

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF NEW LONDON

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January 26, 2024

3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome to everyone gathered here today.

Today's Readings

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; Psalm 19;

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

Bridgetown, Nova Scotia

~ The Rev'd Dawn-Lea Greer, Rector, and the Rev'd Kent Greer

Provincial Prayer Care

Diocese of Montreal – Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson

Council of the North

Diocese of Brandon – Bishop Right Rev. William Cliff

DCS Cycle of Prayer – Christ Church, Kildare

Prayer Partner - Parish of Timberlea-Lakeside

February 2 – The Presentation of the Lord (white)

Readings: Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 84; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

Readers: Sandra H, Grafton C; Hilda J, Tim O; Savannah M, Marie M

Prayers of the People: Jim E, Lola MO, Doris M

Worship Times: 9 am – St. Stephen's HE

11 am – St. Mark's HE

11 am – St. Thomas' MP

- Deadlines for Annual Reports and actual Annual Meetings:

Annual Reports are due by 9 am on January 29.

Annual meetings are as follows:

- St. Thomas' - Monday, January 27, 7 pm (alt. Mon., Feb. 3)

- St. Stephen's - Thursday, February 6, 7 pm (alt. Thurs., Feb. 13)

- St. Elizabeth's - Sunday, February 9, 2 pm at the Rectory

- St. Mark's - Monday, February 10, 7 pm (alt. Mon., Feb. 17)

- Parish - Tuesday, February 18, 7 pm (alt. Thurs., Feb. 20)

Highlights from Parish Council Meeting – January 14, 2025

~ Motions have been passed in both St. Stephen's Church and St. Thomas' Church regarding requested revisions to their coverage for Insurance through the Parish Insurance Policy, which is managed by and changes will be made through the Diocese Plan. The changes will come into effect in the upcoming (March, 2025) Insurance Coverage for these churches.

~ Mackenzie Carr was elected and then added as Synod Youth Delegate for 2025. Grafton Cole and Kim Gallant remain, as well, as Synod delegates for the upcoming Synod to be held in May.

~ A document was distributed to offer further clarity about the distinction between Church and Parish Council and the roles of Council members.

~ The Nominating Committee for Parish Council has completed its work, and the Church's Nominating Committees are actively recruiting Council members. Related, the schedule for the Church Council Annual Meetings and Parish Council Annual Meeting was reviewed, along with deadlines for various reports. This will be included in upcoming bulletin.

Bible Study will be held weekly on Thursday, 9:45 a.m. at the Rectory and online Zoom. All are welcome to attend!

St. Thomas' will be hosting a **Valentine Party** on Monday, February 10, 10:00 a.m. in the Church Hall. Could everyone please bring a valentine card for us to sign for shut-ins in our churches. All Parishioners & Friends welcome!

COLLECT (pg. 351)

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us
and accept us in your service.
Strengthen us by your Spirit,
and make us worthy of your call;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS (pg. 351)

Loving God, before the world began you called us.
Make holy all we offer you this day,
and strengthen us in that calling.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (pg. 351)

Gracious God, our hands have taken holy things;
our lives have been nourished by the body of your Son.
May we who have eaten at this holy table
be strengthened for service in your world.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

A READING FROM NEHEMIAH 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

A READING FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-31a

Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by[a] one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.

If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 4:14-21

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him.

Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,

because he has anointed me

to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners

and recovery of sight for the blind,

to set the oppressed free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down.

The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

IN MEMORIAM

The Bulletins used within the Parish
are given to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of

CARL THOMPSON

July 16, 1944 – February 1, 2022

*“Remember me with thoughts of peace,
live each day with your heart.
Grieve not for me, though I am gone,
we’re never far apart.”*

Always loved and remembered
by wife Norma
Lesley, Andrew, Edward
and families

IN MEMORIAM

The Bulletins used within the Parish
are given to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of

Husband and Father

GORDON MILL

+January 27, 2017

*"In my Father's house
are many mansions"
the blessed Master said,
and to prepare this blessed place,
He journeyed on ahead.
Our loved one, too, has journeyed on,
and free from every care,
within God's many mansions,
is waiting for us there.*

Always loved and remembered
by Mary and family

IN MEMORIAM

The Bulletins used within the Parish
are given to the Glory of God
and in Loving Memory of

JOAN COLE

+January 21, 2019

WESLEY COLE

+January 31, 2019

*We see your smile in the sun,
feel your comfort
in the sound of the raindrops,
your presence
in the whistling of the wind,
and your solace
in the silence of the night.*

Lovingly remembered by
Connie, Linda, Barb, Stephen
and families