

10:00 Holy Eucharist (BAS) Licensed Lay Minister: Gordon West

Liturgy of the Palms

Palm Gospel: Matthew 21: 1-11 (Natasha Bejarano)

Processional Hymn: He Came Riding in on a Donkey

Collect of the Day: Compassionate God, your love finds full expression in the gift of Jesus Christ your Son, who willingly met betrayal and death to set us free from sin. Give us courage to live obediently in these days until we greet the glory of our risen Saviour. **Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word:

Isaiah 50: 4-9a (Sarah Lennerton)

Psalms 31: 9-16

Philippians 2: 5-11 (Jason Reynolds)

Gradual Hymn – All Glory, Laud and Honor (CP 181)

Gospel: Matthew 27: 11-54 (Choral Reading) Bev DeVouge - Narrator

Homily – Cory Lunn

Prayers of the People

The Peace

Offering Hymn – What Wondrous Love is This (CP 400)

Blessing of Palm Crosses

Prayer over the Gifts: Gracious God, the suffering and death of Jesus, your only Son, makes us pleasing in your sight. Alone we can do nothing but through his sacrifice, may we receive your love and mercy. **Amen**

Eucharistic Prayer #2

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of Bread #7

Lamb of God

The Communion

Communion Hymn – Bread of Life, Feed My Soul

Ablution Hymn – My Song is Love Unknown (CP 184)

Prayer after Communion: God our help and strength, you have satisfied our hunger with this eucharistic food. Strengthen our faith, that through the death and resurrection of your Son, we may be led to salvation, for he is Lord now and for ever. **Amen**

Doxology

The Blessing

Closing Hymn – Ride On, Ride On in Majesty (ICP 183)

Dismissal

Music – May the Lord

Postlude

Greeters: Tom Rudolph & Placide Chiasson

Counters: Hazel Sherren & Cliff Holder

Chancel Guild: Prue Hansen, Diane MacLeod, Judy Rose, Joan MacDonald

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tuesday, Mar. 31st – 12:00 noon Holy Eucharist/Lent Program “All in for the Highs and Lows”

Wednesday, Apr. 1st – 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae

Thursday, Apr. 2nd – 5:00 p.m. Soup Supper & Communion (upper hall)
Stripping of the Altar

Friday, Apr. 3rd – 10:30 a.m. Children's service

2:00 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday

Next Sunday, April 5th – Easter Sunday

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise service (on the lawn – weather permitting)

10:00 a.m. Easter Liturgy (followed by Easter Egg Hunt and Coffee Hour)

Communion: We offer two options for the receiving of communion wine: the common cup and a second cup from which a medicine dropper is used to place wine upon the host. You are invited to cross to the chalice of your choice after receiving the host. **Dropper cup on the piano side/Drinking cup on the organ side. Note:** Dipping of the wafer (intinction) is not permitted in the common cup.

We are accepting donations of wrapped Easter candy for our children's **Easter Egg Hunt** on Easter Day. Help us make this fun for our children!

EASTER LILIES/MEMORIALS: Those wishing to place Easter lilies in the church or make a monetary memorial donation for Easter Sunday, please have your dedication in to the office (902-897-0566) by **Wed., April 1st** for inclusion in the bulletin. Easter lilies should be delivered to the church at **10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 4th**.

This year on **Maundy Thursday (April 2)** we are hosting a **Soup Supper and Communion** service beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the upper hall. We will gather to eat a simple meal, hold a brief discussion about that last meal Jesus shared with his friends and the parallels between that meal and our Eucharist. We will then celebrate the Eucharist at that same table. After the worship, any who wish may process with us in silence to the church where the altar will be stripped in preparation for Good Friday. To make this evening happen, we need some volunteers to bring a pot of soup (your choice), others to bring breads to share, and others to bring a light dessert (cookies or fruit). A sign-up sheet is at the back of the church for these items. We would also appreciate your signing up on the separate attendance sheet if you plan to be with us. Knowing numbers will help our set-up. We hope to see you there!

ASK ME! You may have noticed some of our members wearing bright yellow and red “ASK ME” buttons. If you are new to St. John’s (or even not so new!) and have questions – please speak to anyone wearing a button. If they don’t have an answer for you, they’ll find one!

Coffee Hour dates: April 5th and 19th / May 3rd and 17th / June 7th and 21st.

Spiritual Café dates: April 10th / May 1st / May 22nd / June 12th.

Sunday School dates for this term: April 12th and 26th / May 3rd, 24th and 31st (Sundae Sunday).

Calling on anyone with sewing skills!!! We are planning to create some new costumes for our Sunday School to use in Christmas pageants. We’ll provide the fabric and notions; we just need someone to sew. If you are interested and can volunteer some time, please speak to Esther or Rev. Lori.

Up and Coming: Easter Season Book Study – We’ll be reading and discussing John Mark Comer’s Practicing the Way. This short book is a guide to being with Jesus, being like Jesus and acting like Jesus. Leadership will be shared by Rev. Lori, Cory and Natasha. Dates: Sundays – April 12th, May 10th and June 14th after worship in the meeting room. Bring a bag lunch – coffee/tea will be provided. All are welcome. Books are now available from the office. The cost of the book will be \$30.



Our Lent Program this year is called “**All In.**” From the program intro:

“Have you ever decided to go all in for something? Maybe it was when you chose a profession or a partner. Perhaps you made the exciting but terrifying decision to become a homeowner. Maybe it was when you joined your current congregation, or, if you came to faith later in life, when you decided to be baptized.”

In Matthew 4, Jesus fasts for forty days in the wilderness, then confronts the testing of the devil. Responding to each temptation, he demonstrates the kind of savior he will become: deeply connected to God’s people and God’s creation; committed to cosmic saving power, not flashy tricks; filled with love for God and everything God loves. Refusing easy food, power, and dominion, Jesus goes all in on salvation on our behalf. When his life ends on Good Friday, his commitment will be total, emptied out in love dying on the cross and rising from the grave. Jesus shows what it is like to be all in for the reign of God. It means being fully invested, deeply committed. There are no backup options. Everything is on the line.

As Christians, God calls us to a life of commitment and caring for our neighbors and our world, even when the cultures around us view our caring as naive and our commitment as pointless. The endless news cycle can be grim, and optimism can be hard to find. It would be easier to detach from the need around us, to go numb and to care less as we try to guard our hearts and our expectations. But God calls us to deep engagement instead, to care more in a world trying to protect itself by caring less.”

Our program invites us to explore going “all in” in different ways:

Ash Wednesday: All in for Repentance / 1st week of Lent: All in for Creation
2nd week of Lent: All in for the Unknown / 3rd week of Lent: All in for Wonder
4th week of Lent: All in for Relationship / 5th week of Lent: All in for Letting Go
Holy Week: All in for the Highs and Lows / Easter: All in for Resurrection
There are two ways to get involved with our “**All In**” Program. 1) You can sign up to receive private email devotions daily to your inbox. This is a way to read, reflect and pray about the themes day-by-day and week-by-week. Email Rev. Lori at lramseyis@gmail.com to sign up. 2) You can also join our Wednesday noon Lenten Eucharist each week during the season. The worship will feature reflection on the theme and will be followed by an informal coffee and conversation time where we’ll speak further about what we’re hearing and learning. All are welcome to any or both of these offerings.

The Diocese of NS and PEI is sponsoring a **Lent book club** online again this Lent. The book for this year is Cherished Belonging: The Healing Power of Love in Divided Times by Gregory Boyle. Details about the book club and sign up is available at <https://www.nspeidiocese.ca/news/love-that-heals-diocesan-lenten-book-study>

Praying for Peace: During the Second World War, a group of people stopped whatever they were doing for a specific time every night to pray for peace and safety for everyone. They did this every day, and it was as if the whole city paused – such was the power of prayer. The result was so overwhelming that the bombing stopped shortly afterward! Now once again some people are organizing. A group of people around the world has agreed to spend one minute praying for the safety of our countries, for the end of the problems that oppress us, and for God to guide the decisions of our leaders. The time chosen for Canada to pray is **12:00 noon**. Please pause in your busy day to pray for peace at that time.



March 29th, 2026 Palm/Passion Sunday



Rector: Rev'd Lori Ramsey



Wardens: Sarah Lennerton and Michael Sherren

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