

# Fort Massey Church

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

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

Ministers: All of us by the grace of God;  
Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne, Intentional Interim;  
James Robertson, Usher;  
Lilli Knorr, Liturgical Assistant; Colleen Estabrooks, Scripture Reader;  
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;  
Coffee and Conversation, Anne Thompson;  
Tamara Mugford, Office Administrator; Emily Kiley Lawlor, Sexton



**Third Sunday of Easter**  
**April 23, 2023, 10:30 a.m.**

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



## HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

Fort Massey's second minister, the Reverend Robert Ferrier Burns, who served 1875 to 1892, was among Halifax's leading public intellectuals. He lectured frequently on a broad range of subjects of popular interest.

On Sunday, 25 September 1881, shortly after the assassination of American president James Garfield, he gave his evening sermon as a eulogy. According to the Morning Chronicle, "Fort Massey ... had an extra large number of visiting worshippers, including many Americans, Sunday night, to hear the pastor,

Rev. R. F. Burns DD, lecture on the late president of the United States. The edifice was filled with a very attentive congregation, and the effort was one of the learned Dr's most able ones. After singing, prayer and the reading of appropriate lessons in the Old and New Testaments, the text was chosen in II Samuel, 3<sup>rd</sup> chap., 38<sup>th</sup> verse: 'Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day'."

### THE WORD MADE FRESH

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

#### PRELUDE

\*INTROIT This Is the Day

MV 122

#### LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LANDS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Behold, how manifold are God's works!

**All: God has made them all in wisdom.**

One: The earth is God's and everything in it.

**All: Let all of creation praise God's awesome deeds!**

#### OPENING PRAYER / ASSURANCE / WORDS OF HOPE

\*HYMN For the Beauty of the Earth

VU 226

#### 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**                      **Special Plaque Dedication in Loving Memory of Phil Pacey**

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

\*Response:   standing

VU 538

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,  
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

**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:                              This Is God's Wondrous World

VU 296

**SCRIPTURE**                      **Luke 24:13-35**

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

**MINISTRY OF MUSIC**        10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

**SERMON**                        Creation: For the Love of It

*Please remain seated for the short music response of MV 79 which is played right after the message, inviting us all into prayer.*

**HYMN**                              Spirit, Open My Heart

MV 79

**Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.  
As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving,  
Spirit, open my heart.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

<b>*HYMN</b>	Let All Things Now Living	VU 242
<b>*BENEDICTION</b>	<b>May it be so.</b>	
<b>*CHORAL BLESSING</b>	Halle, Halle, Halle	VU 958
	<b>Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!</b> <b>Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!</b>	

## POSTLUDE

Music Credits: *Reprinted & streamed under ONE LICENSE #A-734498. All rights reserved.*

This Is the Day:  
Words & Music: Bruce Harding © 2003 www.evensong.ca.

For the Beauty of the Earth:  
Words: Follitt Sandford Pierpoint 1864, alt.  
Music: Conrad Kocher 1838, adapt. William H. Monk 1861.

For the Gift of Creation:  
Words & Music: Steve Garnaas-Holmes © 1991 The Copyright Company.

This Is God's Wondrous World:  
Words: Maltbie Davenport Babcock 1901, alt.  
Music: English traditional melody, adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard 1915, adapt. Stanley Oliver 1929.

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord):  
Words & Music: Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin © 2011 Columbia Music Company.

Spirit, Open My Heart:  
Words: Ruth Duck © 1996.  
Music: trad. Irish melody, arr. Arthur G. Clyde © 1997 The Pilgrim Press.

Let All Things Now Living:  
Words: Katherine K. Davis © 1966 Schirmer Music Company.  
Music: Welsh folk melody.

Halle, Halle, Halle:  
Words: traditional liturgical text.  
Music: anon., arr. The Iona Community © 1987 GIA Publications Inc.

*Happy birthday to Elizabeth Pacey on April 28.*

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

### Trent Update

The heart bypass surgery has been very successful.  
Please continue to hold them all in prayer;  
Linda is sharing information largely through Ruth who is communicating to the congregation; check with Ruth if you are not getting updates or you would like to get his postal address to send best wishes.

# Notices

A special welcome to all visitors joining us for in-person worship. Please sign the guest book located at the end of the middle aisle. Please introduce yourself to the minister and members of the congregation. If your time permits, please join us for refreshments, for coffee and conversation in the lower hall immediately after worship.

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)

**Reminder: A congregational meeting will take place following worship.**

## Living Faith Story Draft

Come join us on our pilgrimage as we continue to live out God's calling.

Fort Massey Church – where scriptures come to life, through - incredible stained glass windows, a Casavant organ providing world class music, pop up outreach activities in response to community and global needs... *(insert other)* ...all housed in a heritage building which has stood the test of time for over 150 years.

## Vision Statement 2023 Draft

At Fort Massey, we live into being a vibrant and evolving community where change is embraced, heritage and tradition are honoured, and injustice is challenged, where everyone is welcomed, needed, valued and belongs. Following Jesus' example of expansive love, we aim to provide a safe, nurturing environment where everyone is free to be themselves. We celebrate and encourage people of every age, health situation, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, family configuration, background, ability, interest, culture, economic circumstance and faith journey into the full participation and leadership of ministries in the life and work of Fort Massey United Church.

## Congratulations Angela Gillis, Education Award Winner

Our heartfelt congratulations Angela, from your faith family at Fort Massey. The Provincial Education Week Committee congratulates all recipients of this year's Education Week 2023 Awards including our own Angela Gillis in HRCE (Halifax Regional Centre for Education).

At Cunard Junior High, Angela believes in her students being active by infusing indigenous, Gaelic, and additional cultures through her teaching. She starts each day with a wishing circle which always begins outside the classroom. Students are often asked to move through the school. They are motivated to interact with administrators, other classes, and staff outside their classrooms.

## Counting Support After Worship Needed

Kathy Evans will be away for much of May and June and would really like to have collection counters arranged for as much as possible before she goes. Counting only takes about 10 minutes after the Sunday service; anyone who is willing to help, please sign up on the sheet on the board past the music room. If you'd like a refresher, please speak to Kathy in the next week. Thanks for your help and co-operation.

## New Choir Members Welcome

Put a song on your lips and a spring in your step! With the lengthening daylight, and no worries of snowy drives, come join the Fort Massey choir. Regular choir practices are Thursdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The choir usually meets at 9:40 a.m. on Sunday mornings to warm-up and practice before worship. New members are always welcome!

## Other Upcoming Services & Events

- Monday, April 24: Craft and Chat will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Sharon's Zoom. We will finish up on May 1.
- Tuesday, April 25: Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Sharon's Zoom

### **Out of the Cold Supporting People Living Rough**

As the days get longer and nights warmer, the needs of those living rough are diminishing with regards to winter camping gear and clothing. As our outreach coordinator Campbell often said, the reliable, steady donations from Fort Massey have been amazing. He truly has worked wonders with his clients.

Over these summer months we encourage you, like us, to stockpile winter necessities for our tent dwellers, (they have limited storage room at OTC). Come October when the nights again chill, we can start our donations of warm gear in earnest. If you are assessing your own camping gear, think of donating to OTC. Remember winter weight tarps best protect from winter weather (brown ones from Princess Auto) as opposed to summer lightweight ones, but most everything finds a use. With travel, personal-sized soaps and shampoos are needed too. Thank you all for your generosity in this venture. ~ Peter and Stephanie

### **A Few Items for an Apartment**

A person who has recently arrived from Ukraine, is looking for a few more items for his apartment. If you can help out, please contact Kathy Evans or Carol Dobson. The person is in need of a high/tall bookshelf, an electric kettle, and a queen-size mattress.

### **Tapping Workshop and 40 Days of Practice Challenge Begins April 27 on Sharon's Zoom**

"Meridian Tapping Techniques" will be presented by Fern Elizabeth Hearne, and it combines two well developed sciences: Mind Body Medicine and Acupressure. Participants will meet on Zoom on April 27 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. (Eastern daylight-saving time). This is an opportunity to meet everyone on the same journey and time to answer all questions. Follow up will be on May 11 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., and the final session will be June 8 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. "for a celebration". There will be questions to answer before the first session and each day there will be helpful tips and motivational encouragement sent by email. To register, please email Fern at [braingems12@gmail.com](mailto:braingems12@gmail.com). The cost is \$40.00 or "Love Donation", paid by e-transfer to [braingems12@gmail.com](mailto:braingems12@gmail.com) or by cheque to Fern Hearne, 407- 389 Murray St., Peterborough, Ontario K9H 2T6. For questions, please contact Fern at 705-749-6964.

### **Let Us Know**

Please let us know if someone is ill, in hospital or going through a challenging time.

### **Thank You for Your Financial Support**

We thank you for your financial support of Fort Massey. Whether using e-transfer to [fmchurch@eastlink.ca](mailto:fmchurch@eastlink.ca), PAR, CanadaHelps, cheque or envelopes, all are so appreciated. Donations can also be made through CHIMP – CharitableImpact.com. 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 Queen Street lobby. Together we are vital and strong! We minister together.

**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 and used with permission, Coventry Cathedral, England)*