

# Fort Massey Church

Spiritual Seekers **United** in Community  
HALIFAX ~ NOVA SCOTIA

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Ministers: All of us by the grace of God;  
Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne, Intentional Interim;  
Bill and Diane Gillis, Ushers;  
Carol Dobson, Liturgical Assistant; Colleen Estabrooks, Scripture Readers;  
Jenny Trites, Music Director; Robert Best, Assistant Pianist;  
John Walter, Assistant Organist; Jade Fraser, Soloist;  
Sancia Knorr, Church School; Lilli Knorr, Nursery;  
Ian MacDonald, Janson Family, Tech Team;  
Tamara Mugford, Office Administrator



**First Sunday in Lent**  
**February 26, 2023, 10:30 a.m.**

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



## HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

I have often wondered whether Fort Massey Academy had anything to do with Fort Massey Church. Indirectly, it did. When new churches were being planned or planted, it was customary to establish a Sunday School in the area to test whether it had a resident population large enough to sustain a congregation. The groundwork for Fort Massey thus began in 1868 in a building on Church Street owned by schoolmaster William Henry Waddell. The son and grandson of Presbyterian ministers, Waddell became the first and only superintendent of the "Fort Massey District Sunday School," which flourished until December 1871 when it was superseded and replaced by Fort Massey Presbyterian Church. Waddell, afterwards elder and clerk of session at Fort Massey, revived the defunct Sunday School as Fort Massey Academy. By February 1879 it was operating under John Jack, who intended it "chiefly for pupils who do not desire to take the complete course of study required in the High School [Halifax Academy], and for students preparing to enter college."

## THE WORD MADE FRESH

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

### PRELUDE

#### \*INTROIT

Come and Find the Quiet Centre (*v 1*)

VU 374

**Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

### LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LANDS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Listen!

**All: There is hope to be found here.**

One: Listen!

**All: God calls you by name here.**

One: Listen!

**All: There is love that abides here.**

One: This world is full of chatter, so may we do our best to listen.

**All: God is speaking.**

One: Let us worship.

### OPENING PRAYER / ASSURANCE / WORDS OF HOPE

#### \*HYMN

Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love

VU 574

### WELCOME

#### \*THE PEACE

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*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.

**DISCIPLESHIP AND MINUTE FOR MISSION**

**OFFERING**

Offertory: *The offering will now be received.*

\*Response: standing

VU 537

**Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere,  
and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.**

**Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make:  
be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.**

**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.**

**\*HYMN**

Amazing Grace

VU 266

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 4:1-11

*Jesus tempted in the wilderness*

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

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**

Hear My Prayer, O God

## SERMON

Who Will You Listen To?

*Please remain seated for the short music response of MV 14 which is played right after the message, inviting us all into prayer.*

## HYMN

Where Two or Three Are Gathered

MV 14

**Where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there, I am there.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### \*HYMN

My Love Colours Outside the Lines

MV 138

### \*BENEDICTION

Fellow seekers, go into the world with bold discipleship, deep spirituality and daring justice. Seek out the hungry. Seek the weary. Seek the good in every person you pass. Seek out the hopeful. Seek the faithful. Seek God in each of us. As you seek and as you wonder, may you find what you are looking for. In the name of our loving God, who is always seeking us, go now in peace. God bless you and Amen.  
**May it be so.**

### \*CHORAL BLESSING

Go Now in Peace

VU 964

**Go now in peace, go now in peace.  
May the love of God surround you  
Everywhere, everywhere you may go.**

## POSTLUDE

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Come and Find the Quiet Centre:

Words: Shirley Erena Murray © 1982 Hope Publishing Company.

Music: attrib. Benjamin Franklin White 1844.

Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love:

Words: Robert Walmsley ca. 1900.

Music: Adam Watson.

Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands:

Words: Calvin Weiss Laufer 1927, alt.

Music: Neil Dougall ca. 1831.

Amazing Grace:

Words: John Henry Newton 1779, alt., v 5 anon, from A Collection of Sacred Ballads 1790.

Music: from Virginia Harmony 1831, adapt & harm. Edwin O. Excell 1900.

Hear My Prayer, O God:

Words & Music: James Kent, arr. Crawford R. Thoburn © 2016 St. James Music Press.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered:

Words & Music: Bruce Harding © 2002 www.evensong.ca.

My Love Colours Outside the Lines:

Words & Music: Gordon Light © 1995 Common Cup Company, arr. © Andrew Donaldson.

Go Now in Peace:

Words & Music: Natalie Sleeth © 1976 Hinshaw Music Inc.

*It is with sadness, we share the news of the death of Jean Brown.  
Jean died Monday February 20, 2023, with family at her side.  
Daughter Bev shared on Monday: "My brother, Greg, and I were  
here with her when she passed away and she was very comfortable."*

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

## *Notices*

Thank you for choosing to join us in-person. Please feel comfortable to sit, stand, stretch, move for your own self-care and comfort. Our services generally are an hour-ish in length. We encourage people, if they can, to continue their worship through to the end of the offering of our postlude, the instrumental music that closes our service. Often needs require people to leave at different times. Thank you for supporting all in our faith family. Our worship team usually exits through the side Tobin Street exit and will meet you in the lower hall if you can stay. Our ushers meet those leaving by the Queen Street lobby and will lock up following our worship time.

Please be sure to take the minister's contact card, for yourself or to share. Our church email is:

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

### **Men's Breakfast Location Change: Kempster's Restaurant on Friday February 24**

Due to Steak & Stein's unexpected permanent closure on February 18, all men wishing to join the breakfast are invited to the new location of Kempster's Restaurant, 3644 Kempt Road. Ian has reserved space for 9:30 a.m.

### **Dalhousie Monday Night Supper**

Fort Massey folks will be responsible for supplying the food for the Monday Night Supper at Dalhousie University tomorrow. We will plan to prepare most of the food at our homes and gather in the Fort Massey Kitchen on that afternoon after 3:00 p.m. to get it ready (heat, as required, and/or keep warm) to transport to Dalhousie. No serving utensils are required. For most purposes vegetarian food is preferred and least costly. However, dishes containing Halal chicken are acceptable, which can be purchased at most grocery stores. If you have any questions about this, please contact Ian MacDonald.

### **March 12 Annual General Meeting and Weather Date of Sunday, March 19**

A reminder that the annual meeting is March 12 after worship. Please bring your own brown bag lunch. Please note that March 12 is also the day of the time change, as we move clocks ahead one hour to daylight savings time. In the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be the following Sunday, March 19.

### **Donations for Easter Flowers by March 26 Please**

For anyone who would like to make memorial donations for Easter flowers, we would appreciate having donations in no later than March 26. These donations can be made by cheque or however you usually make your offerings with a notation about who the donation is in memory of. If it is possible to send the notation of who the flowers are acknowledging/honouring to the church email, [ftmassey@eastlink.ca](mailto:ftmassey@eastlink.ca) that will make it easier for Tamara to compile. The reason for the advance date is that we need to know how much we have to spend on flowers since we spend whatever is donated. The Easter bulletin will include a list of those who contributed along with who is being remembered.

### **Region 15 Annual Meeting: Calling All Youth Grades 6-12**

There will be a Youth Event during this year's Annual Meeting from June 9 to 11 at Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax. Stay tuned for more information and registration coming soon.

### **Financial Support of Fort Massey**

We thank you for your financial support. Whether using e-transfer to [fmchurch@eastlink.ca](mailto:fmchurch@eastlink.ca), PAR, Canada helps, cheque or envelopes, all are so appreciated. In the sanctuary, donations can be made as you leave the sanctuary after worship. Offering plates are located by the font if exiting to Tobin Street or in the aisle as you exit into the lobby.