

St. John's Anglican Church

Parish of Horton, Wolfville, Nova Scotia

We are a welcoming & affirming community to all persons.

April 25th, 2021, 4th Sunday of Easter

Interim Rector: The Rev'd Nicole Uzans, Nicole.uzans@gmail.com

Honourary Assistant: The Rev'd Dr. V. Bruce Matthews

Wardens: Camille Herbin, 902-670-7593; Jim Nelson, 902-542-9295

Director of Music and Organist: Dr. Michelle Boyd m.e.boyd@gmail.com

8AM MORNING PRAYER, THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

Collect: O ALMIGHTY God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men: Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Reader: Pat Moore

Greeter # 1 - Beth Turner *Usher -* Mary McMillian

10AM A SERVICE OF THE WORD

Guest musician: Morgandy Levy

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude: **Meditation on "The Lord's My Shepherd"** (*arr. Mary McDonald*)

Welcome and Introduction, followed by the Grace

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

The Collect of the Day: Lord of the sheepfold, whose love is not for hire: we thank you that Christ laid down his life for us when we could not help ourselves. Give us strength to work for peace in the world he came to serve; through the same Jesus Christ, the good shepherd.

Opening Hymn: **#474 Jesus, Where'er Thy People Meet**

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.

Dear friends in Christ, as we turn our hearts and minds to worship almighty God, let us confess our sins.

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.

Merciful God, grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word,

1st Reading: Acts 4:5-12, Kimberly Matheson

Psalm 23 Led by Kimberly Matheson

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

Glory be 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.

2nd Reading: 1 John 3:16-24, Jim Amos

The Holy Gospel: John 10:11-18, Jim Amos

Sermon *The Rev'd Dr. V. Bruce Matthews*

Affirmation of Faith – Hear, O Israel

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 the great commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

Prayers of the People: Mary Phillips

A Prayer in a Time of Pandemic:

Loving God, whose peace passes all our understanding; as we face this present pandemic, and experience fear and anxiety, may we hear your voice, bringing calm to the storms of our time. Strengthen those who work to limit the spread of infection, and those who seek to care for the sick, and keep us mindful of those most vulnerable. May we shape our living to protect one another, and may our changing habits, practices and sacrifices, be for the greater love of our community and all your people. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: Let us gather our prayers in the words that Jesus taught us:

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.

Musical Selection: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

(arr. Lloyd Larson) soloist: Morgandy Levy

The offering is brought forward. We say together the Prayer Over the Gifts:

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendour, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, and of your own have we given you.

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.**

A Blessing from the Franciscan Community: Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who walk this way with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind, and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you, now and always. **Amen.**

**Closing Hymn: #520 The King of Love My Shepherd Is
The Dismissal**

Let us go forth rejoicing, for Love the Lord is on the way.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude: Trumpet Voluntary in B-flat Major (Anthony Giamanco)

Please allow the Usher to guide you out, starting from the back pews.

Greeter # 1 – Ian MacDonald Greeter # 2-Denyse Nelson

Usher – MaryEllen Finlay Counters – Sharon Carey & Murray Phillips

SERVICES FOR May 2nd

8:00 am BCP Holy Communion 10:00 am BAS Holy Eucharist

Cycle of Prayer

Please remember in your prayers...

- The Nippon Sei Ko Kai along with the parishes of the Dartmouth Region, with Christ Church, St. Andrew's, Cole Harbour & Eastern Passage, Nova Scotia
- All who are in need of God's healing grace: Gloria, Connie, Heidi, Ann Watson, Kathleen, Rob Phillips, Don & Betty Little, Sylvia, Roger Harris, Vange, Tracey, Becca, Kathy, Willie, Annalee, Louisa Patterson, Bill Pearman, Gerry, Bob Best, Jean, Robert, Beth, Jean & Betty, Pam Finlay, Audrey, Danylo Dzwonyk, Tom Fitches, Steve Denino, Tahlia, Sasha, Sylvia & Peter.
- For all who have departed this life and are at rest especially remembering Dan Semich. Please keep in your hearts the late Rt. Rev. Michael Bedford-Jones, who died last week of Covid19. Michael was a retired area bishop in the Diocese of Toronto. He was greatly loved for his gentle friendly ministry. Some of us may recall Michael's visit to this parish in mid-August 2018. He is survived by his wife Bonnie, also a victim of the coronavirus. Bonnie has some family roots in Nova Scotia

Announcements

Mark these dates on your calendar

Fridays, 10:30-11:15am: Christian Meditation at the church. All are welcome to this simple practice – instructions are given each week.

From the Rev. Nicole Uzans: This week, I will hold office hours on Monday, 10am-noon. You can always reach me at 902-956-4892 (text or call) and nicole.uzans@gmail.com

April 23rd and 24th, Book Sale, for the Canadian Federation of University Women, Wolfville. Fri. April 23rd from 9am to 9pm, and Sat. April 24th from 9am to 3pm. Lions Hall 36 Elm Avenue Wolfville. Free admission & parking. Proceeds support many Valley organizations. 1000's of books for sale. Please wear a mask and follow all COVID regulations.

Church & Community News

Next Sunday is Food Bank Sunday: All donations of non-perishable food, laundry detergent, tooth brushes and toothpaste, or money to purchase food are appreciated. When money is donated, volunteer shoppers seek out the best buys available and spend wisely. Please consider giving to your local food bank. Food items can be left at the back of the church.

Announcements

Mark these dates on your calendar

Fridays, 10:30-11:15am: Christian Meditation at the church. All are welcome to this simple practice – instructions are given each week.

From the Rev. Nicole Uzans: This week, I will hold office hours on Monday, 10am-noon. You can always reach me at 902-956-4892 (text or call) and nicole.uzans@gmail.com

April 23rd and 24th, Book Sale, for the Canadian Federation of University Women, Wolfville. Fri. April 23rd from 9am to 9pm, and Sat. April 24th from 9am to 3pm. Lions Hall 36 Elm Avenue Wolfville. Free admission & parking. Proceeds support many Valley organizations. 1000's of books for sale. Please wear a mask and follow all COVID regulations.

Church & Community News

Next Sunday is Food Bank Sunday: All donations of non-perishable food, laundry detergent, tooth brushes and toothpaste, or money to purchase food are appreciated. When money is donated, volunteer shoppers seek out the best buys available and spend wisely. Please consider giving to your local food bank. Food items can be left at the back of the church.