

Thank you to our lay-readers and musicians this morning.
Special thanks to our harpist, *Valerie Bellamy*.

Financial Update: Thank you for your generous support in 2013.
Only two more days to complete your givings for this year.

Church Office will be closed until January 3, 2014. Please call the church manse, 425-3810, for any emergencies.

Coffee & Conversation sign-up sheet is on the easel in the Tobin St. lobby.

2014 Canadian Church Calendars are For Sale after Service from the UCW.

Jan-Feb-Mar 2014 Devotionals “These Days” is available in the Tobin St. lobby. \$4 optional in the offering plate.

2014 Offering Envelopes are available TODAY in the Tobin St. lobby.

NEW: Accessible Parking on Tobin St, next to church, Sundays.

“Like”the facebook page. Go onto the Fort Massey website and link to our facebook page, and then “like” us so we can get facebook updates.

Onelight Theatre presents “Tell It On The Mountain” featuring the gospel music of The Sanctified Brothers, ’til Dec 31, at Alderney Landing, Dartmouth. Tickets 1.888.311.9090.

@ FORT MASSEY CHURCH in 2014:

- *Next Sunday Gathering*, Jan 5, 10:30 AM, New Year’s Communion
- *Next Women’s Coffee Group*, Tue, Jan 7, 10 AM, TBA
- *Next YOGA with Jenny*, Tue, Jan 7, 7 PM, Lower Hall
- *Spirit Connectors*, resumes Jan 9, 2014, Thursday, 10:30 AM
- *Choir Practice*, resumes Thu, Jan 9, 7:30-9 PM, Sanctuary
- *Next Men’s Breakfast*, Fri, Jan 10, 2014, 9:30 AM, Athens Rest.

The Gathering @ Fort Massey

A Congregation of The United Church of Canada

Watching over Halifax Harbour since 1871

~ transforming God to a verb ~



First Sunday after Christmas

10:30 am, December 29, 2013

Trent D. Cleveland-Thompson, Pastor
Simon Abbott, Organist & Music Director
Leah Collins Lipsett, Pianist & Jr. Choir Director
Richard & Carol Robinson, Sextons
Colleen Estabrooks, M&S Enthusiast
Sancia Knorr, Church School
Kathy Cochrane, Office Administrator
Alison McDonald, Clerk of Session
Alasdair Sinclair, OFM, Clerk Emeritus

Heather Ferrier, Student Minister
John Walter, Assistant Organist
Kevin Roberts, Flutist
Ian MacDonald, Tech Support
Elliott Prouty, OFM, Head Usher
Janna Janson, Nursery
Maddy Spicer, Assistant Administrator
John Gillis, Board Chair
Ruth MacKenzie, OFM, Chief Steward

Alan G. Hayman, OFM, Senior Trustee
H. Douglas Ritcey, OFM, Honorary Elder
Irene Parks, OFM, UCW President

Leslie Pezzaack, Treasurer
Ian MacDonald & Elliott Prouty, Presbytery
Martina Sommer, Facilities Rental Manager

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ORDER of SERVICE

* indicates standing for those who are able

PRELUDE

The Trinity Bell is rung and the Community Candle lit.

OPENING SENTENCES

Do you hear what I hear? The brightness of the winter's sun encourages travel and get-togethers around the family hearth.

Rest in heavenly peace! Rest in earthly peace.

Do you see what I see? Every moment is pregnant with possibility.

The miracle of each moment awaits our sensual wonder.

Holy life, so tender, yet so wild and free.

Do you feel what I feel? Our energy and well-being is strong and our celebrations cherish life together.

Inner calm, outer light.

Do you know what I know? Discern what gifts you will bring: compassion, mercy, courage, justice and care.

Love's pure light. New life, new ideas, are born.

INTROIT

Do You Hear What I Hear

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy, "Do you hear what I hear?"

Ringing through the sky, shepherd boy, Do you hear what I hear?"

A song, a song high above the trees

With a voice as big as the sea, With a voice as big as the sea."

OPENING PRAYER

We pray:

God of surprises, startle us with truth we do not see, amaze us with your power and grace, beckon us, and lead us far above restricted hope and narrow faith. Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

*CAROL

See amid the Winter's Snow

VU 76

WELCOME & LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERINGS

Offertory:

Offertory Carol: 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

VU 78

* Please stand as the offering is brought forward during the last verse of the carol.

READINGS & CAROLS Hope Was Heard Singing by Sally Foster-Fulton

	Psalm 139:1-18	“On the Infant” (p. 39)	
Carol:		What Child Is This?	CB 30, vs. 1&2
	Matthew 1:18-25	“On Mary and Joseph” (p. 55)	
Carol:		Joseph, Dearest, Joseph Mine	CB 15, vs. 1&2
	Matthew 2:1-12	“On the Star”(p. 59)	
		“On the Wisemen” (p. 63)	
Carol:		We Three Kings of Orient Are	CB 28
	Luke 2:8-12	“On Shepherds” (p. 69 & 70)	
Carol:		Shepherds in the Fields Abiding”	CB 3, v. 2
	Luke 2:13-20	“On Angels” (p. 78 & 79)	
Carol:		Hark! The Herald Angels Sing	CB 13
	John 1:1-18	“On the Story” (p.137 to 139)	
		O Little Town of Bethlehem	CB 22

PRAYER & PRAYER OF JESUS

***CAROL** Go Tell It on the Mountain VU 43

***PARTING WORDS**

*Let us embrace the wonder of this week
with expectation and imagination...*

The community candle is extinguished

*As we depart one from another, let our hearts be secure
through every human season.*

**Let our hearts be secure in seasons of anguish as in seasons of joy,
in seasons of failure as in seasons of success,
in seasons of uncertainty as in seasons of security.**

Let our hearts be secure in this dual reality:

we are worthy recipients of love and support we can never earn,

and we are worthy providers of love and support others cannot earn.

Let our hearts be secure,

for hearts know and understand and will respond if invited in.

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

* * *

Happy New Year!

Welcome to Fort Massey. A special welcome to our visitors. We are delighted to have you joining us at our Sunday Gathering . You are invited to sign our Guest Book; if you’re looking for a church home, please fill out a Welcome Card at the left of the main doors upon exiting the nave, leaving it with the guest book.