



**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.*



Welcome to Rev. Reg MacDonald our celebrant and preacher for today. I am pleased to announce that following discussion and approval by the Wardens and Parish Council, Reg has been appointed an Honorary Assistant Priest in our Parish by our Diocesan Bishop.

In this capacity, he will offer liturgical and pastoral support to myself and the parish, assisting by times with Services and assisting the Rector by visiting the sick and bringing Home Communions. Reg brings a wealth of experience to the parish and we are grateful that he is willing and able to assist the ministry of the Rector and the lay ministers of the parish.

On this second Sunday Advent, we meet John the Baptist calling out a message of repentance to clear away the obstacles in our lives that distance us from God. There have been tremendous amounts of money spent to build better roads, to have better communications, but there still remain a lot of obstacles among people and even nations to communicate with one another.

In the same way there are still many obstacles to the coming of our Saviour in our world. People put up roadblocks and we have to remove them, so that God's mercy and freedom, God's justice and love may reach all people. Ah, if only all could encounter the Saviour and experience God's salvation in Christ and at work in us too! We ask Jesus our Lord in this Eucharist that we may be the road to him and that we may bring him near to people. Have a great week.  
*Michael+*

**PREACH IN OUR WILDERNESS**

To John the Baptist

O brave wilderness voice, prophet of the Highest,  
come among our markets and consuming passions and rebuke with your cry  
our modern addictions and frantic fashions.

O lonely, rough-hewn soul, speaker of hard truths,  
axe our mad, fruitless boasts and viperous displays;  
call us to that repentance which we have deftly dodged under pious cliches.

O smoother of crude ways, mover of black mountains,  
tread down our pampered pride and cultured discontent;  
straighten our twisted days until each childlike hope skips to meet the Advent.

From "Beyond Words" © B Prewer & JBCE 1995

# The Holy Eucharist in Traditional Language

## Announcements

*St. John's Ringers - O Come, O Come Emmanuel – arr. Geschke*

**Processional Hymn #89** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle** (See Blue Insert)

**Special children's Presentation** "The Angel Gabriel" - Velvet Eliuk

### LIKE A CHILD

LIKE A CHILD



1. like a child love would send to re - veal and to mend like a  
2. like a child we will meet rag - ged clothes dirt - y feet like a  
3. like a child born to pray and to show us the way like a



1. child and a friend Je - sus comes like a child we may find claim - ing  
2. child on the street Je - sus comes like a child we once knew com - ing  
3. child here to stay Je - sus comes like a child we re - ceive all that



1. heart soul and mind like a child strong and kind Je - sus comes  
2. back in - to view like a child born a - new Je - sus comes  
3. love can con - ceive like a child we be - lieve Je - sus comes

## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* Let us pray that we may live in a spirit of hope.

Almighty God, who sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people to welcome the Messiah, inspire us, the ministers and stewards of your truth, to turn our disobedient hearts to you, that when the Christ shall come again to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before his glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

# The Proclamation of the Word

## READING FROM THE BOOK OF BARUCH

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

BARUCH 5:1-9

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle of Zechariah



Pre - pare! \_\_\_\_\_ Pre - pare! \_\_\_\_\_ Pre - pare the way of the Lord!

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, born of the house of his servant David. Through his holy prophets he promised of old, that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant. **R**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham, to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. **R**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. **R**

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. **Amen. R**

CANTICLE 19, BAS (LUKE 1:68-79)

## A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

I thank my God every time I remember you, -constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, -because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. -I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. -It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel. -For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight -to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, -having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn #94** Wait For the Lord - *Repeat as needed.*

## Gospel

The Lord be with you. *People* **And with thy Spirit.**

### THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO LUKE



In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, -as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; -and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

LUKE 3:1-6

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## Sermon

**The Nicene Creed** *United with all Christians, we confess our faith,*  
**I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds, God, of God; Light, of Light; very God, of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; through whom all things were made:**

**who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day he rose again according to the scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father.**

**And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the prophets.**

**And I believe one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.**

**I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins.**

**And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**The Prayers of the People** *Please kneel or sit for the prayers.*

**Response: Come, Lord Jesus, come!**

## Confession and Absolution

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to almighty God.

*Silence is kept. The celebrant and people say together,*

**Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things and judge of all people: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word and deed, Against thy divine majesty. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: + have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting 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.

**And with thy spirit.**

# The Celebration of the Eucharist

## The Preparation of the Gifts

### Offertory Hymn #106 There's a Voice in the Wilderness

*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.*

### The Prayer over the Gifts *Read by celebrant.*

God our strength, we are nothing without you. Receive all we offer you this day as you sustain us with your mercy; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And with thy Spirit.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. **It is meet and right so to do.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world; that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name; evermore praising thee and saying:

All # 683 CP

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.  
Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord:  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Priest*

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, who didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the body and blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

All **We praise thee, we bless thee, we thank thee,  
and we pray to thee, Lord our God.**

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this holy communion may worthily receive the most precious body and blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

In joyful expectation let us pray in confidence to our Father,  
**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 all say:*  
**We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord,  
Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great  
mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs  
under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is  
always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat  
the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his blood,  
That we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.**

## The Communion

- Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:  
have mercy upon us.
- Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:  
have mercy upon us.
- Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world:  
grant us thy peace.

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

## Communion Hymn #107 'Prepare the Way of the Lord'

### The Prayer after Communion *Read by celebrant.*

Faithful God, we thank you for feeding us with this heavenly banquet. Help us always to hear the prophet's call to turn our hearts to you; 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

Be steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and untiring in love all the days of your life, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be amongst you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

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

## Recessional Hymn #111 Herald! Sound the Note of Judgement

**Postlude: Saviour of the Nations, Come – J. S. Bach**

### **LAY MINISTERS TODAY**

**Lay Readers: 8:30 am** Barbara Eisenhauer  
**10:30 am** Penny Pratt, Charlene Demone, Graham Pratt  
**Lectors: 8:30 am** Sandra & Ed Jordan  
**10:30 am** Eric Pottie, Christina Pottie  
**Sidespersons: 10:30 am** Fred & Hazel Oliver; **Server:** Eric Pottie

### **NEXT SUNDAY DECEMBER 13TH**

**Lay Readers: 8:30 am** Barbara Eisenhauer  
**10:30 am** Sharon Green, Roger Demone, Holly Mitchell  
**Lectors: 8:30 am** Gill Osmond, Shirley Woods  
**10:30 am** Grace & Ron Swan  
**Sidespersons: 10:30 am** Fred & Hazel Oliver; **Server:** Alex Knickle

## NOTICES

**ST. NICHOLAS - TODAY** - The Sunday School is hosting a time of **fellowship and refreshments** following the 10:30 am service at the Parish Hall in celebration of St Nicholas. Everyone is invited to join in the fun.

The Parish would like to thank the **Altar Guild** and **Ladies Chancel Guild** for their donation of bibles and literature for the Confirmation Class 2009. Well done ladies.

## 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

The **Ladies Guild** have prepared **Christmas Cranberries** once again this year. They will be available for sale after the 8:30 and 10:30 church services in December.

**Church Calendars for 2009** are now available for sale at \$4.00 each. Please contact Hazel Oliver at 634-3236.

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) Includes local choirs (with St. John's) singing favourite Advent and Christmas music combined with congregational carols with pipe organ and brass ensemble. A free will offering supports RCCO educational projects.

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. Tickets are \$20 (\$10 for students at the door) and are available at Fulton's Pharmacy or through Ruth at 634-9994

The **Symphony Nova Scotia concert with MIR** which took place at St. John's last evening was recorded by CBC in Halifax and will also be heard nationally (Radio 1 and 2) on Christmas Day.

Another special musical event follows our **Service of Lessons and Carols on December 20.** The service is at 10:30 am but you are invited back in the afternoon to enjoy an afternoon of seasonal storytelling and music with **Blue Engine String Quartet** and actress **Shelley Thompson.** Produced by Willpower Theatre in association with St. Cecilia Concert Series, this performance marries music composed and arranged by Chris Palmer for the Quartet with original short stories by Thompson, first commissioned by CBC Halifax. Palmer weaves Christmas music and popular songs from World War II into the first of these seasonal offerings, December 1945, which moves between a frozen Nova Scotian river and a French battlefield. *Bowls of Cheer*, the second story, is a light-hearted tale of Christmas mis-communications on a Maritime family farm at the turn of the century. Complimentary tickets are available to members of St. John's congregation. Please see Barbara or call 624-0506. It would be a pleasure to share both the Service of Lessons and Carols and the afternoon's presentation with you. A short carol sing will also be included in the afternoon performance.

**Music and Meditation** ~ Wednesdays at noon throughout Advent. Our series continues each Wednesday at noon throughout Advent. Coming up: Pamela Rogers, mezzo-soprano (December 9); Ernst Family Singers (December 16) and Judith Burdett (December 23). The public is cordially invited to attend these half hour presentations.

### A Concert For Christmas

The South Shore Chorale with the SSC Youth Ensemble, director John M. Scott and the Bridgewater Fire Department Band, director Wendell Eisener. Sharon Gow-Kinckle accompanies the Chorale. Features a meditative

Christmas medley for band and choir *Let All The World Sing.* Beautiful arrangements of motets, old-favourites and pieces by modern Canadian composers Healey Willan and Mark Sirett. **Saturday, December 12, St. John's Anglican Church, Lunenburg, 7:30 pm;** Sunday, December 13, Bridgewater United Church, Bridgewater 3:00 pm. Tickets available Fulton's Pharmacy, Lunenburg/ Sagor's Book Store, Bridgewater and from chorale and band members.

### 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. Today is **White Gift Sunday.** Parishioners are thanked for bringing gifts suitable for a boy, girl, adult male or adult female.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Sunday School Family Fun night is **Friday December 11th at 6 pm.** This is a night filled with fun for the whole family, yes Mom & Dad that means you too. We are going to have crafts, cookie decorating and some munchies.

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. The unsealed box could include 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 9<sup>th</sup>.

### 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL LUNENBURG COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

Christmas dinner and two hours of festivities take place on December 25 at 1 pm at Lunenburg Fire Hall. Seating is limited. Tickets cost \$10.00 and are available at Fulton's Pharmacy. Those needing a ride or more information, call Graham Pratt at 634-9260. Volunteers are needed for this event. Please call 640-2372 or email [marquise@eastlink.ca](mailto:marquise@eastlink.ca)

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** Pray for the Rt. Rev'd Lino Rodriguez Amaero - Mexico.

**Diocesan Cycle:** Pray for the Parish of Springhill with Joggins, Rev'd Brianna Andrews and Danny; Parish of Lantz, Rev'd David Fletcher and Kathy, Rev'd Patti McKenna, Assistant Priest, and Kenny.

**Local Ministerial:** The Congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Rev'd Kenneth Wild.

**Fisheries:** Adams & Knickle - **Cachalot I;** Ocean Choice - **Destiny**

**Have a blessed week and we look forward to welcoming you back next Sunday.** \_\_\_\_\_