

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! (adapted, used with permission, *Coventry Cathedral, England*).

Let us be gentle, patient and kind in 2021.

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www.fortmasseychurch.com

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



Fort Massey Church

Spiritual Seekers *United* in Community
HALIFAX ~ NOVA SCOTIA
Our Sesquicentennial 1871-2021



Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 21, 2021, 10:30 a.m.

The Word Made Fresh

* indicates standing

PRELUDE	Lighting of Community Candle	
GATHERING WORDS	The Lord's Prayer	VU 921
*HYMN: MV 55 vs 1,2,4	Watch Once More the Windswept Storm Clouds ALT TUNE LAUDA ANIMA	
*THE PEACE	<i>Peace be with you. And also with you.</i>	
WELCOME & NOTICES		
*OFFERING: MV 191	What Can I Do?	
A PRAYER...	...on the Anniversary of Not Being Able to Worship God, in-person... by The UCC Moderator Richard Bott	
*HYMN: MV 98 vs 1,3,4	Like a River of Tears	
READING	Romans 8:26-30 <i>Offered as wisdom for the journey. May we walk in its light.</i>	
SERMON	<u>Thrown Another Curve Ball</u>	
*AFFIRMATION	A New Creed	VU 918
*HYMN: VU 675 vs 1,2,4	Will Your Anchor Hold	
*PARTING WORDS	<i>Amen. May it be so!</i>	
GOING FORTH: MV 220	Hope Shines as the Solitary Star	
POSTLUDE		

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Our sympathy is extended to Carol & family on the passing of Alasdair Sinclair on March 14. A memorial service at Fort Massey is being planned for later in the spring.

Our appreciation is extended to Ian MacDonald who has faithfully recorded our Sunday Services over the past year.

March birthdays. Katherine Haak (27th)

We minister together, thanks to your support. Please call or e-mail the church office to contact Ruth MacKenzie re financial giving through weekly envelopes or the convenience of PAR; and Linda MacDonald re serving on a committee.

Easter Flowers. Place your memorial donation & info in the offering plate by March 28. Thank you.

Broadview, UCC magazine, will be published 8 times a year beginning April/May 2021. Next renewal \$25 is Jul/Aug 2022.

This week @ the fort:

U.C.W. meeting, today, after the Sunday Service, sanctuary

Yoga with Andrew, Tue, 6:30 PM, lower hall

Wed Morning Coffee Party via Zoom, 10:30 AM

Book Study, Thu, 10:30 AM, lower hall

Choir Rehearsal TBA, Thu, 7:15 PM, sanctuary

The Kirk Session will meet on Tuesday, March 30, at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary.

Hope Cottage Update – still need meals for Jun 24, Aug 19, Oct 14 and Dec 9. To volunteer, please contact Teresa Orser, 902-266-7959 cell/text or ptmhorser@yahoo.ca.

Climate crisis. Earth Spirit Action Team at St Matthew's UC is looking to join with like-minded Fort Massey folk, via Zoom, concerned about the climate crisis and necessary action. Contact the minister if interested.

- 1 **Watch once more the windswept storm clouds;**
 suddenly the sky has wings!
 God has come to rain among us,
 Giving hope to all dry things.
 Sing a song of splashing waters,
 pulsing through the veins of Earth.

- 2 Taste the moisture of the morning,
 smoother than the best red wine;
 toast the life-blood of the planet:
 here's to God's wild wet design!
 Sing a song of flowing waters,
 pulsing through the veins of Earth

- 4 Feel the breath of God move softly,
 gentle mists that brush the skin;
 Earth is breathing God's own spirit,
 life renewed from deep within.
 Sing a song of living waters,
 pulsing through the veins of Earth.

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

- 1 **Like a river of tears** your love pours upon us;
 like a sunshine of blessing your grace will sustain us;
 like a star-studded sky your spirit shines o'er us,
 renewing our spirits with courage and faith.

- 3 Like a pillar of cloud you promise to guide us;
 like a bright fiery bush you come to speak to us;
 like a calm cooling breeze your spirit breathes in us,
 renewing our spirits with loving embrace.

- 4 Like a lover's caress your spirit revives us;
like a song of the soul you come to be with us;
like a prayer of the heart you heal and restore us,
renewing our spirits, the future to face.
- 1 **Will your anchor hold** in the storms of life?
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife,
when the strong tides lift and the cables strain,
will your anchor drift or firm remain?
**We have an anchor that keeps the soul
steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
fastened to the rock which cannot move,
grounded firm and deep in the Saviour's love!**
- 2 It will surely hold in the straits of fear,
when the breakers tell that the reef is near;
though the tempest rave and the wild winds blow,
not an angry wave shall our bark o'erflow. R
- 4 When our eyes behold, through the gathering night,
the city of gold, our harbour bright,
we shall anchor fast by the heavenly shore,
with the storms all past for evermore. R
- Hope shines as the solitary star.**
Faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.

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