goodness is at the heart of humanity,
planted more deeply than all that is wrong.
Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.
(*silence for reflection*)
We have wounded your love: **O God, heal us.**
We stumble in the darkness: **Light of the world transfigure us.**
We forget that we are your home: **Spirit of God, dwell in us.**

Eternal Spirit, living God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you,
to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us.
Living flame burn into us, cleansing wind, blow through us,
fountain of water, well up within us,
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

Hear the words of Jesus, words that we can trust:
"Don't be afraid, your sins are forgiven. I love you. Come and follow me".

A Prayer for God's Help:

Move among us O God; give us life.
Let your people rejoice in you.
Make our hearts clean within us.
Renew us in mind and spirit.
Give us again the joy of your help.
With your spirit of freedom, sustain us.

The Peace:

The Peace of Christ be always with you
And also with you

Exchanging of the Peace

Opening Hymn: O God, Beyond All Grace and Form (CP#412)

O God beyond all grace and form, you willed it that creation's night
Should blaze, and chaos still it's storm, and birth a universe of light
All things below, all things above are formed of your eternal love.

The glory of the galaxies, the beauty of a baby's hand
The thundering of the restless seas, the glory of the forest's stand
All things below, all things above are formed of your eternal love.

Of this great love all loves are born, of self, of neighbour, and of earth.
By love shall night be turned to morn, and death shall never conquest birth.
All things below, all things above are formed of God's eternal love.

Collect of the Day:

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth,
and ourselves in your image.
Teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and to serve you with reverence and thanksgiving;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word:

The 1st Reading: A Reading from the Book of Exodus (16:2-15)

(After the reading)

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

The Psalm (105: 1-6 & 37-45)*:*

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has done.
[2] **Sing to him, sing praise to him;**
tell of all his wonderful acts.
[3] Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
[4] **Look to the Lord and his strength;**
seek his face always.
[5] Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced;
[6] **You his servants, the descendants of Abraham,**
his chosen ones, the children of Jacob
He brought out Israel, laden with silver and gold,
and from among their tribes no one faltered.
[38] **Egypt was glad when they left,**
because dread of Israel had fallen on them.
[39] He spread out a cloud as a covering,
and a fire to give light at night.
[40] **They asked, and he brought them quail;**
he fed them well with the bread of heaven.
[41] He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
it flowed like a river in the desert.
[42] **For he remembered his holy promise**
given to his servant Abraham.
[43] He brought out his people with rejoicing,
his chosen ones with shouts of joy;
[44] **he gave them the lands of the nations,**
and they fell heir to what others had toiled for—
[45] **that they might keep his precepts**
and observe his laws. Praise the Lord. Amen

The Gospel:

In Thanks for the Scripture Readings:

For the word of God in Scripture,
for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to Matthew (20:1-16):
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
(After the reading)
The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Homily: *Heather Smith*

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

We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.
We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.
We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place:
into action, into vulnerability, and into the streets.
We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge; and to be used by the Spirit
for God's new community of hope. Amen.

Prayers of the Community: *We pray for the church, the world, our community, and those known to us, remembering especially those in particular need. We respond to the petition,* 'Lord in your mercy' *with,* **' hear our prayer'**.

Offertory Hymn: For the Healing of the Nations (CP # 576)

For the healing of the nations,
God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us, Father, into freedom,
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned:
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.

Offertory Prayer:

God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our thanksgiving and as a sign of our concern for those in need, including all our fellow creatures on planet Earth. Amen

The Lord's Prayer:

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.

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.

Announcements*: the people may be seated for the Parish announcements*

Closing Responses:

In work and worship: **God is with us**
Gathered and scattered: **God is with us**
Now and always: **God is with us**
Christ be with me. **Christ within me.**
Christ behind me. **Christ before me.**
Christ beside me. **Christ to win me.**
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me. **Christ above me.**
Christ in quiet. **Christ in danger.**
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger. Amen

Blessing:

May the strength of God, the Source of all being,
the wisdom of God, the Eternal Word,
and the joy of God, the divine Spirit
abide with us this day. **Amen**

Closing Hymn: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (CP# 565)

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty,
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield;
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Bear me through the swelling current,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

Closing Sentence:

Let us go forth in the light of the Trinity: to create, to serve, and to love.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Parish Notices and Announcements:

What Do We Need to Know?

Next Sunday's Readings: EXODUS 17:1-7; PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16; PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13; MATTHEW 21:23-32

Events this Week and Upcoming:

- **Church Calendar Orders** will be taken until Sept 20. The cost is $7 ea. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church or contact Felicity at 902 259 2506.

- Choir Practice: Thu 24 Sep @ 7pm

- Saturday Music Jam: The next jam will be Sat Oct 3rd, 1-3pm at St. George's

- Food Bank Sunday: Our next Food Bank Collection Sunday is Oct 4th.

- Learning programs: The East Hants Community Learning Center has asked us to pass along the following information**:** there are free learning programs available through East Hants Community Learning. These include technology classes for seniors, accessing online trainings for the workplace, English classes for newcomers, and assistance preparing for tests to get high school equivalency. They offer these programs out of classrooms in the old school building at 224 Highway 214 in Elmsdale. Anyone over the age of 18 that is no longer in school is most welcome to join.

Read Your Bible:

Mon- Matthew 9:9-17	Tue- Matthew 18:21-35	Wed- Matthew 19:1-15
Thu- Matthew 19:16-30	Fri- Matthew 20:1-19	Sat- Psalm 119:97-104
	Sun- Numbers 20:1-13	

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:

World: ***The Anglican Church of Australia***

Diocese: ***-St. John's, Wolfville (Horton), Nova Scotia***

-Cornwallis, Nova Scotia

- ***St. John's, Port Williams***
- ***St. Thomas', Kingsport***

-Digby, Nova Scotia

- ***Trinity, Digby***
- ***Church of the Nativity, Sandy Cove***

Contact Information:

Parish Phone: (902) 883-2898 **Email:** parishoflantz@outlook.com

Facebook: Anglican Parish of Lantz **Website:** www.parishoflantz.ca

While Rev. Jane is off, please contact Rev. Patty for pastoral emergencies @ 902-240-3332