

10 May 2026

10:30 a.m.



<https://alongsidehope.org/>

6th Sunday of Easter

St. John's Anglican Church
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Dawna Wall
Director of Music: Donald Russell, ARCO

Heritage  *Faith*  *Vision*
St. John's ~ A National Historic Site ~ Founded 1753

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Welcome and Announcements

Standing, we sing together:

THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

10 Let Us Build a House

Two Oaks

(This hymn is found in *Sing a New Creation*)

OPENING GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

May his grace and peace be with you.

May he fill our hearts with joy.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, **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.**

KYRIE

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

GLORIA

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

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

Lord God, heav'nly King, almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

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, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

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.

Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory to God in the Highest.

THE COLLECT

Risen Christ, you prepare a place for us, where you dwell with God and the Holy Spirit. Draw us more deeply into this sacred story of loving community, where all are fed and forgiven. You invite us home, ease our troubled hearts, and inspire and challenge us to multiply truth, and life. Strengthen your word in us that we may help prepare a place for others. Amen.

THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Sitting, we listen to the 1st Reading

Acts 17:22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you

worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all people to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him--though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.' "Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

For the word of God in scripture
 For the word of God among us
 For the word of God within us

Thanks be to God.

The choir stands to sing the Psalm,

Psalm 66: 7-18

Organ Choir and Congregation

Bless our God, you peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard.

7 Bless our God, O you / peoples; * make the voice of his / praise • to be / heard,
 8 Who holds our souls in / life: * and suffers not our / feet to / slip.
 9 For you, O God, have / proved us; * you have tried us as / silver is / tried.

Refrain

10 You brought us into the / snare; * you laid heavy burdens up- / on our / backs.
11 You let enemies ride over our / heads; * we went through fire and water; but
you brought us out into a / place of / liberty.
12 I will come into your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my / vows, *
which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I / was in / trouble.

Refrain

13 I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices with the smoke of / rams; * I will sacrifice /
oxen and / goats.
14 Come and listen, all you who fear / God, * and I will tell you what he has /
done for • my / soul.
15 I called out to him with my / mouth : * and his praise was / on my / tongue.

Refrain

16 If I had nursed evil in my / heart, * the Lord would / not have / heard me,
17 But in truth God has / heard me; * he has heeded the / voice of • my / prayer.
18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my / prayer, * nor withheld his loving /
mercy / from me.

Sitting, we listen to the 2nd Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins

once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you--not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

For the word of God in scripture
For the word of God among us
For the word of God within us
Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL READING

Standing, we sing:

GRADUAL HYMN

2 Longing for Light Christ Be Our Light
(This hymn is found in *Sing a New Creation*)

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John 14:15-21

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with

you, and he will be in you. "I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The Gospel of Christ

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sitting, we listen to the sermon.

THE SERMON

ANTHEM

When I Needed a Neighbour

Sydney Carter /arr. J. Bernard

Standing for:

THE SHEMAH

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength.**

This is the first and great commandment.

The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Holy God, you invite us to abide in your love, and to care for those who are our companions, not only with words of comfort, but with acts of love. We give thanks for all who nurture, care, support, challenge and uphold us as we seek to be a loving presence with those with whom we

share this journey.
prayer.

God of light and joy, hear our

We pray for the Church and all who engage in the work of sharing your love in innovative and pragmatic ways. Remembering especially the ministries of Alongside Hope and their teams around the world and here in Canada.

God of light and joy, hear our
prayer.

We pray for the world, for those areas where there is open strife, that peace may slip in quietly and transform radically. We pray that we may work together to bring about the possibility of peace, through daily works of compassion and justice. We give thanks for the work of Alongside Hope and the ways they respond with your care in so many places.

God of light and joy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need of prayer for body, mind and spirit, remembering especially those for whom we have been asked to pray, may the risen Christ comfort and sustain them and those of us who pray for them. We pray for those who have died and for those who mourn, that in Christ who triumphs over death they may find strength and hope. Into God's hands we commend them. We give thanks for prayers answered and offer to you our heart's best intentions.

God of light and joy, hear our
prayer.

Alpha and Omega, First and Last, glory outshining all the lights of heaven: pour out upon us your Spirit of faithful love and abundant compassion, so that we may rejoice in the splendor of your works while we wait in expectation for the new heaven and the new earth you promise when Christ shall come again.

Amen.

THE PEACE

OFFERTORY HYMN

A Vision Fulfilled (See separate sheet)

Note: These words were written by Hope Metzies and were the winning entry in the 50th Anniversary Hymn Competition for The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Receive these gifts, O God, and transform us through sharing them, that we may have eyes to see and hearts to understand your call to follow you faithfully all our days. Amen.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe. At your word the earth was made and spun on its course among the planets. Your hand formed us from the dust of the earth and set us among all your creatures, to love and serve you. When we were unfaithful to you, you kept faith with us; your love remained steadfast. When we were enslaved in Egypt, you broke the bonds of slavery, led us through the sea to freedom, and made a covenant to be our God.

By a pillar of fire you led us through the desert to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life. You spoke of love and justice in the prophets, and in the Word made flesh, you lived among us manifesting your glory. He died that we might live, and is risen to raise us to new life. Therefore we praise you, singing with angels and archangels and all the faithful of every time and place, to the glory of your name:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord whom you sent to save us. He came with healing in his touch, and was wounded for our sins. He came with mercy in his voice, and mocked as one despised. He came with peace in his heart and met violence and death. On the night before he died, Jesus took bread. After giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to the disciples saying, "Take, eat, this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup, giving thanks and saying, "This cup is the new covenant, poured out for the forgiveness of sins, Do this in remembrance of me."

In remembrance, we take from your creation this bread and this wine, and celebrate his rising to new life, as we await the day of his coming again. With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you, to be a living, holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service.

So we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that as we share this meal, our eyes will be opened to recognize Christ with us. By your Spirit, make our hearts burn within us, that we may recognize and welcome him as host and anticipate the day when we will feast with him in heaven. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, now and forever, **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our

daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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 gifts of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God

THE COMMUNION

(in both kinds – the bread and the common cup)

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

569 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life

The Call

Standing, we pray the

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Author of life divine, in the breaking of bread we know the risen Christ. Feed us always in these mysteries, that we may show your glory to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN

425 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve Christ. Alleluia.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This week in the life of the church:

Heritage Committee (Lower Church)	Tuesday 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Family Play Group (Lower Hall)	Wednesday 9:30 a.m.
Parish Council (Hall)	Wednesday 5:00 p.m.
Lunch and Learn	Thursday Noon
Hazel Oliver's 100th Birthday Party	Thursday 2:00 p.m.
Church choir practice (Church)	Thursday, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Assisting with the Service today:

Lectors: Dan Sargeant, Mary Meisner

Licensed Lay Minister: Jim Shephard

Live Stream Tech: Raymond Francis

Greeters: Peter Smith, Anne & Lorne Spence, Heather Eisenhauer

Assisting with the Service next week:

Lectors: David Shimp, Rosemary Smith

Licensed Lay Minister: Robert Ripley

Live Stream Tech: David Shimp

Greeters: Peter Smith, Jim Shephard, Sherry Skinner, Heather Hyson

We welcome Jacqueline Koster, Alongside Hope's Director of Programs and Partnerships with the Anglican Church of Canada, and give thanks for the important work they do around the world. alongsidehope.org

St John's Contact Information

Website: stjohnslunenburg.org

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In-person: Monday – Friday, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm