

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Sunday, October 12, 2025



CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PARISH OF LANCASTER

Diocese of Fredericton

Anglican Church of Canada

Bishop

Incumbent

Church Wardens

Parish Administrator

Organist & Choir Director

Sexton

Archbishop David Edwards

The Rev'd Christopher Ketch

Susan Jack, Terry Ricketts

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We acknowledge that the land on which
we gather is the traditional unceded
territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet)
and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

The liturgy is according to *The Book of Alternative Services*.

THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP

Scripture Sentence and Welcome

Opening Hymn “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” **CP 262**

Greeting page 185

Collect for Purity page 185

Glory to God page 186

Collect of the Day page 396

THE WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

First Reading Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹ When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, ‘Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.’ ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the Lord your God: ‘A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.’ You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹ Then you, together

with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house. [NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm *Psalm 100*

Said all together.

- 1 Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
 serve the Lord with gladness and come before
 his presence with a song.**
- 2 Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
 he himself has made us, and we are his;
 we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.**
- 3 Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts
 with praise; *
 give thanks to him and call upon his name.**
- 4 For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; *
 and his faithfulness endures from age to age.**

Second Reading Philippians 4:4-9

A reading from Philippians.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. [NRSV-A]

Hear God's word for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn “He Is Good”

- 1 He is good, He is good.
His love endures forever.
Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.
He is good, he is good.
His love endures forever.
Give thanks, for He is good.
- 2 For His unfailing love and his wonderful deeds
Give thanks, give thanks to the Lord!
He is good, He is good.
His love endures forever.
Give thanks for He is good.

“He is good”

Words and music Frank Hernandez | Jess Nelson

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Gospel John 6:25-35

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁵ When they found *Jesus* on the other side of the lake, they said to him, ‘Rabbi, when did you come here?’ ²⁶ Jesus answered them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.’ ²⁸ Then they said to him, ‘What must we do to perform the works of God?’ ²⁹ Jesus answered them, ‘This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.’ ³⁰ So they said to him, ‘What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?’ ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, “He gave them bread from heaven to eat.” ³² Then Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of

God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' ³⁴ They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

³⁵ Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. [NRSV-A]

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon Fr Keith Joyce

The Nicene Creed page 188

Prayers of the People #19 Thanksgiving Litany page 128

Confession and Absolution page 191

The Peace page 192

THE CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Gifts

Offertory Hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" CP 399

Prayer over the Gifts page 397

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer #2 page 196

The Lord's Prayer page 211

The Breaking of the Bread (first one) page 212

The Communion - invitation to Receive page 213

Receiving of Communion

While the church receives communion in silence, take the time to reflect or pray or sit quietly and to enable others to do so, and/or at any time to join in the singing of the following music:

"Lamb of God" CP 690 page 226

"O Joy of God"

- 1 O joy of God, we seek you in the morning
And long to see the glory of your face:
Rise on our darkness with your sun's new dawning.
Flood all our being in this feast of grace.
- 2 O life of God, for you our spirits hunger;
Unless we feed on you we surely die:
With love and faith renewed and hope grown younger,

Send us from here to serve you, God most high.

- 3 O peace of God, you pass our understanding;
Safe through each moment keep us every day:
With joy divine and mercy never ending,
Direct our path and prosper all our way.

"O Joy of God"

Words and Music Michael Perry

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"God of the Sparrow" CP 414

Prayer after Communion

page 397

Presider *Let us pray.*

Presider Lord God almighty and the God of our hope,
All **in this eucharist**
 we find the source of all your blessings.
 Nourished in these holy mysteries
 may we, with our lives,
 give you continual thanks and praise.
 This we ask
 in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Doxology

Then the following doxology is said.

Presider Glory to God,
All **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,
 forever and ever. Amen.

Blessing *as given by the presider*

THE CHURCH DEPARTS TO WITNESS AND TO SERVE

Dismissal

page 215

Leader Go forth into the world,

rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!
People **Thanks be to God!**

Closing Hymn *“My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness”*

- 1 My heart is filled with thankfulness
to Him who bore my pain
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
and gave me life again
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness
and clothed me in his light
And wrote His law of righteousness
with power upon my heart.

- 2 My heart is filled with thankfulness
to Him who walks beside
Who floods my weaknesses with strength
and causes fear to fly
Whose every promise is enough
for every step I take
Sustaining me with arms of love
and crowning me with grace.

- 3 My heart is filled with thankfulness
to Him who reigns above
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose every thought is love
For every day I have on earth
is given by the King
So I will give my life, my all,
to love and follow Him.

“My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness”
Words and Music Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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Postlude

Those serving for this church's worship and learning today:

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Carol Patterson & Patti Vaughan
<i>Sunday School</i>	Laura Janes
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	Patti & Jim Touchbourne
<i>Layreader & First Reader</i>	Heather Masson
<i>Second Reader</i>	Margaret Penchoff
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Layreader
<i>Organist & Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Presider & preacher</i>	Keith Joyce
<i>Counters</i>	Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown
<i>Building care</i>	Terry Ricketts

Sun, Oct 12, 11:45 am	No Lunch
HVHS Lunch Programme preparation (Large Hall kitchen)	School Is Closed
Mon, Oct 13, 11:30 am	No Lunch
HVHS Lunch Programme delivery (from Large Hall)	School Is Closed

*Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex
for who's serving next week.*

THIS WEEK

Mon, Oct 13, 6:30 pm	<u>Tintinnabula Hand Bell Choir</u> (Small Hall) For more info contact Lynn Adams at 506 635-8474
Wed, Oct 15, 10:00 am	<u>Saint John and District Senior's Shuffleboard</u> (Large Hall) For more info contact Pauline Wilson at 506 738-8677
Wed, Oct 15, 7:00 pm	<u>Choir practice</u> (Small Hall) For more info contact David Mitchell at 506 738-2798

FOR OUR WORSHIP AND LEARNING

Notes on today's Scripture Readings

Deuteronomy 26:1-11 In Exodus, we read that the Israelites are to offer the first or best fruits of the harvest to God. Our reading expands on this. By the time Deuteronomy was written, the offering was also in thanks for deliverance from Egypt.

Philippians 4:4-9 Paul tried to finish his letter earlier, but certain concerns about the community and its members intruded. In the Greek world, rejoice was used much as we say goodbye, but here Paul means rejoice literally.

John 6:25-35 The crowd has misunderstood the nature of the food Jesus gives. They have taken him for a political messiah who will free them from Roman occupation. John continues to pursue the question: Who is Jesus? Is he divine? © 1996-2025 Chris Haslam

Next Sunday –October 19 *Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost* Scripture readings Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104; 2 Timothy 3:14–4:5; Luke 18:1-8

NOTICES

Happy Birthday this Week to:



Daniel McMullen, October 12
Gerald Baldwin, October 14
Michelle Cronin, October 16

“Remember you are a Child of God through Baptism”

Food Bank

Please remember the **West Side Food Bank** with a toonie or a loonie in the can in the Narthex, or a donation in a special envelope marked with your name or number. We aim to support the Food Bank by at least \$ 200/month!

PRAYER

Prayer for folks in nursing or special care homes

Ginny Abbott, Diane Cormier, Frances Finley, Ann Hoben, Ruth Northeast, Elizabeth Parks, Elsie Rusling.

Prayer for those in hospital or sick at home

Andrew Aalund, Diane Basque, Margaret Boyer, Edith Chilton, Shelly Clark Collins, Linda Cunningham, Jo-Ann Diamond, Bonnie Dean, Wendy DeWitt, Ernest Ellingwood, Barb Ellis, Debbie Green, Kaye Mallory, Pam Melanson, Michael Penchoff, Susan Penchoff, Carol Price, Margaret Ann Reid, Lois Shaw, Bob Sherwood, Mykayla Spinney, Norm Toole, Arlene Trask, Dennis Totton, Joe Totton, Robbie Wong.

OUR PARISH PRAYER TREE

A team of volunteers is available upon request, to pray for you or your loved one (with their permission) daily, for two weeks. These prayers will be treated with the strictest confidence. Prayer-requests should be short and to the point, and which will be passed on verbatim. The Lord knows what we need best! A follow-up of thanks or an update encourages our intercessors in their ministry.

Call our 'Captain', Ngaire Nelson 672-8666 with your request.

Prayer Shawls - if you know someone in our parish who is in great need for prayer and would find comfort in a shawl made with love and care. Contact Ngaire Nelson at 506-672-8666 or the church office at 506-635-8145.

Parish Cycle of Prayer

Week of October 12-18, 2025

Mon: Carol Webb
Tue: Clinton and Carmen Webb
Wed: Barbara Webber
Thur: Allison and Nancy Webb
Fri: Our Sunday School and its Teachers.

Please pray for these parishioners and ministry this week.

Saint John Mission to Seafarers Prayer Cycle:

In October, we pray for stevedores, crane drivers and port workers that they may load and discharge ships safely.

Common questions on thanksgiving

What are Bible verses on thankfulness?

Bible verses on thankfulness are scriptural passages that inspire gratitude and praise. They remind believers to recognize God's blessings and nurture a thankful heart, with examples like Psalm 100:4-5 (see this morning's Psalm) and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.).

Why is thankfulness important in the Bible?

Thankfulness is a core Christian virtue that strengthens faith and builds trust in God. Scriptures such as Philippians 4:6-7 (⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.)

emphasize that gratitude transforms challenges into peace and spiritual growth.

Which Bible verses emphasize gratitude?

Key verses emphasizing gratitude include Psalm 95:1-3

- (¹ O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
³ For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.),

and Psalm 100:4-5, and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. These passages call believers in Jesus Christ to worship God with a grateful heart and recognize His constant provision.

How can I incorporate Bible verses on thankfulness into my daily life?

Incorporate Bible verses on thankfulness by reading them during prayer, keeping a gratitude journal, and meditating on passages like [Colossians 3:15-17](#). (¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.)

This practice nurtures a thankful heart and deepens your connection with God.

A Note:

It can be a very helpful practice to place a bookmark in your own Bible at home where these and other passages are found. It makes them easy to find whenever you want to be encouraged by their message.

The scripture quotes are from the NRSV translation of the Bible.

*A Blessed and
Happy Thanksgiving
to you, your
families, your loved
ones, and your
neighbours,
now and always!*

