

St. John's Anglican Church

Parish of Horton, Wolfville, Nova Scotia

We are a welcoming & affirming community to all persons.

2nd Sunday in Lent

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: ALMIGHTY God, who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Reader: John Patterson *Usher* - Mary McMillian

Greeter # 1 - Beth Turner *Greeter #2*- John Patterson

10AM A SERVICE OF THE WORD

The Gathering of the Community

Prelude: **Songs of Hope** (*Lani Smith*)

Welcome & Introduction

Opening Responses:

Leader: O Lord, open our lips.

People: **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

Leader: O God, make speed to save us.

People: **O Lord, make haste to help us.**

All: **Glory 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.**

Opening Canticle - Seek the Lord (Isaiah 55:6-11)

Seek the Lord who is still to be found:

call upon God who is yet at hand.

Return to the Lord, who will have compassion:

to our God, who will abundantly pardon.

'For my thoughts are not your thoughts:

nor are your ways my ways,' says the Lord.

'For as the heavens are higher than the earth:

so are my ways than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and snow come down from heaven:

and return not again but water the earth,

causing the earth to bring forth and sprout:

giving seed to the sower and bread to the hungry;

so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth:

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I desire:

and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.'

Leader: The night has passed, and the day lies open before us; let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,

so may the light of your presence, O God,

set our hearts on fire with love for you;

now and for ever. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn:

#505 Be Thou My Vision

Kyrie Eleison

Leader: Hear these words of scripture: "Love one another, for love is of God, and whoever loves is born of God and knows God."

People: **Spirit of God, search our hearts.**

Leader: Let us remember our need for God's forgiveness.

Creator of heaven and earth, we confess that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed. **Amen. Lord have mercy.**

We have not loved you with all our being, we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves: we have disfigured your image in which we are made. **Amen. Christ, have mercy.**

In your mercy, forgive what we have been and what we have done, guide us and help us to amend our lives, and bring us to fullness of life in you. **Amen. Lord, have mercy.**

The Collect of the Day: God of Sarah and Abraham, long ago you embraced your people in covenant and promised them your blessing. Strengthen us in faith, so that, with your followers in every

age, we may proclaim our deliverance in Jesus Christ to generations yet unborn. Amen.

The Proclamation of the Word

1st Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Jim Amos

Psalm 22:23-31 Led by Jim Amos

Praise the Lord, you that fear God; stand in awe of God, O offspring of Israel; all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

For God does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither turns away from them; when they cry to the Lord, they are heard.

My praise is of God in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship the Lord.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied, and those who seek the Lord shall give praise: "May your heart live for ever!"

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall bow before God.

For sovereignty belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.

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

My soul shall live for God; my descendants shall serve God; 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 God has done.

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: Romans 4:13-25, Jim Nelson

The Holy Gospel: Mark 8:31-38, Jim Nelson

Sermon - The Rev. Dr. Bruce Matthews

Responsory:

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

O my God, in you I trust.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

O my God, in you I trust.

You are the God of my salvation,
in you I hope all the day long.
O my God, in you I trust.

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

**To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust.**

Prayers of the People: Elaine Slauenwhite

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.**

Offertory Sentence: Ascribe honour to God's holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord. (*Psalm 96:8*)

Musical Selection: **Prelude No. 4 in A-flat Major** (*Catherine Rollin*)
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.

A Blessing for Lent: Go now in the knowledge that you are loved. May the grace of God free you; the word of God uphold you; the needs of God's people inspire you; and the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of Life, be with you this day and always.
Amen.

Closing Hymn: **#347 The God of Abraham Praise**

The Dismissal

Postlude: **The God of Abraham Praise** (*arr. Gordon Young*)

Greeter # 1 - Jim Nelson Greeter # 2- Judy Wilmot

Usher - MaryEllen Finlay Counters - Helen & John Whidden

This service incorporates prayers from The Scottish Episcopal Church, the Anglican Church in New Zealand & Aotearoa, the Canadian Anglican 'Book of Alternative Services,' and the Franciscan prayerbook 'Celebrating Common Prayer.'

Flowers for Easter: Anyone wishing to have memorial flowers in the church for Easter, please contact Cathy Stewart at 902-542-5565 and leave a message.

SERVICES FOR March 7th

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

Cycle of Prayer

Please remember in your prayers...

- Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America along with the parishes of Neil's Harbour & St. Alban's, Sydney, NS.
- 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, Andrew, Pam Finlay, Audrey, Danylo Dzwonyk, Tom Fitches, Steve Denino, Tahlia & Sasha
- All whose memory we cherish and whose presence we miss especially remembering Jean Winter.

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.

Lenten book study – *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Study sessions continue via Zoom (Monday, 7pm) and in-person (Tuesday, 10am). If you are still interested in joining, please speak with the Rev. Nicole.

From the Rev. Nicole Uzans. This week, I will not be holding office hours, but you can always contact me at 902-956-4892 (text or phone) or nicole.uzans@gmail.com

March 5th, World Day of Prayer. No service is taking place locally this year due to COVID 19 restrictions. Celebrate with the Women in Vanuatu Islands. The 2021 theme "Build on a Strong Foundation" is an invitation to return to the foundations of our faith, which can also be expressed as the foundations of the World Day of Prayer. More information can be located at the World Day of Prayer Website <https://worlddayofprayer.net/vanuatu-2021.html> See more information on a separate handout.

ECUMENICAL LECTIONARY LENTEN BIBLE STUDY Online via Zoom Weds, at 2 PM with Rev. Dr. Rob Hankinson, retired United Church of Canada minister

READINGS

March 3rd: Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19 1, Corinthians 1:18-25, John 2:13-22

March 10th: Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3,17-22, Ephesians 2:1-10 John 3:14-21

March 17th: Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16 Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12:20-33

March 24th: For Palm Sunday, Psalm 118:1-2,19-29, Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16 For Passion Sunday Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11, Mark 14:1-15,47 or Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

Readings are selected from the Revised Common Lectionary Year B. To register for the series and obtain the zoom link, send your name by email to robthechaplain@gmail.com. Please send any questions about the series to Rob and bring a Bible of your choice.

Church & Community News

Lent Coin Folders are at the back of the church in the last pew, as well as other materials for the season of Lent.