

10:00 Holy Eucharist (BAS) **Licensed Lay Minister:** Stephen Hamlin

Processional Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth (CP 429)

Gathering of the Community

Gloria (said)

Collect: O loving God, keeper of the vineyard, support your people by your Holy Spirit, so that we may bring forth the fruits of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ, the eternal vine. **Amen**

The Proclamation of the Word:

Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (Sarah Lennerton)

Psalm 19

Philippians 3: 4b-14 (Jason Reynolds)

Gradual Hymn: God of the Bible

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-46 (Natasha Bejarano)

Homily – Natasha Bejarano

A New Creed

The Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

The Peace

Offering Hymn – All Things Bright and Beautiful (CP 415)

Prayer over the Gifts: God of truth, receive all we offer you this day. Make us worthy servants, strong to follow in the pattern of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Eucharistic Prayer #3

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of Bread #2

Lamb of God

The Communion

Communion Hymn: Bread of Life, Feed My Soul

Ablution Hymn: God of the Sparrow (CP 414)

Prayer after Communion: Almighty God, may we who have been strengthened by this eucharist remain in your steadfast love, and show in our lives the saving mystery that we celebrate. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen**

Doxology

The Blessing

Closing Hymn: I Feel the Winds of God Today

Dismissal

Music: Let There be Love

Postlude

Greeters: Judy & Harry MacKenzie

Counters: Jon McKinnon & Neil Harris

Chancel Guild: Laurel MacIntosh & Cathy Boudreau

Altar Flowers are placed to the glory of God and in loving memory of Marjorie and Stan West from Donna and Gordon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tuesday, Oct. 6th – Morning Prayer 8:45 a.m.

Spiritual Development 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 7th – Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 9th – Meditation 10:00 a.m.

Lectionary Study 11:00 a.m.

Saturday, Oct. 10th – 10:00 a.m. Church Decorating for Thanksgiving

Next Sunday, October 11th – Harvest Thanksgiving

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (BAS)

Join us for **coffee hour** after church today in the upper hall. Further Coffee hour dates for the fall will be October 18, November 1, 15 & 29, and December 6 & 20.

Today we will hold our annual **Blessing of Animals** service on the church lawn at 2:00 p.m. (rain or shine). All are welcome to bring their companion animals.

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're 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.

The church office has resumed **regular hours**. Hours going forward will be Monday – Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – noon.

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!

Thanksgiving Decorating: Thanksgiving is just one week away! Please consider donating gifts of produce and packaged, dried or canned goods which we can use to decorate our sanctuary and share with the Food Bank after the celebration. Gifts may be dropped at the parish office during regular office hours or brought to the church on **Saturday morning, Oct. 10th between 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** We can also use extra hands that morning to help us decorate. Many hands make light work!

Spiritual Café dates for the fall: (Fridays at 9:00 a.m.) - November 6 & 27 and December 18. On all other Friday mornings we will have **Meditation and Lectionary Bible Study**. Meditation is at 10:00 a.m. in the choir room of the parish hall and Lectionary at 11:00 a.m. in the main parish hall meeting room. All are welcome to join us!

Sunday School dates for the fall term are October 4 & 18, November 1, 15, & 29, and December 6 & 20.

Men’s Fellowship Group will be starting up once again in the next few weeks. If anyone would like to consider giving us a try or would like to know more about the group, please contact Harry MacKenzie, either in person or by email (htmackenzie2@gmail.com). This will be our third year of operating, and we are always looking to increase our numbers!

Mary Hubley is taking orders for copies of the **2027 Canadian Church Calendar**. This cost is \$8. If you have ordered in the past, she will automatically order you a copy. If you have not ordered before and would like a copy, please contact her at 902-893-8087 or speak to her in church.

Our parish **Fall Retreat** will take place on **Saturday, October 17th**. We will enjoy a day away together at the Seek Wilderness facility at the top of Young St. All are welcome to join in this time of prayer, reflection, sharing and enjoying God’s good creation! **If you are interested in attending, please sign the sheet at the back of the church today.**

Mission to Seafarers: We will be starting our Mission to Seafarers Campaign earlier in the fall this year. Items for a regular running shoe box include: Hat / Toque, Scarf or neck warmer, Gloves, Socks. Wrapped hard candy (**no chocolate**), Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Shampoo or body wash (no larger than 375ml to fit in a shoebox), Shaving foam, Razors, Deodorant, Lip balm, Playing cards, Pen/pencil, Small packages of tissues, Comb, Christmas card, Bible (supplied by mission), Mementos of NS, PEI or Canada. Rev’d Bev will be explaining more about this mission at various Sundays through to the late fall.

Pickleball anyone? We are exploring the possibility of setting up pickleball play for interested parishioners in the upstairs hall. Pickleball for years has been the fastest growing sport in North America; providing an excellent opportunity for fitness and fellowship for people of all ages. If the interest is there, we will put together a meeting to look at the next steps; ie times and frequency of play. If you think you’d like to give pickleball a try, please contact Harry MacKenzie at htmackenzie2@gmail.com

Strides for Safety: Walk for Third Place Transition House. For more than 40 years, Third Place Transition House has provided emergency shelter and support to survivors of intimate partner violence. Now, we’re working toward our next chapter: **Second Stage Housing** – safe, affordable housing with wraparound supports where survivors and their children can rebuild their lives for up to two years after leaving shelter. With intimate partner violence at epidemic levels and Nova Scotia facing an ongoing housing crisis, this project has never been more important. Every team, walker, and supporter helps bring this vision one step closer to reality for Colchester and East Hants. **When:** November 7th at 5:30 p.m. **Where:** Meet at Civic Square, then walk 2.5 km together around downtown Truro. **How to participate:** Join a team or join on your own. Spread the word and ask your friends and families to support your efforts. For more info visit <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/third-place-transition-house/p2p/walk-for-third-place-2026/> email: fundraising@thirdplaceth.ca Or phone 902-893-4844.

Card and Game Social: Join us on **Tuesday, October 13th** for a social time with friends in the upper hall from 2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Bring your favorite board game. Playing cards will be provided, along with tea and coffee and a snack.

We are exploring the possibility of holding an **adult Confirmation Class** this fall. If interested in seeking Confirmation, please speak to Rev. Lori.

During the month of October, we will be collecting donations for the **SPCA Truro**. Everything we receive will be brought to the shelter at the end of the month. Suggested donations:

- wet cat and dog food, non-clumping or pellet kitty litter, bleach, high-efficiency laundry detergent, paper towels and toilet paper, letter-sized white paper, treats and toys, black garbage bags,
- resealable fridge/freezer bags, latex/Nitrile gloves. Thank you for helping our four legged friends in this month of St. Francis of Assisi.

Canadian Foodgrains Bank – Setting the Table for Peace. **World Food Day** is October 16th. Join us at 7:30 p.m. at Immanuel Baptist Church as we host a live-stream Worship Service from St. Matthew's Church in Kitchener, Ontario and meet Skylar Boylan, our new Atlantic Rep.

FLOURISHING FAITH

A flourishing congregation is grounded in a simple, life-giving truth: when we stay rooted in Christ, our daily lives naturally overflow with joy, purpose, and spiritual vitality.

Focus: Giving, Serving & Stewarding

THE PRACTICE: Practice quiet, unannounced service. Pick one small need around you this week – returning a neighbor's bin, leaving an encouraging note, or tidying a neglected corner – and do it entirely without drawing attention to yourself.

TRY THIS AT HOME: Take 10 minutes to review weekly household spending. Choose one intentional way to share surplus or redirect a modest expense toward local community support.

PARISH REFLECTION: Where is God calling our parish to step out beyond maintenance and offer tangible care to our wider community?

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others."
— 1 Peter 4:10



October 4th, 2026 19th Sunday after Pentecost



Rector: Rev'd Lori Ramsey



Wardens: Sarah Lennerton and Michael Sherren

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME FOR FUTURE REFERENCE