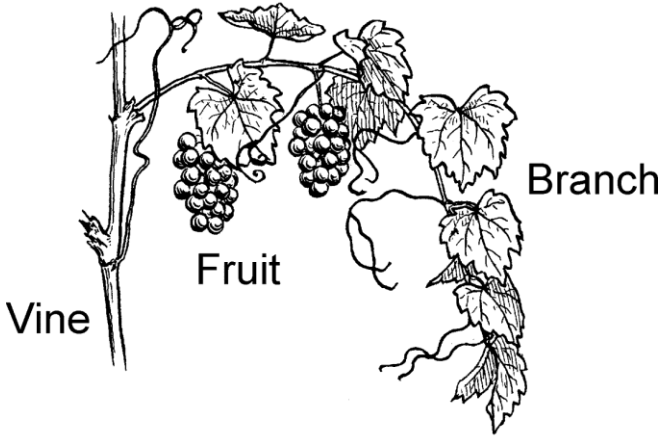


Sunday April 28th 2024
5th Sunday of Easter
Anglican Parish of Lantz



Our Mission

*To be a diverse ministering community
making Christ's presence known in the world around us.*

Sunday Morning Worship

9:30 St. George's Church: 1089 Highway 277, Dutch Settlement

11:00 Christ Church: 14 Church St., Lantz

Parish Clergy

Rev'd Dr. Jane Magrath

Rev'd Patty McKenna

Our Worship Today

We acknowledge that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq who have been living on these lands since time immemorial. Recognizing this is a small but meaningful step in reconciliation and the continued efforts of building a strong Nation-to-Nation relationship, as we are all Treaty People.

Call to Worship: *(standing)*

Alleluia, Christ is risen! **He is risen, indeed -- Alleluia**

Like spring breaking through winter's power,
God's resurrecting power breaks into our lives in surprising ways.
Like the vine that supports blossoms and fruit,
God's Word upholds the church in strength.
Let us worship God who makes all things new.
We will praise God who brings growth and renewal to all life.

God of love, plant us in the soil of your grace.
Nurture us with the strength of Christ, the vine of everlasting life.
Enlighten us with the wisdom of your Spirit,
which flows through us today and all days.
Abide in us, that we may abide in you and live in your love.
In your holy name, we pray. **Amen**

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.**

Opening Hymn: God The Creator CP # 445

1 God the creator, you in love made me,
Who once was nothing but now has
grown,
I bring the best of all my life offers:
For you I share whatever I own.

3 O God the Spirit, you in love move me,
Who once was nowhere and felt unknown.
I know my need of you for companion:
All things can change when not on my
own.

2 O Christ the Saviour, you in love called
me,
Who once was no one last and alone.
I pledge to go wherever you summon,
Making your will and purpose my own.

4 And with the people summoned together
To be the church in which faith is sown,
I make my promise to live for Jesus,
And let the world know all are his own.

The Collect:

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another and walk in the way of his commandments, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Prayer for Illumination:

Holy Spirit, move in us and among us as we listen to the Scriptures read and interpreted. Open our minds and hearts to receive the Living Word so that we may be transformed to live as your Easter people. **Amen.**

Proclamation of the Word:

The 1st Reading: A Reading from First John (4:7-21)

(After the reading)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm: Psalm 22 (25-31)

My praise is of him in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him. The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall praise him: "May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord.

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before him. For kingship belongs to the Lord; he rules over the nations.

All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust fall before him.

All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord.

My soul shall live for him; my descendants shall serve him; they shall be known as the Lord's for ever. They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn the saving deeds that he has done.

All the ends of the earth shall turn to the Lord. Amen

The Gradual: *(3x: quietly and then louder and louder)*

Christ has died, Alleluia

Christ is risen, Alleluia

Christ will come again, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The Gospel: God be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of Jesus the Christ according to John (15:1-8)

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(After the reading)

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

Sermon

Easter Creed *(Andreas Wagner):*

**I believe in the God of Easter morning
Who awakes us from our darkest dreams
And leads us into the light of a new day,
Who meets our pessimism with the stunning hope
Of angelic proclamation.**

**I believe in the God of Easter Day
Who beats us to the obstacles in our lives
And empties the dark tomb for us;
Who appears in surprising ways when we least expect it;
Walking with us on our detours.**

**I believe in the God of Easter evening
Who breaks into the prisons of our world and our minds,
Holding us in our fear and bringing peace.**

**And I believe in the risen Christ who meets us
with wounds on his hands and feet;
Who grants us his spirit,
Sending us out to bring Shalom to the world. Amen.**

Prayers of the People:

We respond to each petition saying, 'And your will be done'.

Confession & Absolution:

Call to Confession:

Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love;
you know when we are too cowardly to show mercy.
Remind us again that perfect love casts out such fears.
Surround us and strengthen us with your perfect love,
even in the face of our imperfections.
Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth toward perfection,
that we may cast aside our pride and embrace the power of love.

Confession:

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.**

Assurance of Pardon:

May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Jesus the Christ. **Amen**

Celebrations:

We celebrate special occasions in the lives our parish family

O God, our times are in your hand: look with favour, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace; and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Exchanging of the Peace:

May the peace of the risen Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Offertory Hymn: Where Charity and Love Prevail CP # 487

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Where charity and love prevail,
there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love,
by love are we thus bound | 4 Let strife among us be unknown,
let all contention cease;
Be His the glory that we seek,
be ours His holy peace |
| 2 With grateful joy and holy fear
His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
now love him in return. | 5 Let us recall that in our midst
dwells God's begotten Son;
As members of His body joined,
we are in Him made one. |
| 3 Forgive we now each other's faults
as we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well
in Christian holiness. | 6 No race or creed can love exclude,
if honored be God's name;
Our family embraces all
whose Father is the same. |

Prayer over the Gifts:

Christ reminds us that lovers of God must be lovers of people. And so, we are invited to show our love as we offer ourselves and our gifts to Christ, to Christ's church, and to one another. May we share freely and generously the love and abundance that God has given us.

Generous God, may the gifts we return to you cause your name to be celebrated among the nations. May the lives that we live cause your name to be celebrated in all generations.

May our offerings be signs of our praise to you, forever and ever. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer (ACC: Supplementary Eucharistic Prayer 1)

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God our Creator.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, Lover of creation, we give you thanks and praise;
for in the ocean of your steadfast love you bear us and place the song of
your Spirit in our hearts.

When we turn from your love and defile the earth, you do not abandon us.
Your Spirit speaks through Huldah and Micah, through prophets, sages, and
saints in every age, to confront our sin and reveal the vision of your new
creation. Joining in the song of the universe we proclaim your glory saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and 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.**

Gracious God,
in the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ to share our fragile humanity.
Through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection you open the path from brokenness
to health, from fear to trust, from pride and conceit to reverence for you.
Rejected by a world that could not bear the Gospel of life, Jesus knew death was
near. His head anointed for burial by an unknown woman, Jesus gathered
together those who loved him.

He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it and gave it to his friends, saying,
"Take and eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the
remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine, gave you thanks, and said "Drink this
all of you, this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for
many. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

And now we gather at this table in response to his commandment,
to share the bread and cup of Christ's undying love, and to proclaim our faith.

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

Breathe your Holy Spirit, the wisdom of the universe, upon these gifts that we
bring to you: this bread, this cup, ourselves, our souls and bodies,

that we may be signs of your love for all the world and ministers of your transforming purpose.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, Creator of all, and we bless your holy name for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

We died with you on the cross.

Now we are raised to new life.

We were buried in your tomb.

Now we share in your resurrection.

Live in us, that we may live in you.

The gifts of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God

All are welcome to share in the bread and/or the wine. People are invited to sit while awaiting Communion.

Music at Communion: *They'll Know We are Christians by our Love*

Announcements:

As Jesus calls us as disciples, God sends us out to serve others in the world. Let us share with one another the events of our parish and community this week.

Closing Prayers: *Standing, let us return our thanks to God.*

Abide with us and within us, O Holy One.

Transform us into branches of your love,
bearing fruit that feeds and nourishes a world
hungry for kindness and compassion.

Strengthen us that we may grow into your likeness
with courage and conviction.

Live in us, that we may live in you,
and live as your abiding presence in the world.

In faith and trust, we pray. **Amen**

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:

Go in the peace of Christ, to witness to his love in truth and action each day. And may God's resurrecting love open the future for you, empowered by the Spirit, and embraced by the presence of Jesus the Christ. May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with you all, now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Hymn Joyful Joyful CP # 425

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

3 Always giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Loving Father, Christ our Brother,
Let Your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

2 All Your works with joy surround You,
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,
Stars and angels sing around You,
Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising You eternally!

Dismissal: Let us go out as people open to the way of the Christ -- walking in the footsteps of Jesus. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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