



The Messenger

March & April 2020

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia
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New life starts in the dark.

Whether it is a seed in the ground...
a baby in the womb...
or Jesus in the tomb.

New life starts in the dark.
(Barbara Brown Taylor)

Dear friends,

It is my privilege to welcome you to the wilderness of Lent.

Over the years I have come to appreciate that Lent invites us out of the ruts of the same-old-same-old. Lent encourages us to step beyond our familiar places...persuades us to get outside of our comfort zones...and leads us into a time of wilderness reflection.

On Ash Wednesdays we are reminded that these forty days have been set aside for intentional prayer and reflection, fasting and repentance, giving and acts of love. To put it into a slightly fresh perspective, in Lent we are encouraged to try something new...to break with the ordinary...and to open our eyes, ears and hearts to our God who is yearning to spend some one-on-one time with us.

Like Jesus who was led into his wilderness time, and who relied on God's promise and presence to sustain him – we are also led into a time away from our comfort zones. A time when we are faced with liturgies, and readings, and songs, and prayers that sometimes fall troublesome upon our ears. A time when we talk about ashes, sacrifice, mortality, and repentance. A time when, truly, we are led to rely on God, God's Word, and the promise of God's grace alone.

And for these reasons – I believe that we *need* Lent – even (and perhaps, especially) when we don't really *want* Lent. I think that we, as Christians, need Lent to break us out of the routines that we have created for ourselves; need Lent to tell us a different (and sometimes difficult) story that we haven't dwelt with in a while; need Lent to lead us down a path which we probably wouldn't have otherwise wandered down; need Lent to prepare our hearts for the joy which awaits us at the empty tomb.

This Lent, may we embrace the detour which leads us into the wilderness...through the waving palms...around the table...upon the cross...into the tomb...and all the way to the glorious joy of Easter.

May these days be filled with rich opportunities for you, and your families, to experience the deep peace of a Saviour who journeys with us.

Blessed Lent,

+ Council Members

Our current council members are as follows:

Tim Aulenback	<i>Chairperson</i>
Tara Maguire	<i>Vice-Chairperson</i>
Hamilton Maguire	<i>Secretary</i>
Mark Lowe	
Abby Maguire	<i>Youth Member</i>
Brian Parnall	
Jean Rodenhiser	
Lynn Slack	
Sara Whynot	
Doug Keddy	<i>Treasurer</i>

+ Winter Storm Policy

Our cancellation policy states that in the event of inclement weather, the chairpersons of council in consultation with Pastor Adam, will make a determination by 9:30am. An announcement will be made on CKBW, on our Facebook page, and on our Answering Machine.

+ Easter Memorials

Anyone wishing to place a memorial in the church in memory of a loved one for Easter is asked to contact the Church Office as soon as possible. Flowers placed in the sanctuary are later delivered to members of our community and congregation.

+ Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes are now available for 2020.

+ Common Table

A sincere word of thanks to Tilly, Michelle and Vivian for hosting our February Common Table meal. Our March event will happen on March 25 at 5:30pm. If you would like to sponsor this event (by cooking a meal, or donating to cover the cost), please speak with Pastor Adam. After dinner, please consider sticking around for our Mid-Week Lenten program at 7pm. *Please note that due to Holy Week & Easter, there will be NO Common Table meal in April.*

+ Shrove Tuesday

Pancakes. Sausages. Cake. And fellowship!

We wish to extend a sincere word of thanks to all those who organized, volunteered, donated, and supported our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. A very special thank you to our Fundraising Committee, and especially to the Maguire Family, for making this event possible!

+ Time Change

Daylight savings time begins on Sunday, March 8th. Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday evening, March 7, 2020.

+ Mid-Week Lenten Worship

A cherished tradition returns as we gather on Wednesday evenings in Lent to worship using the liturgy of Holden Evening Prayer.

Our 2020 Mid-Week Lenten theme will be The Sacred Ordinary and will feature excerpts from Tish Harrison Warren's book, Liturgy of The Ordinary: Sacred Practices In Everyday Life.

As we strive to pause, reflect, and slow down in Lent, please consider using this mid-week service as an opportunity to walk in the way of the cross which leads from Ash Wednesday to Easter.

Please Note: We will NOT be offering a Soup & Bread supper on Wednesday evenings in Lent. Instead, consider joining us for our Common Table meal on March 25 @ 5:30pm.

+ Stations of the Cross

In 2018, we were fortunate to welcome Liturgical Artist, Barbara Februar who painted the *Stations of the Cross* during Sunday morning worship. These paintings have quickly become a cherished Lenten tradition at St. John's. Barbara's paintings will hang in place of our traditional banners from Ash Wednesday until Holy Saturday. During that time, we encourage you to make a point of prayerfully viewing these paintings. A devotional booklet has also been prepared to enhance your time of prayer and can be found in the Narthex. For more information about Barbara's work, please visit:

<http://www.barbarafebruar.ca/>

+ Camp Bursaries

Once again this year, the Mahone Bay Interchurch Council will be offering bursaries to any local child who wishes to attend a faith-based camp. To apply, please use the applications posted on the bulletin board. For more information, please speak with Pastor Adam. Applications are due May 15.

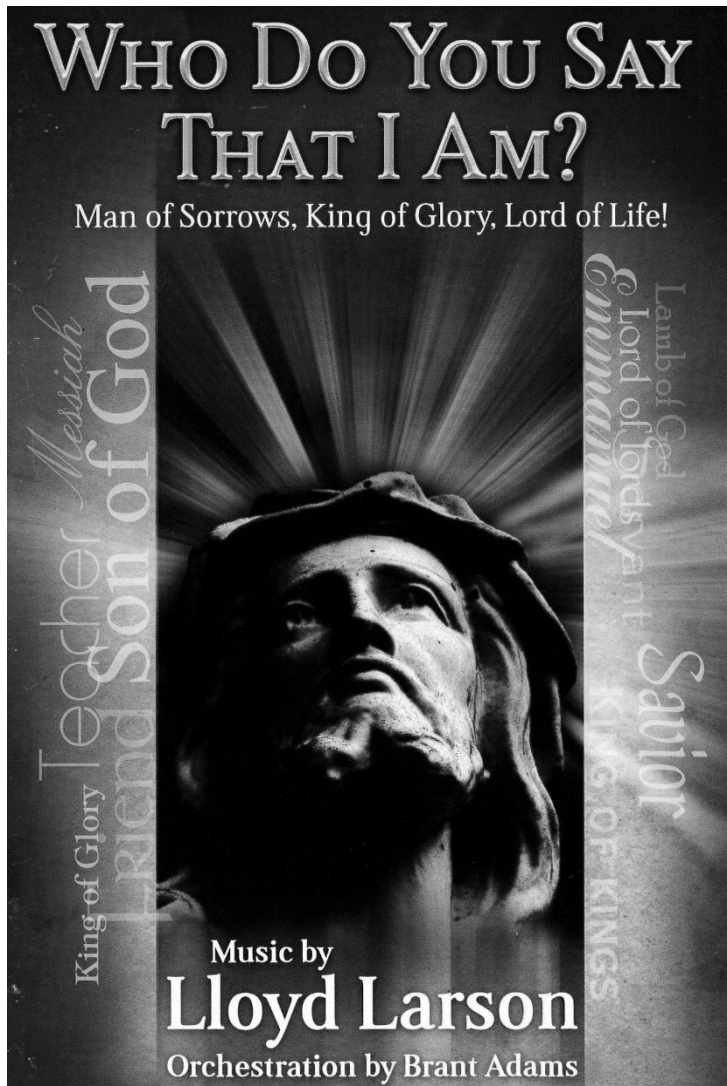
+ Parish Weekend

Save the date! Our parish Weekend has been scheduled for August 14-16, 2020! For more information, please speak with Heather & Robert.

+ Cantata 2020

Created and composed by Lloyd Larson, *Who Do You Say That I Am?* invites choir, narrators, and congregation to experience anew the earthly life of Jesus, seeing his life, ministry, death, and resurrection through the eyes of front-row participants, whose varied answers to the title question reveal the *Messiah, Emmanuel, gifted Teacher, the miracle Worker, the King of Glory, the King above all kings, a Man of Sorrows, the sacrificial Lamb of God, the triumphant Lord of Life, and the Son of the living God.*

Please plan to join us for this dynamic Lenten tradition on Palm Sunday evening, April 5 at 7pm.



There are a rich variety of worship opportunities throughout Holy Week. You are invited to make use of these services as a means of preparing your heart for the joy of Easter.

Palm Sunday - April 5, 11am

Our worship begins in the Christian Ed. Centre where we wave palms as we process into the sanctuary. We hear the dramatic narrative of our Lord's passion, sing hymns, and break bread together.

Passion Cantata - April 5, 7pm

Who do you say that I am? We listen in to the conversation, during our 2020 Passion Canatata, *Who Do You Say That I Am?*, as we are invited into a time of sacred reflection and prayer.

Maundy Thursday - April 9, 7pm

Gathered in a candlelit sanctuary, we will recall our Saviour's final moments through the ancient washing of hands, breaking of bread, and stripping of the altar.

Good Friday - April 10, 11am - Pentecostal

Good Friday unites us into one community as we gather for an ecumenical worship service at Calvary Crossroads Church. Hear again our Saviour's words from the cross, and enter prayerfully into the mystery of faith.

Easter Breakfast - April 12, 9am-10:30am

Join us on Easter morning from 9am-10:30am for our annual Easter Breakfast. Enjoy sausages, pancakes, hard-boiled eggs, fruit, a variety of baked goods as well as tea, coffee, and juice. Freewill offering.

Easter Sunday - April 12, 11am

We gather in stillness, as we await to hear the joyful proclamation that our Lord has risen! Rich music, ancient story, and sacred liturgy guides us from the font to the table as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

All Are Welcome!

+ Joy Journal

Birthdays greetings are extended to the following in the months of March and April;

March 1 Linda Veinot
March 2 Melinda Kerwin
Aaden Mason
March 3 Rhonda Joudrey
Jayme Keddy
Nathaniel Snook
Kasey Winchcombe
March 5 Lamechien Barry
Susan Fralick
March 7 Tim Aulenback
March 8 Pr. Steve Kristenson
Reena Joudrey
March 11 Pat Joudrey
Nathan Whynot
March 12 Margaret Capone
March 15 Gail Nauss
March 16 Rebecca Rock
March 17 Arlene Parks
March 19 Jonathan Wawin
Charlene Mailman
Kelsey Doucette
Brayden Barron
March 20 Leeann Dolimount
March 21 Krista McDow
March 22 Andrew Wentzell
March 23 Doug Barry
March 24 Heather Daurie
Owen Wamboldt
Anna (Wentzell) Bellows
Shirley Richardson
March 26 Alex Achenbach
March 27 Lillian Boyd
March 31 Ethel Joudrey
Arthur Hamm
Melanie Nauss
April 1 Joel Martell
April 3 Azelyn MacAdam
Luke Aulenback
April 8 Greg Inglis
April 10 Angela Zinck
April 11 Heather Hirtle
Joshua Wawin
April 13 Jocelyn Wentzell
April 15 Juliana Barry

April 16 Wilfred Wentzell
April 17 Lance Knickle
Jason Winchcombe
April 18 Lillian Temple
April 22 Ken Knickle
April 25 Logan Norman
Trudi Inglis
April 27 Justin Oickle-Demone
April 28 Colin Ernst
Spencer Achenbach
April 29 Megan Demone
April 30 Terry Naugler

Anniversary Wishes are extended to the following couples in the months of March & April:

March 3 Elaine & David Veinotte
March 27 Lamechien & Douglas Barry
March 31 Rosalie & Burleigh Ernst
April 8 Arnold & Susan Fralick



March 25

5:30pm

A place where all are welcome
to gather around a 'common table'
for refreshment and fellowship!

A MONTHLY COMMUNITY DINNER
AT ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, MAHONE BAY

**COMMON
—TABLE**

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church + March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Lent 1 11am – Worship (Word) 11am – Sunday School	2 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	3 9am - 2pm - Office	4 7pm – Mid-Week Lent	5 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	6 9am-2pm – Office	7
8 Lent 2 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am – Sunday School 12pm – Strat Plan	9 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	10 9am - 2pm - Office	11 7pm – Mid-Week Lent	12 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	13 9am-2pm – Office	14
15 Lent 3 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am – Sunday School	16 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	17 9am-2pm – Office	18 7pm – Mid-Week Lent	19 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	20 <i>Office Closed</i>	21
Pastor Adam Away – March 16-23, 2020 (Vacation)						
22 Lent 4 11am – Worship (Communion)	23 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	24 9am-2pm – Office 7pm – Council	25 5:30pm – Common Table 7pm – Mid-Week Lent	26 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	27 9am-2pm – Office	28
Pastor Adam Away						
29 Lent 5 11am – Worship (Word) 11am – Sunday School	30 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	31 9am-2pm – Office				

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church + April 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7pm – Mid-Week Lent	2 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir 8pm – Handbells	3 Music Festival 9am-2pm – Office	4 Music Festival
5 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am – Sunday School 7pm - Cantata	6 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	7 9am - 2pm - Office	8	9 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 9am-2pm – Office 7pm - Worship	10 <i>Good Friday</i> 11am - Worship (Calvary Crossroads Church)	11
12 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 9am - Breakfast 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am – Sunday School	13 <i>Easter Monday</i> 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	14 9am-2pm – Office	15	16 9am-2pm – Office 6:45pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	17 9am-2pm – Office	18
19 <i>Easter 2</i> 11am – Worship (Word) 11am – Sunday School	20 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	21 9am-2pm – Office	22	23 9am-2pm – Office 6:45pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	24 9am-2pm – Office	25
Pastor Adam Away – April 21-25, 2020 (Synod Council)						
26 <i>Easter 3</i> 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am – Sunday School	27 6:30pm – Tea & Biscuit Choir	28 9am-2pm – Office 7pm – Council	29	30 9am-2pm – Office 6:45pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells		