

Fort Massey Church

Spiritual Seekers **United** in Community

HALIFAX ~ NOVA SCOTIA

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www.fortmasseychurch.com

Ministers: All of us by the grace of God;
Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne, Intentional Interim;
Vurain Tabvuma, Liturgical Assistant;
Jenny Trites, Music Director; Robert Best, Assistant Pianist;
John Walter, Assistant Organist; Jade Fraser: Soloist;
Ian MacDonald, Saul Janson, Jude Janson, Tech Team;
Sancia Knorr, Church School; Lilli Knorr, Nursery;
Tamara Mugford, Office Administrator; Kevin Robarts, Sexton



Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 15, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



United against Racism



The Word Made Fresh

To Ponder: As we notice more people focusing on warm weather activities and being outside, appreciating this new season, how might you commit to the new commandment of “loving one another” in this season of your life?

** indicates rise in body or spirit
(please stand or remain sitting according to your comfort.)*

PRELUDE

GATHERING WORDS

LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LANDS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: We come knowing we are loved.

All: We come to experience and share God's love.

One: We pray that love be lived out in and through us.

**All: In gratitude and thanks we gather to worship,
growing in God's unending love.**

OPENING PRAYER / ASSURANCE / WORDS OF HOPE

***HYMN:** For the Fruit of All Creation

VU 227

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

WELCOME

***THE PEACE** *The peace of Christ be with you.*
And also with you.

***AFFIRMATION** A New Creed VU 918

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

OFFERING Offertory: *The offering will now be received.*

* Response: standing VU 541
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

DEDICATION PRAYER

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG, AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Celebration of Baptism

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

***HYMN:** I Have Called You by Your Name (*v 1 & 2*) MV 161

I have called you by your name, you are mine;
I have gifted you and ask you now to shine.
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.

I will help you learn my name as you go;
read it written in my people, help them grow.
Pour the water in my name, speak the word your soul can claim,
offer Jesus' body given long ago.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

On behalf of the congregation of Fort Massey United Church, I present Otis Berkshire Penny, son of Nancy Berkshire and Adam Penny, for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism.

PROFESSION OF FAITH AND PROMISES

Baptism is about the promise of an entire community to nurture a child in his or her spiritual faith journey, to share in the commitment of love and well-being, supporting growth physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually—family, friends, mentors, all the people who will impact Otis' life.

Nancy and Adam, as parents of Otis, you have indicated that it is your desire that your child be baptized. Will you accept the responsibility of acting and speaking on his behalf?

Will you share your faith with him in faith, hope, and love; sharing with him, the stories and practices of your Christian faith and at the same time encouraging him to respect and learn about spiritual and faith practices expressed by others?

If so, please respond *“I will, with God’s help.”*

Will you join in this community of faith to celebrate God’s presence, live with respect in creation, and love and serve others?

If so, respond *“I will, God being my helper.”*

Do you believe in God, Source of love; in Jesus Christ, love incarnate; and in the Holy Spirit, love’s power?

If so, respond *“I do, by the grace of God.”*

Do you seek to resist evil, and to live in love and justice?

If so, respond *“I do, God being my helper.”*

Will you follow the way of Jesus Christ?

If so, respond *“I will, God being my helper.”*

***CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT**

We who are gathered here today, represent family, friends, those special people who will mentor Otis and his parents throughout his life. We represent this community of faith and all those who will provide spiritual nurturing to Otis and his parents.

By the grace of God, do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, offer your commitment to support and nurture Otis within a community which worships God, resists evil, and seeks justice?

If so, respond *“We will, God being our helper.”*

POURING OF WATER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE ACT OF BAPTISM

LAYING ON OF HANDS

BLESSING

DECLARATION AND CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

PRESENTATION OF GIFT AND CERTIFICATE

BLESSING OFFERED BY CHOIR

***HYMN:** I Have Called You by Your Name (v 3 & 4) MV 161

I know you will need my touch as you go;
feel it pulsing in creation's ebb and flow.
Like the woman reaching out, choosing faith in spite of doubt,
hold the hem of Jesus' robe, then let it go.

I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

SCRIPTURE John 13:31-35

Offered as wisdom for the journey.
May we walk in its light.

ANTHEM He Is There

SERMON "Kin to One Another"

***HYMN** Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying VU 400

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN** I Was There to Hear VU 644

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.
When you heard the wonder of the word, I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time & you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

DISCIPLESHIP AND MINUTE FOR MISSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PARTING WORDS** **May it be so.**

***CHORAL BLESSING** Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace, never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.

Know God will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

POSTLUDE

Music Credits:

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For the Fruit of All Creation:

Words: Fred Pratt Green © 1970 Hope Publishing.

Music: Welsh folk melody ca. 1784.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow:

Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551.

I Have Called You by Your Name:

Words & Music: Daniel Charles Damon © 1998 Hope Publishing.

He Is There:

Words & Music: Mary Kay Beall © 1990 Hope Publishing.

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying:

Words and Music: Ken Medema © 1971 Hope Publishing Company.

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry:

Words & Music: John Ylvisaker © 1985.

Go Now in Peace:

Words & Music: Don Besig & Nancy Price © 1988 Shawnee Press.

Notices

Church Gardening

It's that time of year again. We'd like to meet next week, May 19th (rain date, Friday the 20th), to get the garden ready for planting. We'll do the weeding and pruning first, then, anything left and planting in early June. All welcome. Come with any tools you have - we'll start about 10:30 a.m. and go until 11:30 or 12:00. Any questions, please contact Kathy.

Men's Breakfast at Steak & Stein: May 20th at 9:30 a.m.

Blue Nose Marathon on May 22nd

The 19th annual Blue Nose Marathon will be taking place on Saturday, May 21, and Sunday, May 22. Please keep in mind that the safety and well-being of church members and race participants is the number one priority for everyone, and the decision as to when to allow individuals through to church is left to the judgment of police officers. Please allow for additional time on Sunday, May 22 as there may be delays.

Yoga Teacher Returning to Halifax, Looking for Accommodation Opportunities on the Peninsula

Andrew Mackay, who was a yoga teacher at Fort Massey pre-COVID is returning to Nova Scotia and hopes to resume teaching yoga at Fort Massey. Anyone knowing of a house-sitting opportunity, or an inexpensive room or small flat on the peninsula is welcome to get in touch with David Griffiths for information, character reference and introduction. For bio information: <https://indriyoga.com/about-indri-yoga>

Dave Wright Remembered

Dave Wright, one of Fort Massey's student ministers when Kay Clowater was at the Fort, passed away on April 29 at age 81. His obituary: <https://www.fundyfuneralhome.com/obituary/David-Wright>. Funeral service: <https://www.saintdavidsunited.ca/funerals>

Blessings and our best wishes to all who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries or other celebrations this week.