



Welcome to St. John's, on the last Sunday of the liturgical year – The Reign of Christ!

Recently, Canada received a State visit by His Royal Highness, The Prince of Wales and the Dutchess of Cornwall. While Canadians gave the royal couple a warm welcome, there was much discussion about the relevance of the monarchy in 21st century. The debate will continue for a long time.

When Holly and I visited England a few years ago, we, like most visitors had the opportunity to visit the royal palaces. They were magnificent in their splendour. We saw the crown jewels, elegant robes and jewellery. No wonder people have the image of royalty living in splendour, and enjoying the benefits of status and power.

Jesus presents an altogether different picture of kingship. He commands no army that could free him from imprisonment; he has no status, no power or wealth to call on in his time of crisis. He rejects those categories of influence in order to proclaim that all who follow God's voice are royalty in a realm of service where the first shall be last and the last first. The command to his followers is to wash feet, serve others – not to seek power and riches.

Christ, the King attracts, because of his concern for all those he meets. He does not lord it over people; instead he chooses to walk with us, touching our hearts with words that affirm our own royalty as the people of God.

The reign of Christ is present today in our lives whenever the truth is proclaimed that all people have dignity and when the poor have the good news preached to them. This timeless message of kingship is given to all who long to live in the love of a God who identifies with each of us. Have a great week.

Michael+

St. John's Anglican Church

Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Rector: The Rev. Michael H. Mitchell

*To all who mourn or need comfort ,
 To all who are weary and need rest,
 To all who seek friendship,
 To all who desire to grow in relationship with God
 To all who yearn to pray,
 To all who need a Saviour, And to all whoever will worship,
 This Church of St. John's opens wide its doors
 and in the name of Christ our Lord, says - WELCOME.*

LAY MINISTERS TODAY
Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Sheila Morris, Sharon Green, Roger Demone
Lectors: 8:30 am Roxie & Ben Smith
10:30 am Joyce Buckmaster, Sandra MacDonald
Server: Alex Knickle
Sidespersons: Penny & Graham Pratt

NEXT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29th
Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Velvet Eliuk, Holly Mitchell, Susan MacMillan
Lectors: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer, Laura Roblee
10:30 am Sunday School children
Server: Brooklyn Green
Sidespersons: Penny & Graham Pratt

The Holy Eucharist

Please join in singing today's hymns, together with the Sung Setting of the Eucharist "The Mass of Creation" by Marty Haugen.

Prelude: A Slow Air - Howells

Announcements

Processional Hymn #383 Jesus Shall Reign Where're the Sun

Please stand and join in singing the Processional Hymn.

The Gathering of the Community

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

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Almighty God,
All **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.**

Glory To God - Sung

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;**

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant Let us pray. *The community prays silently. The celebrant says the collect.*

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King, grant that the peoples of the earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

A READING FROM THE SECOND BOOK OF SAMUEL

Now these are the last words of David: The oracle of David, son of Jesse, the oracle of the man whom God exalted, the anointed of the God of Jacob, the favourite of the Strong One of Israel: The spirit of the Lord speaks through me, his word is upon my tongue. The God of Israel has spoken, the Rock of Israel has said to me: One who rules over people justly, ruling in the fear of God, is like the light of morning, like the sun rising on a cloudless morning, gleaming from the rain on the grassy land. Is not my house like this with God? For he has made with me an everlasting covenant, ordered in all things and secure. Will he not cause to prosper all my help and my desire? But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away; for they cannot be picked up with the hand; to touch them one uses an iron bar or the shaft of a spear. And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot. **2 SAMUEL 23:1-7**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM REFRAIN



Lord, go up to the place of your rest, you and the ark of your ho - li-ness

Lord, remember David, and all the hardships he endured; How he swore an oath to the Lord and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob: "I will not come under the roof of my house, nor climb up into my bed; **R**

I will not allow my eyes to sleep, nor let my eyelids slumber; Until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob." **R**

"The ark! We heard it was in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jearim. Let us go to God's dwelling place; let us fall upon our knees before his footstool." **R**

Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place, you and the ark of your strength. Let your priests be clothed with righteousness; let your faithful people sing with joy. For your servant David's sake, do not turn away the face of your anointed. **R**

The Lord has sworn an oath to David; in truth, he will not break it: "A son,

the fruit of your body will I set upon your throne. If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them, their children will sit upon your throne for evermore." **R** PSALM 132:1-19

A READING FROM THE REVELATION TO JOHN

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty. REVELATION 1: 4B-8 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn #430 Will You Come and Follow Me

HOLY GOSPEL

Reader The Lord be with you. *People* And also with you.

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO JOHN *People* Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." JOHN 18:33-37

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles Creed

Let us join with Christians everywhere as we confess our faith:

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.

The Prayers of the People

Please kneel or sit for the prayers. **Response:** Christ the King, hear our prayer.

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy;
he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table.
Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

Silence is kept.

All 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

Celebrant

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 Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace *All stand, and the celebrant addresses the people.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The assembly greets one another in the name of the Lord.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn #275 O What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be

We welcome to the Assembly, members of the Sunday School, students and teachers. Representatives of the parish present the gifts of bread and wine for the Eucharist. Each one as they are able, makes an offering to the Lord for the needs and responsibilities of the Church to be placed on the altar. As the gifts are received, all sing:

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make: be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

The Prayer over the Gifts *Read by celebrant.*

Eternal God, by your grace you have raised us up and enthroned us with Christ in the heavenly realms. Receive all we offer you this day, and lead us in those good works for which you have created us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer I

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord. You exalted him as Lord of all creation that he might present to you an eternal and universal kingdom: a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love, and peace. Therefore at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow as heaven and earth proclaim the glory of your name. We praise you Lord, with all the angels, in their song of joy.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power, God of 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. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy God, source of life and goodness, all creation rightly gives you praise. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son Jesus Christ, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He healed the sick and ate and drank with outcasts and sinners; he opened the eyes of the blind and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and to those in need. In all things he fulfilled your gracious will. On the night he freely gave himself to death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life for evermore.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith. *(Sung)*
**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.
Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Recalling his death, proclaiming his resurrection, and looking for his coming again in glory, we offer you, Father, this bread and this cup. Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one holy people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. *People Amen. (Sung)*

The Lord's Prayer

That we might serve the Kingdom of God in word and deed, 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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The celebrant breaks the consecrated bread for distribution, and says:

"I am the bread of life," says the Lord.
"Whoever comes to me will never be hungry;
whoever believes in me will never thirst."

**All Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in him!**

The celebrant invites the people to share in communion and says,

The gifts of God for the People of God.

All Thanks be to God.

The Communion

**Jesus Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Jesus Bread of life, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Jesus Prince of Peace you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Jesus Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.**

The celebrant and people then receive communion.

If you have concerns about receiving the blood of Christ from the cup, please do not intinct (dipping the wafer into the cup), rather fold your arms over your breast, and the Eucharistic Minister will know you do not wish to receive the Wine.

The Anglican Church of Canada, welcomes to the Lord's table for Holy Communion all who are baptized and who wish to be nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ.

During Communion, hymns may be sung and silence may be kept.

Communion Hymn #634 Jesus Remember Me

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. *Standing, the community prays in silence.*

Almighty God, you have made us a royal priesthood in the kingdom of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Make known his victory through us, we pray, that all the world may see his light. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

Doxology

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 & Dismissal

We give thanks for Christ the King and commit ourselves to him and to one another in serving his Kingdom. May the blessing of God almighty, Father + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Recessional Hymn #278 Jerusalem the Golden

Postlude: Rejoice One and All - Quehl

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St. John's Anglican Church's Perplexing Christmas Star Pattern

At 7:30 pm on Thursday, Nov. 26, in the Scotiabank Theatre at Saint Mary's University, join Prof. David Turner for the Christmas public talk entitled "Lunenburg's Perplexing Christmas Star Pattern".

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS



It is the tradition at St. John's for parishioners to make a special contribution to the church in memory of Departed Loved Ones at Christmas. The **Discretionary Fund** to help local people in need is extremely low in funding. Donations are greatly appreciated for this fund. As well gifts may be made to the **Memorial Fund**, the Altar Guild for the **Flower Fund**, the **Food Bank** or another Fund of your choice. Kindly contact Mary at the Parish Office no later than December 11th so that acknowledgements can be included in our Christmas bulletins. Again this year we are placing a limited number of **Wreaths** in the church for \$25.00 in Memory of Loved Ones.

FOOD BANK & DISCRETIONARY FUND

As many are aware, use of Food Banks and other emergency help from churches across the country has increased this year. Please remember the poor and needy when you come to church by bringing a food bank item or gift of money (Income Tax Receipt is issued for monetary donations).

The Rector's Discretionary Fund is in need of support at this time of the year. Thank you for your generous support of the needy.

ADVENT

Next Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, marks the beginning of a new liturgical year in the church. Advent comprises a four-week period of patient waiting, looking forward to the celebration of the birth of Christ.

Because Christmas has become so 'commercialized' and has been almost 'taken over' as a secular holiday, the period of Advent is even more important than ever. Through our Sunday Scripture readings and celebration of the lighting of the Advent Wreath, we are given a unique opportunity to exercise the virtue of patient waiting.

As the people of Israel patiently awaited the birth of the Messiah, and God's plan for 'peace and goodwill' upon this earth, so too, we join with Christians all over the planet, in patient expectation of the coming of Christ at the end of time, and the coming of Christ each and everyday of our lives.

It is so important that we resist the 'secularized glamour' of Christmas, which has 'profit and money making' at its root. Christmas is our feast and a feast for all who hunger after truth. Christ is the light of the World! Let us use this season of Advent well, to patiently prepare our hearts.



ST. NICHOLAS

CHECK THIS ONE - The Sunday School will be hosting a time of **fellowship and refreshments** following the 10:30 am service at the Parish Hall in celebration of St Nicholas on Sunday, December 6th. Everyone is invited to join in the fun.

The Sunday School children will be putting up the Jesse Tree on the 1st Sunday in Advent, November 29th.

WHITE GIFT SUNDAY

Each year members of the parish give something special that will go to some needy person at Christmas. The Salvation Army which administers the Christmas Daddies program requests that the gifts not be wrapped. **White Gift Sunday** will be held on December 6th. Parishioners are asked to bring gifts suitable for a boy, girl, adult male or adult female.

___The **Mission to Seafarers Christmas Shoe Box Program** helps to make Christmas a little more special for each seafarer when away from home at this special time of year. It would be appreciated if members of this parish would support this program again by preparing a shoe box sized gift that includes a woolen hat, scarf, gloves or mitts, socks, men's toiletries such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush and disposable razor, playing cards, hard candy and a small memento of your community or area. A Christmas card with your return address is optional. The top and bottom of the box can be wrapped separately. You can drop off your shoe box gifts at the church or Parish Office by December 9th.

ACW Christmas Salad Supper & Sale

The annual ACW Christmas Salad Supper & Sale will be held this Friday, November 27th from 4 pm - 6 pm. Adults \$8.00 and children 12 and under \$4.00. Tickets can be purchased by calling Sharon Green at 634-8269 or the Parish Office at 634-4994. Donations of crafts and food to the bake table are gratefully accepted.

The **Ladies Guild** have prepared **Christmas Cranberries** once again this year. They will be available for sale at the ACW Christmas Salad Supper on November 27th and after the 8:30 and 10:30 church services in December.

Church calendars are \$4.00 and available from Hazel Oliver 634-3236.

TRIP TO ITALY - 2010 with Rev. Michael and Holly Mitchell

To learn more about this exciting trip, join us for a tour orientation meeting on Saturday, November 21st, from 2PM - 4PM at St. John's Parish Hall. Reserve a place by November 30th, and enjoy a \$300.00 discount.

Youth Ministry News - Please note that this event has been postponed to January 22, 2009. Join us in the Parish Hall at 7 pm, for a night of pizza, games and activities. Bring along a friend and have lots of fun. This is open for all the youth of our parish, 12 and older. For more information contact Melissa Risser. See you there.

Lunenburg Community Christmas

The second annual Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and entertainment will be on Christmas day at the Lunenburg Fire Hall.

The **Royal Canadian College of Organists** presents its annual **Carol Festival at All Saints Cathedral on Monday, December 7, at 7 p.m.** (Snow date: December 8) The unofficial launch of the festive season presents local choirs (including members of St. John's) with individual and massed selections of favorite Advent and Christmas music combined with congregational carols in concert with pipe organ and brass ensemble. A free will offering supports RCCO educational projects.

Season passes for **Symphony on the Shore** are on sale at Fulton's Pharmacy or through Ruth at the office in the church hall. (634-9994; stjartsalliance@eastlink.ca). The series of 3 concerts is presented by the St. Cecilia Concert Society. A series pass is \$60, single tickets are \$25. Student tickets are available at the door for the special admission price of \$10. The 2009-10 series opens with a Maritime Pops concert on Saturday, November 28 at 7:30 pm with a featured presentation by MIR: **A Soldier's Carol** led by conductor Martin MacDonald. A special reception will follow in the church hall following this opening concert.

Halifax progressive pop trio MIR joins Symphony Nova Scotia for a holiday concert unlike any other. Performing the original, intricately arranged songs from their EP A Soldier's Carol, as well as samplings from their extensive repertoire, MIR presents a concert of hope, faith, and brotherhood.

Musique Royale presents **A King's Christmas** with Kings College Chapel Choir directed by Paul Halley on **Friday, December 11 at 7:30 pm.** Narrator is Neil Robertson with special guest soprano Suzie LeBlanc. The concert is repeated at All Saints Cathedral in Halifax on Sunday, December 13 at 7:30 pm. The performance will be recorded by CBC for broadcast on Christmas Day (Radio 1 and 2).

St. Cecilia Concert Society presents '**Bowls of Cheer**' an afternoon of seasonal storytelling and music with Blue Engine String Quartet and actress Shelley Thompson on Sunday, December 20 at 2 pm

Music and Meditation ~ Wednesdays at noon throughout Advent. Our guests will be Chris Norman, flute (December 2); Pamela Rogers, mezzo-soprano (December 9); Ernst Family Singers (December 16) and Judith Burdett (December 23)

The Lunenburg Chorale, Women's Chorus presents '*Coming to Christmas*' directed by Jane Kristenson with accompanist, Heather Kristenson. Sunday, November 29 at Central United Church, Lunenburg and Monday, November 30 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mahone Bay both at 7:30 pm. Tickets are available at the door or from Rosemary Smith.

The Pilgrimage of the 1st Christmas Nativity Scene at the Bandstand and Lighting of the Trees will take place on Friday, November 27 at 7 pm. Starting at the Academy and proceeding down Lincoln Street to the Bandstand, led by a handsome donkey and Pastor Steven Hiltz plus many of his church family. Treats will follow at Central United Church Hall.