

**Welcome** to Fort Massey. We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down at heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers. We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome here if you're 'just browsing,' just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Moderator of the United Church of Canada, or haven't been to church since Christmas ten years ago. We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, hockey dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegetarians, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like 'organized religion.' (*We're not that keen on it either!*) We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell, or are here because granny is visiting and wanted to come to the ol' Kirk. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throat as kids or got lost on the Armdale roundabout and wound up here by mistake. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters, and you!

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5303 Tobin Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S3

902.423.4294 [ftmassey@eastlink.ca](mailto:ftmassey@eastlink.ca)

[www.fortmasseychurch.com](http://www.fortmasseychurch.com)

T. D. Cleveland-Thompson, Minister; Vurain Tabvuma, Liturgical Assistant;  
Jenny Trites, Music Director/Organist; Jade Fraser: Soloist;  
Diemo Landgraf and John Walter, Assistant Organists;  
Ian MacDonald, Camera; Kevin Robarts, Sexton;  
Tamara Mugford, Office Administrator.;  
Sancia Knorr, Church School; Lilli Knorr, Nursery;  
Andrew Mackay, Yoga



United against Racism

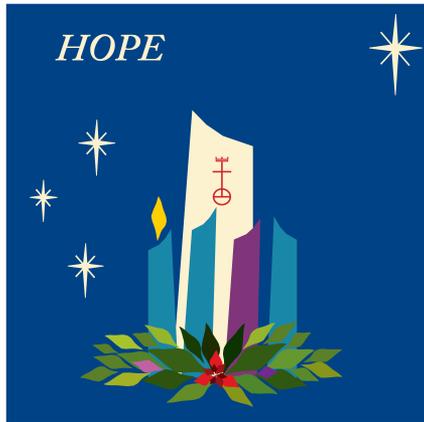


# Fort Massey Church

Spiritual Seekers **United** in Community

HALIFAX ~ NOVA SCOTIA

Our Sesquicentennial 1871-2021



**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**  
**November 29, 2020, 10:30 a.m.**

## **The Word Made Fresh**

### **PRELUDE**

J.S. Bach: Wachet auf,  
ruft uns die Stimme (BWV 645)

### **ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING - HOPE**

*Dong Jin Bae & Seung Yeon Toung and their daughters, Daeun and Sieun*

### **INTROIT**

**Hope is a star that shines in the night,  
leading us on till the morning is bright.  
When God is a child there's joy in our  
song. The last shall be first and the  
weak shall be strong, and none shall be  
afraid.**

v. 1, VU 7

### **GATHERING PRAYER**

The Lord's Prayer

**VU 921**

<b>HYMN: VU 2</b>	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
<b>PASSING THE PEACE</b>	<i>Peace be with you.</i> <b>And also with you.</b>
<b>WELCOME &amp; NOTICES</b>	Minute for Mission – <i>Nancy Riggs</i>
<b>OFFERING</b>	Offertory: *Response: <b>O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright? Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight! O kindle, then, most holy, a lamp within my breast, to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.</b>
	v. 1, <b>VU 31</b>
<b>READINGS</b>	Excerpt from online article by Treena Mielke in Alberta; Matthew 2:1-7 <i>Offered as wisdom for the journey.</i> <b>May we walk in its light.</b>
<b>HYMN: VU 14</b>	To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary
<b>SERMON</b>	<u><a href="#">A Christmas Miracle</a></u>
<b>HYMN: VU 18</b>	There's a Voice in the Wilderness
<b>PARTING WORDS</b>	<i>Amen. <b>May it be so.</b></i>
<b>POSTLUDE</b>	V. Lübeck: Prelude and Fugue F Major

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**We minister together, thanks to your support.** Please call or e-mail the church office to contact Ruth MacKenzie re financial giving; or Linda MacDonald re serving on a committee.

**Farewell** to Dong Jin Bae who returns to work at home in South Korea after eleven months in Halifax. His wife, Seung Yeon Toung, and their daughters, Daeun and Sieun, will join him in February 2021. Our best wishes go with him.

**2021 Canadian Church Calendar and 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cookbook.** \$15 & \$20 respectively. Contact the office.

**250 Christmas Stockings** to fill by Dec 4. Contact Brunswick Street Mission to see what is needed before dropping off.

**Mission to Seafarers Shoeboxes.** Send a financial donation to: Helen Glenn, Mission Manager, *Mission to Seafarers Halifax* P.O. Box 27114, 844 Marginal Road, Halifax, NS B3H 4M8

**Phoenix House snack program.** In lieu of collecting snack foods make cheque out to *Phoenix Youth Program*.

**Hope Cottage Casserole** cooks needed for Jan 7. Contact Teresa or the church office.

**Gifts with Vision Christmas catalog** is available in the Tobin St lobby or online at [giftswithvision.ca](http://giftswithvision.ca).

**Get ready for Christ(mas)!** For Advent and Christmas family activities visit [united-church.ca](http://united-church.ca) and search “advent unwrapped”.

**This Week:** Wed Coffee Party via Zoom – topic, “my biggest Xmas catastrophe”, 10:30; Thu Book Study via Zoom, 10:30; Sat recording of Sunday Service in the sanctuary, 10:30.

**On-line Music Recital** at Fort Massey with Dal students, Diemo Landgraf, piano; Alison Enriquez, violin; Dec 4, 5 PM.

**Advent Communion**, and W. S. Fong Volunteer Award Presentation, Dec 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM.

**Christmas Trivia Night**, Tuesday, Dec 17, at 7:30 PM via Zoom. Contact info will be sent out that afternoon.

**White Gift Service**, Dec 20<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 AM. In lieu of food goods, you may give a financial donation to *Brunswick Street Mission*.

1 **Come, thou long-expected Jesus,**  
born to set thy people free:  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.

**VU 7**

2 Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art,  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

3 Born thy people to deliver;  
born a child and yet a king;  
born to reign in us for ever;  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

4 By thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

1 **To a maid whose name was Mary,**  
the angel Gabriel came.  
"Fear not," the angel told her,  
"I come to bring good news,  
good news I come to tell you,  
good news, I say, good news.

**VU 14**

2 "For you are highly favoured  
by God the Lord of all,  
who even now is with you.  
You are on earth most blest,  
you are most blest, most blessed,  
God chose you, you are blest!"

- 3 But Mary was most troubled  
to hear the angel's word.  
What was the angel saying?  
It troubled her to hear,  
to hear the angel's message,  
it troubled her to hear.
- 4 "Fear not, for God is with you,  
and you shall bear a child.  
His name shall be called Jesus,  
God's offspring from on high.  
And he shall reign forever,  
forever reign on high."
- 5 "How shall this be," said Mary,  
"that I should be with child?"  
The angel answered quickly,  
"The power of the Most High  
will come upon you shortly,  
your child shall be God's child."
- 6 As Mary heard the angel,  
she wondered at his words.  
"Behold, I am your handmaid,"  
she said unto her God.  
"So be it, I am ready  
according to your word."

1 & 4 **There's a voice in the wilderness crying,** **VU 18**  
a call from the ways untrod:  
prepare in the desert a highway,  
a highway for our God!  
The valleys shall be exalted,  
the lofty hills brought low;  
make straight all the crooked places  
where God, our God, may go!

- 2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,  
get thee up to the heights and sing!  
Proclaim to a desolate people  
the coming of their King.  
Like the flowers of the field they perish,  
like grass our works decay;  
the power and pomp of nations  
shall pass, like a dream, away.
- 3 But the word of our God endureth,  
whose arm is ever strong;  
God stands in the midst of nations,  
and soon will right the wrong.  
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd,  
the lambs so gently hold;  
to pastures of peace will lead them,  
and bring them safe to fold.

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