

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.*



Dear parishioners and friends,

In church we often hear the words "salvation" or "redemption." These technical words sound difficult and remote. Jesus, whose name means "God saves," tells us today what this "saving" means: He came to bring us freedom, liberation, from all that alienates us from God and people and to make us capable of liberating one another. Indeed we are created and born to be free. That is the Good News he brings us. Let Jesus here among us make us free sons and daughters of God.

So how can we be 'Good News' in a divided world? We do it by showing the world that despite our differences, we are the body of Christ. Each of us is an important part and we are all members. We know that it is not easy to bring together in one community people of different backgrounds, different talents, each with one's own brand of selfishness too. But what is impossible for us to do, God tries to do with us in Christ.

In him God calls us together from our diversity and division caused by the alienation of sin. Through baptism we have become one body, one family, one community in Christ. Each has to contribute one's share, different from that of anyone else for the benefit of all and yet can remain true to oneself. Each of us becomes an irreplaceable part on which the whole body depends. In this unity in diversity let us praise the Father and eat the body of Christ that we may become more his body of the Church.

God bless you and have a great week.

Fr. Michael +

LAY MINISTERS TODAY

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Holly Mitchell, Sheila Morris, Sharon Green
Sidespersons: 10:30 am Audrey Morgan, Debbie Chapman
Lectors: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer, Mabel Hardiman
10:30 am Sunday School; **Server:** Brooklyn Green

NEXT SUNDAY JANUARY 31ST

Lay Readers: 8:30 am Barbara Eisenhauer
10:30 am Susan MacMillan, Roger Demone, Charlene Demone
Lectors: 8:30 am Jo Eisenhauer, Gill Osmond
10:30 am Sandra MacDonald, Heather Hyson; **Server:** Eric Pottie, Sam Mack
Sidespersons: 10:30 am Catherine Hanhams, Laura Risser

Family Service

Announcements and Welcome

Prelude: French Suite No. 1 – J.S. Bach

Please stand for Processional Hymn

Processional Hymn “Part of the Family”

***Come in, come in and sit down, you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found, and we are a part of the family.***

You know the reason why you came, yet no reason can explain;
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain, for we are a part of the family.
God is with us in this place, like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace, for we are a part of the family.

Children and elders, middlers and teens, singles and doubles and in-
betweens,
strong eighty-fivers and street-wise sixteens, for we are a part of the family.
Greeters & shoppers, long-time & new, nobody here has a claim on a pew;
And whether we're many or whether we're few, we are a part of the family.

There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine, but we are a part of the family.
There's rest for the weary and health for us all;
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call, for we are a part of the family.

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.**

Youth

Welcome everyone: girls and boys, young and old, fathers and mothers,
women and men –all of us children of God. God invites us to this church, a
holy place of healing, worship and love.

All We Enter God's House with joy.

Youth

Because God calls us to be one body in Christ his beloved Son,

All We Enter God's House with joy.

Youth

Because Jesus proclaims good news to God's people,
a news that frees us to serve one another.

All We Enter God's House with joy.

Youth

Hear Christ's good news: God offers forgiveness and healing to us all!

All Here in God's Holy House.

Youth

So come and sing and pray and be happy let us worship the God of love!

All Here in God's Holy House.

Rector:

We come from our individual homes to this holy place because like the
disciples, God has proclaimed Good News to us, freeing us for service.

**All Let us worship together with joyful hearts and listen to his
Holy Word.**

The Collect of the Day

Let us pray that we may accept and live God's Good News today.

The community prays silently. The celebrant then says the collect.

God our Father, through Jesus you speak to us today your message
of Good News. May we accept today the year of grace he proclaims.
Give us your Holy Spirit today to enlighten us and to make us free for
you and for people. And with his help may we bring your Good News
to the poor and to those in prison, to the blind and the downtrodden,
that all may enjoy your happiness. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate.
They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the
Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before
the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with
understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from
it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday,
in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand;
and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra
opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the
people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the
Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up

their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." *NEHEMIAH 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10*

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

Choir Anthem "I Will Sing with the Spirit" by John Rutter

PSALM REFRAIN The words of the Lord are spirit and life.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork. One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another. **R**

Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard, their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world. **R**

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course. It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat. **R**

The law of the Lord is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the innocent. The statutes of the Lord are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light to the eyes. **R**

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb. **R**

By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward. Who can tell how often he offends? cleanse me from my secret faults. **R**

Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer. **R**

PSALM 19

A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and we

were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you" On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. *1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31A*
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Hymn #418 'Draw the Circle Wide'

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**



Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." *LUKE 4:14-21*

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

Reflection and Children's Message

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

We believe in God the Father, We believe, we believe.
We believe he is the Holy One, We believe, we believe.
We believe in Jesus Christ, the Lord, We believe, we believe.
We believe he is God's only Son, We believe, we believe.
He was conceived by the Holy Spirit; Born of the Virgin Mary; For us he died and was buried; On the third day he rose again.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, We believe, we believe.
We believe in the Holy Church of God, We believe, we believe.
We believe in God's forgiveness, The resurrection from the dead.
We believe in life everlasting, We believe, we believe. Amen.
We believe. Amen. We believe.

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

Response: Lord, 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.

Youth Let us join in our prayer of confession:
Gracious God, thank you for calling us to join you in your work of healing in the world.

(Please join in the actions using our hands).

We confess that there are times when we have not seen you at work,
(COVER EYES) times when we have chosen not to hear you calling us.
(COVER EARS) We are truly sorry and ask your forgiveness.

There are times when we have not spoken your truth, **(COVER MOUTH)** times when we have not reached out to care for others.
(CLENCH HANDS) We are truly sorry and ask your forgiveness. **(OPEN HANDS, WITH PALMS UP)**

Youth
The joy of God's forgiveness lights up our lives like the bright morning sun. **(ALL RAISE THEIR HANDS IN PRAISE)**

Rector
God is patient, slow to anger, and overflowing with love for us. God invites you to share in new and everlasting life. May Almighty God forgive you and pardon all your sins, in the name of the Father + the Son, and the Holy Spirit. For God's grace and steadfast love, we give thanks. **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 in the name of the Lord.*

Offertory Hymn #531 Sing a New Song Unto the Lord

Parishioners share in gathering the offering of God's people. 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.*

Loving God, you have called us as equal members into the Body of Christ. Receive all that we offer you this day and make holy the gift of our loving service. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

The celebrant introduces the Lord's prayer in these or similar words:

Standing together as God's family, with brothers and sisters of all ages, let us 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.

Doxology

Celebrant 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

The Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has formed you and called you to live in unity with him and to serve one another. May God's grace sustain you always so that you can share your light with others. **Amen.**
And the blessing of God almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

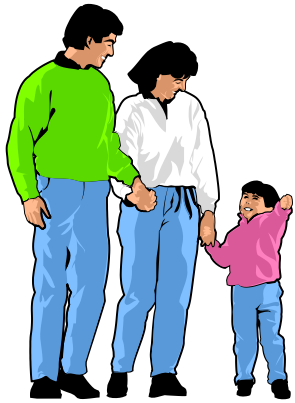
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn #309 Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue from 'Little 8' – J.S. Bach

The Worship has Ended. Our Service Begins.



WORSHIPPING TOGETHER Something to think about!

Children are a valuable part of our parish family. John Westerhoff, a leading Christian educator, says children's presence in worship is not only important, but is necessary if we are to become the whole people of God.

Westerhoff's premise is that faith is "caught" not "taught." Teaching is important for knowledge, but it is "catching the faith" from committed adults that makes the difference. What better way for children to know what faith is all about than to be a part of a community that laughs

together, cries together, struggles together and worships together.

When a child is baptized and made a member of the Church, the adults in the congregation promise to be active in nurturing that child's faith. We need to work together to do just that –to nurture our children in their faith, and to be nurtured by them in return. Children give us the gift of trust and a fresh point of view; adults can share the gift of acceptance, experience, and the wisdom of the Church through the ages.

If we believe that faith is "caught" not "taught", and if Sunday morning is the time that is important to us as a worshipping community, then adults and children need to be together at this time. Worship is one of the basic ways people learn what it means to be Christian.

Children learn worship by worshipping with the congregation and they learn they belong to Christ and are welcome in his Church. They participate in the drama of Baptism, Communion and other services, as signs of God's kindness and favour, of God's love and forgiveness. Children need to take part in worship regularly, and from time to time to take leadership roles. We all learn best by doing, rather than by being passive.

Worship that includes both adults and children might be a little different from what we are accustomed to. We will be looking at a service planned to meet a wide range of experience and ability. We will probably see more movement, hear more music and experience more drama. Periods of silence may not be quite as silent, prayers may be shorter and sermons may contain more stories and illustrations. We will probably see more variety in our worship in order to stimulate thought and discussion and to reinforce what is being experienced.

As a part of our Vision, the parish has stated its desire and openness to making the family service and other services that might be offered at other times, more inclusive of all ages.

Father Michael+

NOTICES

Music Events coming up at St. John's Church:

St. John's x 2

Come and take a break from winter and enjoy a musical Sunday afternoon at St. John's Anglican Church, Lunenburg. Both the singing and handbell choirs of St. John's Anglican Church, Lunenburg, and St. John's Lutheran Church, Mahone Bay, will be joining forces to present a concert for your enjoyment on **TODAY** at 2:30 p.m. A freewill offering will be accepted.

Symphony on the Shore - Friday, February 5 at 7:30 pm Janina Fialkowska, piano; Bernhard Gueller, conductor Celebrate the 200th anniversary of Chopin's birth with Symphony Nova Scotia. Pianist Janina Fialkowska, a "born Chopin interpreter" (Arthur Rubenstein), joins the orchestra to perform the composer's bold and imaginative Piano Concerto no. 2. The orchestra also performs Beethoven's boisterous "little Symphony in F" and 'Mirages' by Jacques Hetu. Tickets: \$25 (students \$10 at the door), available at Fulton's Pharmacy, through Ruth at the office in the church hall (634-9994) and at the door.

'BOWTIES' Friday, February 14th at 3 pm - With virtuosity, insight, imagination and humour, Duo Concertante (Nancy Dahn, violin; Timothy Steeves, piano) and Gordon Stobbe, fiddle and Gregg Simm, guitar, present a thrilling musical experience spanning Bach to Benoit. Tickets: \$20, available at Fulton's Pharmacy and at the door. Information 634-9994



YOUTH AND FAMILY SLEIGH RIDE

Come along for an old fashioned Horse and Sleigh ride on **Saturday, January 30th at 2:00 pm**. Our hosts are Foard and Cathy Robar from Meisner's Section, just outside of New Germany. The cost for the event is \$10.00 and includes Hot Chocolate and other goodies. We'll travel by car pool and space is limited, so reserve your spot today by calling Melissa Risser @ 634-3304 or email: b_mrisser@eastlink.ca.

REGIONAL MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASSES

These classes will be held at St. James, Mahone Bay on Friday evening, February 12th and Saturday, February 13th. Anyone desiring to be married should call the St. John's Parish Office for more information and to reserve their space.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our Annual General Meeting is being held Sunday, February 14th after the 10:30 am service. Please keep the Annual Meeting in your prayers.

LENTEN/EASTER NEWSLETTER

The deadline for articles to be placed in our next Newsletter is February 4. Please email Brian & Janice Kenefick at cynffig@eastlink.ca or call 764-2145 if you have news to be placed in our Newsletter.

The **Altar Guild** will hold their **Annual General Meeting** following a Corporate Communion Service at 10 am Wednesday, January 27. All present members are asked to attend. If there is anyone who would like to help out please join us at this time.

Official Income Tax Receipts for 2009 contributions to the church are ready for pick up at the back of the church. We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to you for the financial assistance you have provided the parish over the year. It is through your generosity that we are able to continue as a vibrant parish. Thank you.

Volunteers needed! Laura Roblee is a captain for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. She needs volunteers to canvass the following areas in February: Rhodes Corner, Centre and Back Centre. Even if someone was willing to go to a few houses in their immediate area, it would be greatly appreciated. If anyone is interested or would like to get further information please call 634-8043 or email billandlaura_roblee@yahoo.com.

CORPORATE COMMUNION AND BREAKFAST is being held at the Parish Hall after the 8:30 am service today. As well, our 10:30 am congregation are welcome to attend this breakfast before worship. There will be lots of food and fellowship and we welcome everyone from the parish to attend. There is no fee for this event.

300TH ANNIVERSARY EUCHARIST MEMORIALS

Anglicans throughout the Diocese of NS and PEI are able to offer a memorial gift to the Glory of God and in loving memory of a beloved person at the 300th Anniversary Eucharist on June 6, 2010 at 3 pm at Exhibition Park just outside Halifax. Memorial forms are available at the back of the church. Please complete the form, make your **cheque payable to the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island with Eucharist Memorial written on the Memo Line**. The completed form may be dropped off at St. John's Parish office or mailed to Faye Morrison, 1571 LeMarchant Street, Halifax, NS

B3H 3R2 no later than March 31, 2010.

MINISTRY SUNDAY, JANUARY 31ST

St. John's, Lunenburg, joins with parishes throughout our Diocese in celebrating January 31st as **Ministry Sunday**. This year our guest speaker is Helen Chandler who is taking Theological studies in preparation of ordained ministry. We are delighted to be having Helen join us in worship service. The purpose of holding a ministry Sunday, is to help us grow in our appreciation and understanding in the unique call that all of us have received through baptism – laity and ordained – in serving the Lord and the world.

PASTORAL VISITATION VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

Please contact Charlene Demone at 543-5753 if you are interested in becoming a member of the Pastoral Visitation Ministry.

PWRDF RESPONDS TO MASSIVE DESTRUCTION IN HAITI -

January 13, 2010 - Thousands of people were buried alive when a major earthquake struck Port-au-Prince, the capital of impoverished Haiti. The magnitude 7.0 quake sent panic-stricken people into the streets. Offices, hotels, houses and shops collapsed, and people were screaming "Jesus, Jesus", not knowing where to run. The presidential palace lay in ruins, and many churches have been destroyed. Members of ACT Alliance are already in place, assisting those affected by the earthquake. **Make a Donation on the offering plate** - Mark your envelope 'Haiti' and make your cheque payable to St. John's Anglican Church. We will forward your donation. **On-line** [At the CanadaHelps website](http://www.canadahelps.org).; **By Phone** - For credit card donations contact Jennifer Brown 416-924-9192 ext. 320, 1-866-308-7973. Please do not send your credit card number by e-mail or fax. **By Mail** Make cheques out to "PWRDF", mark them for "Haiti earthquake" and send them to: The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, The Anglican Church of Canada, 80 Hayden Street, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 3G2.

Confidence Lodge, Riverport is collecting valentines from groups or individuals who would like to send cards to our troops in Afghanistan. These must be dropped off no later than January 31 at the Progress Enterprise office, Lunenburg, Lighthouse Publishing, Bridgewater or the Riverport School. For more information call Ellen Hunt at 634-8017.

The best and most beautiful things cannot be seen or touched - they must be felt with the heart ~ Helen Keller

- Happy moments, praise God.
- Difficult moments, seek God.
- Quiet moments, worship God.
- Painful moments, trust God.
- Every moment, thank God.