

ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

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September 3, 2023

The **Season of Creation** is the annual Christian celebration to pray and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to listen and care for our common home, the Oikos of God. The Season begins September 1, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. This means the 5 Sundays (September 3, 10, 17, 23, & October 1) will center on this seasonal celebration. This year we will unite around the theme, **"Let Justice and Peace Flow."** Instead of despair, hope can be created if we work together as the People of God. By the Creator's infinite love and mercy, streams can rise in the desert. An economy of peace can be built instead of an economy based on conflict. Justice, allied with peace, calls us to repent of our ecological sins and to change our attitudes and actions. Righteousness demands that we live in peace, not conflict, with our human neighbours, and build right relationships with all of Creation. Through prayer, practical advocacy, and sustainable actions, this 2023 Season of Creation can prophetically renew our ecumenical unity and care for our common home. May we journey together in communion as the people of God to let justice and peace flow!



A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

*Welcome to everyone gathered here today.
Special welcome to those visiting with us!
Please make yourself known to the greeters.*

September 3 - 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Today's Readings:

Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

In Nova Scotia:

- ~ Staff & students at Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax
- ~ Staff & students at University of King's College, Halifax
- ~ Staff & students at Kings-Edgehill School, Windsor

Provincial Prayer Care

Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land:

Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson and the Provincial Council

Council of the North

Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh:

Bishop Lydia Mamakwa

DCS Cycle of Prayer – Christ Church, Cherry Valley

Prayer Partner - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside

September 10 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Readings: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149;

Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

Readers: Sandra H, Grafton C; Jean R, Hilda J;

Savannah M, Marie M; Beryl C, Judy L

Prayers of the People: Jim E, Amy M, Doris M

Worship Times: 9 am – St. Thomas' HC

11 am – St. Mark's HC

11 am – St. Stephen's MP

7 pm – St. Elizabeth's HC

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

- ~ **Parish Council** – Monday, September 11 – 7 pm at St. Elizabeth's
- ~ **St. Mark's Church Council** – Monday, September 18 – 7 pm
- ~ **St. Thomas' Church Council** – Tuesday, September 19 – 7 pm
- ~ **St. Stephen's Church Council** – Thursday, September 21 – 7 pm
- ~ **St. Elizabeth's Church Council** – Sunday, September 24 – 8 pm

Bible Study will be held on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., online and in person at the Rectory.

Clinton View Lodge worship service for our Parish will be held on Wednesday, September 6, at 10:30 a.m. Much of our service time is singing and fellowship. Please consider joining as you are able!

Sunday School will be resuming at St. Stephen's in September. Please contact Rev'd Shirley for more information.

Confirmation Classes will be offered in September. Please contact Rev'd Shirley for more information.

Kensington & Area Christian Council meets on Wednesday, September 20, 7 pm at Princetown United Church in Malpeque.

PWRDF is partnering with the Diocese and CLIMAtlantic to offer two virtual information sessions on climate change and how to prepare. As you are aware, the Diocese has experienced a hurricane, flash flooding, and wildfires all within this past year. Climatologists tell us we can expect more extreme weather events in the future due to our changing climate. The purpose of the information session is to help educate us on climate change as well as on adaptation and mitigation strategies. The first information session (7pm-9pm on Tues., Sept. 26) will deal with the science of weather change and trends in the region. The second session (7pm-9pm on Tues., Oct. 3) will address how to better prepare and protect our church properties against damage from future events. There will be an opportunity to ask questions of the experts from CLIMAtlantic who will be leading the session. Please contact the office and/or let Rev. Shirley know directly if you wish more information, would like to participate with her online at the rectory, or wish to register (no cost) to attend online.

The Isle-a-Chords are holding a 50th Reunion Celebration Song Service on September 17th at 7 pm at St. John's Presbyterian Church in New London. Freewill offering will go to QEH and PCH.

Hospice PEI is seeking volunteers in all communities (seeking more male interest and more bilingual speaking volunteers). If this has been something that you have wondered about and wanted to give back to your community and those in need, we ask that you reach out and connect with a coordinator to find out about how you can make a difference, making each day count, by bringing comfort and joy to our care recipients we support. Fall training session (2 days, cost \$30) will be held in Queens, East, and West regions (dates/times and locations to be determined). Contact: Queens (902-368-4095); East (902-438-4231); West (902-859-3949)

COLLECT (p 377)

Author and Giver of all good things,
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion, nourish us in all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS (p 378)

Merciful God, receive all we offer you this day.
Give us grace to love one another
that your love may be made perfect in us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (p 378)

Almighty God,
you renew us at your table with the bread of life.
May your holy food strengthen us in love
and help us to serve you in each other.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

A READING FROM EXODUS 3:1-15

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.” “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’”

A READING FROM ROMANS 12:9-21

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord. On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink.

In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.”

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 16:21-28

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!” Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.

“Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”