



# 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.

## Rector's Message



Dear parishioners and friends, on this First Sunday after Christmas, we are delighted to welcome to St. John's Church, Pastor Vivian Roberts and our brothers and sisters from Zion Lutheran Church. It is a great delight for us to come together in common worship in this Season of Christmas. We have so much to rejoice over as we consider all that Christ does in our lives. Our being together is one more reason to give thanks and praise to God.

In the gospel lesson for today, Jesus asks his parents, Mary and Joseph: "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I had to be in my Father's house?" Even Joseph and Mary had still to learn and to grow in their faith. Like the Holy Family, our families and each of us have also to grow in the faith. Perhaps it is through painful trials like the one of Mary and Joseph that our faith may become mature. We too are asked: Did you not know...?

It is perhaps hard for us to imagine that Jesus, God's own Son, was really human, that he grew up not only physically but matured as a person and discovered little by little who he was. Of course, the whole Holy Family sought to do the will of God but we see Jesus affirm today that he has become aware that he is especially close to the Father and that God's loving will is all that matters. Did you not know . . .? What is it that the Lord is calling us to grow and mature in today as we come together to celebrate this Eucharist? Loving God, help us to become mature in your love. Have a great week.

Michael+

### LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Readers: **8:30 am** Barbara Eisenhauer  
**10:30 am** Sharon Green, Roger Demone, Eric Roberts  
Lectors: **8:30 am** Ben Smith, Laura Roblee  
**10:30 am**, Judy McPherson, Gary Chamberlain  
Server: Eric Pottie; Sidespersons: Viola Green, Mary Wagner

### NEXT SUNDAY JANUARY 3rd

Lay Readers: **8:30 am** Barbara Eisenhauer  
**10:30 am** Charlene Demone, Penny Pratt, Graham Pratt  
Lectors: **8:30 am** Sandra & Ed Jordan  
**10:30 am** Joyce Buckmaster, Graham Pratt; Server: Brooklyn Green  
Sidespersons: Ann Grandy, Carolyn White

# The Holy Eucharist

## Announcements and Welcome

*Please stand for Processional Hymn*

**Processional Hymn #123 "Once in Royal David's City"**

## 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.

*All* **And also with you.**

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,  
**May all the earth be filled with his glory.**

Light has sprung up for the righteous,  
**And joyful gladness for those who are true-hearted.**  
**Glory to God in the highest,**  
**And peace to his people on earth.**

Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God,  
you were before time began  
and came into the world to save us.  
**Blessed are you, Sun of righteousness.**

Blessed are you, Son of David; born to rule,  
you received gifts from the wise men.  
Blessed are you, Son of Man; baptized by John,  
you saved us from ourselves.  
Blessed are you, heavenly King;  
teaching and preaching, healing and comforting,  
you proclaimed the kingdom.  
**Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

With all the voices of heaven  
we celebrate the coming of our Saviour.  
**Let heaven and earth shout their praise.**

With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.  
**Praise and honour and glory to you, O Lord most high.**

**The Collect of the Day** *Read by celebrant.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray with joy filled hearts.



God our Father, we give you all thanks and praise that you chose for your Son a human family. Through the prayers and example of Mary and Joseph, may we too learn to make room for Jesus in our life, that he may grow up in us day after day and make us more like him. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen.**

## The Proclamation of the Word

### A READING FROM THE FIRST BOOK OF SAMUEL

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

I SAMUEL 2:18-20, 26

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

### PSALM 148 - REFRAIN 'O, come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.'

Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host. Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. **R**

Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created. He made them stand fast for ever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away. **R**

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps; Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will; Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds; **R**

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; Young men and maidens, old and young together. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven. **R**

He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. **R**

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

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were

called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. **COLOSSIANS 3:12-17**  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual Hymn #163 "Good Christians All Rejoice"

#### Gospel

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

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



Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his

understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour. The Gospel of Christ. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.** **LUKE 2:41-52**

#### Sermon

Pastor Vivian Roberts

**The Apostles Creed** Let us confess the faith of our baptism:

**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: Lord Jesus, 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.*

Most merciful God,  
*All* **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.**

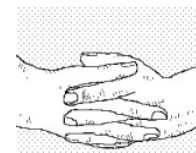
*Celebrant*

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.

**And also with you.** *The assembly greets one another.*



#### The Celebration of the Eucharist

**The Preparation of the Gifts**

**Offertory Hymn #145 "Good King Wenceslas"**

*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 Father, you invite us to share the family table of Jesus your Son. May the food and drink he gives us change us into gifts to one another, that we may become each other's bread and wine, life and joy. Let serving love and respect be our offering to one another, today and tomorrow and every day, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer #S 3

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.**

### Preface for Christmas

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the mystery of his incarnation was made perfect man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; in him we have seen a new and radiant vision of your glory. 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.**

We praise you, merciful Father, not as we ought, but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son, in order that the world might be saved through him.

He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed, reaching out to the lost. Betrayed, reviled, and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever. In his offering of himself, he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon you have made us worthy to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them, and said, "Take and 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."

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

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice, and rejoicing in his victory. Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this cup we may partake of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving. May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with love, and strengthened in our will to serve others; and make of our lives, we pray, a pure and holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

In joyful hope, we join with Christians everywhere, saying:

**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:*

We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light  
and life.**

*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.*

The body of Christ (given for you). The blood of Christ (shed for you).  
*The communicant responds each time, Amen.*

This community of faith,  
welcomes to the Lord's table  
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 Hymns: #122 "In The Bleak Mid Winter"  
#119 "Silent Night"**

### **Prayer after Communion**

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

Source of truth and joy, may we who have received the gift of divine life always follow the way of your Son. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen**

### **Doxology**

Glory to God,

**All 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 may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit bless you now and always. **Amen.**

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

**Recessional Hymn # 154 'Joy to the World'**



During a children's sermon, the priest asked the children what "Amen" means. A little boy raised his hand and said, "It means 'Tha-tha-tha-That's all folks!'"

### **PRAYER FOR CHILDREN - My Home And Family**

Please bless my brother/sister - even when we fight,  
bless my bedroom - where I feel safe at night.  
God bless my mum and bless my dad -  
even when I'm naughty and they get mad.



Please bless my pets and each wild animal,  
bless birds in our garden, and don't forget the zoo.  
Bless each of my friends and my teachers at school,  
Please even bless the bullies who think they are so cool.  
And now please bless me too, and keep me close to you. Amen.

### **A Prayer for Parents**

Lord, grant us children,  
who will be strong enough to know when they are weak;  
who will be unbending in defeat, yet humble and gentle in victory.  
Grant us children, whose wishes will not take the place of their deeds;  
children who will know you and know themselves.  
Lead them, we pray you, not in the path of ease and comfort,  
but rather in the path of difficulties and challenges.

Grant us children,  
whose hearts will be clear, and whose goals will be high;  
children who will master themselves before seeking to master others.  
And after all these things, add, we pray,  
a sense of humour, so that they can be serious,  
yet never take themselves too seriously.  
Then, we, their parents, will dare to whisper, we have not lived in vain.  
*From a prayer by General MacArthur*

### **NOTICES**

Do you know anyone who would like to be prayed for specifically for a certain reason? St John's has a group of volunteers to pray daily for people who have requested it.

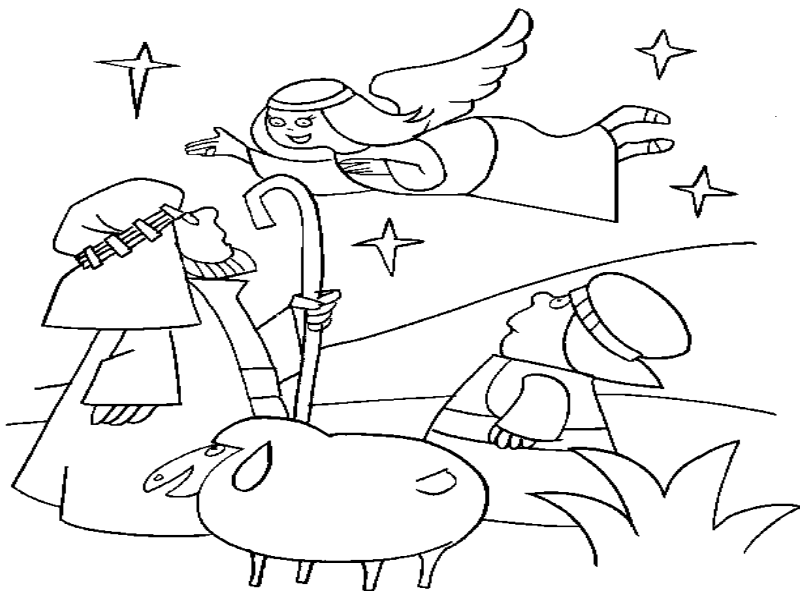
The following lists the names of those who are part of this "Prayer Chain Ministry". You can make your request by contacting any of them - The Rev Michael and Holly Mitchell, Barbara Eisenhauer, Penny and Graham Pratt, Betty Creaser, Sheila Morris, Don and Jean Hardy, Helen Chandler, Velvet Eliuk, Christina Pottie, Laura Roblee, Rosalie Knickle, Robert MacMillan, Louis Quennelle, Elizabeth Corbin and Sandy MacDonald.

Once you make a prayer request, the message will be forwarded to Sandy MacDonald, Chairperson of the Prayer Team. She will inform all members and keep records up to date. (They like to hear when God has answered prayers.) Also, if you would like to be a member of the Prayer Team, please call Sandy Mac Donald at 634-4657.

It is time once again to start preparing your Committee Reports for the 2009 **Annual Report**. Please email them to Mary at the office:  
[stjohnslunenburg@eastlink.ca](mailto:stjohnslunenburg@eastlink.ca)

The **Maritime Concert Opera** presents its Second Annual Community Sing-Along, Sunday January 3 from 2:30 pm - 4 p.m. at St John's Anglican Parish Hall, Lunenburg. Come and sing your old favourites and enjoy special guest performers Nina Scott-Stoddart and Marion Sawatzki. Accompaniment by Jim Aulenbach and Gus Webb. Light refreshments will be provided. Admission by free will offering.

**Diocesan Cycle: Pray for Retired Clergy of the Chignecto Region:** Reverend Frank Likely and Paula, Reverend David Myles and Margaret, Reverend Eric Porrior and Faye, Reverend Rodney Stokoe.  
**Widows:** Mrs. Marie Eaton, Mrs. Kay Lane, Mrs. Sheila Leddicote.  
 Pray for the preparations being made for 'Celebration 2010' in the Regions and the Diocese.  
**Local Ministerial:** The Congregation of Zion Lutheran Church and the Rev'd Vivian Roberts.  
**Fisherries:** **Adams & Knickle** - Freedom 99; **Ocean Choice** - Destiny; **Clearwater** - Ernest E. Pierce; **Tall Ship** - Bluenose II



**Have a blessed week and we look forward to welcoming you back next Sunday. Here are our phone numbers if you should need us in the meantime.**

<b>PARISH CONTACTS</b>	
<b>RECTOR</b> Father Michael H. Mitchell • rectorlunenburg@eastlink.ca • 634-8477	
<b>HONORARY ASSOCIATE PRIEST</b> Capt. Rev. Reg MacDonald	
<b>SECRETARY</b> Mary Wagner • <b>Parish Office:</b> 634-4994 • <b>Fax:</b> 634-4231 <a href="mailto:stjohnslunenburg@eastlink.ca">stjohnslunenburg@eastlink.ca</a> ; <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.stjohnslunenburg.org">www.stjohnslunenburg.org</a>	
<b>PARISH WARDENS</b>	
Peter Allen 634-4668 • Louise Holdbrook 634-3510 • Stephen Bower 634-8445	
<b>DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ ORGANIST</b> Barbara Butler 624-0506 <b>HAND BELL/JR. CHOIR DIRECTOR</b> Sharon Hill 634-8781 <b>HONORARY ASSISTANT ORGANIST</b> James Aulenbach 634-8035 <b>CHIMER</b> Peter Allen 634-4668 <b>TREASURER</b> Dan Steele 640-2187 <b>ALTAR GUILD</b> Sandra MacDonald 634-4657 <b>PASTORAL VISITATION</b> Charlene Demone 543-5753 <b>PRAYER &amp; HEALING MINISTRY</b> Sandra MacDonald 634-4657 <b>SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT</b> Louis Quennelle 527-0122 <b>HERITAGE</b> George Munroe 634-3356 <b>PROPERTY</b> Raymond Francis 634-8487 <b>HALL</b> Wayne Dodge 634-4885 <b>LADIES' GUILD</b> Jo Eisenhauer 634-4463 <b>ACW</b> Barbara Nowe 634-4473 <b>ACW CATERING</b> Patty Tanner 543-3474 <b>LAY READERS</b> Roger Demone 543-5753 <b>SERVERS</b> Sheila Morris 634-3713 <b>YOUTH</b> Alex Knickle 543-7010	<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTACT</b> Jennifer Green-Heisler 640-2088 <b>NURSERY</b> Jennifer Green-Heisler 640-2088 <b>TOUR PROGRAM</b> Peter Allen 634-4668 <b>FOOD BANK</b> Bruce & Louise Holdbrook 634-3510 <b>MEALS ON WHEELS</b> Hazel Oliver 634-3236 <b>PLANNED GIVING</b> Jim Eisenhauer 634-4713 <b>PWRDF</b> Sharon Green 634-8269 <b>REGIONAL COUNCIL</b> Betty Lou Olivier, Barbara Eisenhauer, Charlene Demone <b>SYNOD DELEGATES</b> Louis Quennelle, Grace Swan, Helen Chandler <b>ST. JOHN'S ARTS ALLIANCE</b> Ruth McConnell 634-9994 <b>SEXTON</b> Rod Francis 640-2021 <b>CUSTODIAN</b> Jim & Viola Green 634-4564 <b>WEBSITE</b> Ruth McConnell 634-9994 <b>NEWSLETTER</b> Janice & Brian Kenefick 764-2145

I PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL TO WIN THE PRIZE FOR WHICH GOD HAS CALLED ME HEAVENWARD IN CHRIST JESUS!  
 (PHILIPPIANS 3:14)