

CHRIST CHURCH – AMHERST, N.S.
Sunday, February 25, 2018 - 9:30 AM

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The People Gather

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opening Responses

Leader: Thanks be to you, O God, that we have risen
this day to the rising of this life itself.
The purpose of God be between us and each
purpose,

All: **the hand of God between us and each hand;**
the pain of Christ between us and each pain,
the love of Christ between us and each love.

Leader: O God, you brought us to the light of this
new day;

All: **bring us to the guiding light of eternity.**

Call to prayer

Leader: We gather in God's name;

All: **We claim Christ's promised presence.**

Leader: My sisters and brothers, not out of dread and
fear, but believing in the understanding and
forgiveness of God, let us rid ourselves of
what we need to carry no longer.

Prayer of confession and restoration

Leader: Let us pray
Eternal Maker of the endless heavens, lowly
Christ, befriender of the changing earth,
Holy Spirit, wind over the flowing waters, in
earth, sea and sky you are ever present.

All: **O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns, soul
within all souls, in everything we touch, in
everyone we meet you are there, and we
give you thanks.**

Leader: But where we have not touched but
trampled you in creation, where we have not
honoured but avoided you in one another,
where we have not received but rejected
your goodness, forgive us, and hear our plea
for your pardon.

Kyrie eleison (God have mercy on us)

Christe eleison (Christ have mercy on us)

Kyrie eleison (God have mercy on us)

Leader: Holy God,
All: **holy and mighty,
holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Leader: Know that God is good, and that to those who are truly sorry God forgives what is past and enables us to begin again.

Once we were no people, now we are God's people. Once we were beyond God's mercy; now that mercy has been given to us.

So let us live as those who treasure God's costly generosity, by safeguarding God's earth, delighting in its people, and loving our Maker to whom be glory for ever.

All: **Thanks be to God.**
 Amen.

Collect of the Day

Almighty God, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross, give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis (17: 1 - 7 & 15 - 16)

Leader: Listen for God's word coming to us in Holy Scripture.

All: Our hearts and minds are open.

THE READING

Reader: God be in our listening,
God in our understanding.

All: Amen

PSALM 22 (vs. 22 - 30)

p. 730

A Reading from Romans (4: 13 - 25)

Reader: Listen for God's word coming to us in Holy
Scripture.

All: Our hearts and minds are open.

THE READING

Reader: God be in our listening,
God in our understanding.

All: Amen

Gradual Hymn # 9 - "Today I Awake"

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Leader: We greet the Gospel of Jesus the Christ by
standing.

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark (8: 31 - 38)

THE READING

Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

HYMN # 368 - "He Came Down"

SERMON

**HYMN (Insert) - "Come! Live in the Light!"
We Are Called**

The Creed

We believe in God, who conceived all that is created, God, who fathers and mothers all people.

We believe in Jesus Christ God's firstborn and only Lord of the earth. He came from both heaven and the womb of the virgin Mary; he lived in solidarity with humankind, befriending, teaching, healing and restoring; he was denied and betrayed by his friends; and was done to death by the state. He descended to the place of oblivion, rose to life again on the third day, and ascended to heaven where he sits at God's right hand.

This same Jesus will come again in glory to judge the living and dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, whose dynamic presence can make all things new. And we believe in the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of concern

Leader: Holy God,
who, in Jesus, touched the earth, admiring its beauty and blessing its people, we honour you for the gift of life and all the gifts that life brings us: food, shelter, company, the experiences that make us think, the people that bring out the best in us.
Hear our prayers for the places in this world where beauty has turned to ugliness, food has been replaced by famine, friendship has been forgotten and fear, hostility and hopelessness have the upper hand.

All God, in your mercy,
bring healing, bring peace.

Hear our prayers for people who cannot pray because of pain, loss or worry; and for those who will not love themselves and so cannot love their neighbour.

All God, in your mercy,
bring healing, bring peace.

Hear our prayers for ourselves – our private yearnings, our secret hopes and any doubt, jealousy or anger to which we hold too tightly.

All God, in your mercy,
bring healing, bring peace.

Merciful Father,
**Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen**

THE PEACE

OFFERTORY HYMN # 502 - “ You Are Salt for the Earth”

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Prayer Over the Gifts

God of wisdom, may the light of the eternal Word, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, guide us to your glory. We ask this in his name. Amen.

The Invitation

The Story

Prayer of thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them up to God.

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.

All It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: For you, Creator God, the valleys laugh and sing and the trees of the field clap their hands.

Your earth summons us to break silence and be one with the song of creation.

All: We give you thanks and praise.

Celebrant: For you, God of all, the church in its myriad forms and countless languages honours its Saviour.

Millions upon millions invite us to be one with them in the drama of worship.

All: We give you thanks and praise.

Celebrant: In heaven, beyond our seeing, the angels and saints are caught up in song. And those we have loved and lost are part of that great company.

They call us to be one with the harmony of heaven.

All: We give you thanks and praise.

Celebrant: So, gladly, we join our voices to those of earth, sea and sky, in the universal hymn of praise which echoes through time and eternity.

Sanctus

**Holy, holy, holy God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name
of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest!

Prayer of consecration

Come now, O Christ, bone of our bone, flesh of our flesh, forever bound to us in promise and mystery; breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine. Let them become, for us, the seal and sign of your love healing, redeeming, making us whole.

And through them let us together become, for you, your body, loving the world as God loves, serving its people as God wills and always being transformed until we and all humanity resemble the One whose food we now share.

As Jesus broke bread, we break this bread.
As Jesus shared wine we share this cup.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: As our Saviour Jesus taught us, so we 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**

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,
give us your peace.

Celebrant: As those who have been invited to his table,
feed on this holy food through which God
comes to us so that we can come to God.

The Communion

Holy Eucharist is a joyful celebration of our life together in Jesus Christ. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive communion here. The response to receiving the bread and wine is 'Amen'. If you would like to come forward and receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, please cross your arms as you come to the rail.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION:

325 NB - "Let Us Break Bread Together"

61 - "As We Gather at Your Table"

Prayer after Communion

Celebrant: O Brother Jesus, we have been guests at your table; come with us wherever we go and be present in all we share.

All: Summon out in us, whom you have fed, generosity of spirit to ensure that all the hungry are nourished and earth's barren places are fertile with food, faith, hope and love. Amen.

Blessing

Celebrant Now go in peace, do what God wills, follow where Christ calls, pray for the gifts of the Spirit; and may the blessing of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer rest on and remain with you now and always.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

CLOSING HYMN - # 602

“Lift High the Cross”

.....
TODAY:-

Immediately following the service this morning you are invited to the Parish Hall for the **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**, followed by a parish potluck luncheon.

Everyone is welcome to attend! Don't worry about not bringing anything, there is always plenty for everyone!

THIS WEEK:-

Wednesday, February 28th

10:30 a.m. - Bible Study - Meets in the Multi-purpose Room. Everyone is welcome!

12:00 p.m. - Service for Lent of Holy Communion

Thursday, March 1st

6:30 p.m. - Choir Practice

Friday, March 2nd

World Day of Prayer Service at Christ Church @ 2:00 PM

All denominations are welcome to attend.

Food Bank: Items needed for the month of March

Canned Fruit

Canned Veggies

Jam

