

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;
David Maginley, Pulpit Supply;
Alison McDonald & Brooke Robinson, Liturgical Assistants; Kathy Evans, 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;
Sally DeWolf, Colleen Estabrooks, Anne Thompson, Coffee & Conversation;
Tamara Mugford, Office Administrator; Kevin Robarts, Sexton



**Fourth after Epiphany
January 29, 2023, 10:30 a.m.**

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

March 1876 was not Pere Chiniquy's first visit to Presbyterian Halifax, nor would it be his last. His first took place in May 1873. According to the Presbyterian Witness newspaper, "Father Chiniquy's visit to this city has been decidedly successful in every respect. He addressed a very large meeting in Fort Massey Church last Sabbath afternoon [25 May]. In the evening he preached to a full house in Poplar Grove Church. On Monday evening he spoke in Chalmers — on Tuesday evening at Dartmouth, and on Wednesday in St John's Church. The meetings in all these places were largely attended and deeply interesting. The 'old priest' speaks what he has felt and known — he testifies what he has seen. ... He proposes to spend the last week of June and the whole of July in Nova Scotia." On that earlier occasion there was no riot. On his third visit, in September 1876, Chiniquy avoided Fort Massey. Preaching again in the Presbyterian cathedral might have been deemed a little too incendiary for the Roman Catholics and provoked another riot.

THE WORD MADE FRESH

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

PRELUDE

*INTROIT

I Am the Light of the World (*v 1 & refrain*)

VU 87

**When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and the shepherds have found their way home,
the work of Christmas is begun.**

**'I am the light of the world!
You people come and follow me!
If you follow and love you'll learn the mystery
of what you were meant to do and be.**

LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LANDS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Jesus is the light of the world.

All: As beloved community we share the light of Christ.

One: Jesus calls "Follow me!"

All: We gather to worship God.

OPENING PRAYER / ASSURANCE / WORDS OF HOPE

*HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

VU 642

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
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.

MV 191

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**

The Lord's My Shepherd

VU 747

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:12-23

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC Simple Gifts

SERMON “Beloved Relationship”

Please remain seated for the short music response of VU 400 which is played right after the message, inviting us all into prayer.

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** Blessed Assurance VU 337

***PARTING WORDS** **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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I Am the Light of the World:
Words & Music: Jim Strathdee © 1967 Desert Flower Music.

Be Thou My Vision:
Words: Irish ca. 8th century, trans. Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1905, vers. Eleanor H. Hull 1912, alt.
Music: Irish trad. melody.

What Can I Do?:
Words & Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy © 2005.

The Lord’s My Shepherd:
Words: Scottish Psalter 1650.
Music: Jessie Seymour Irvine 1872.

Simple Gifts:
Words & Music: Mark Schweizer © St. James Music Press.

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying:
Words & Music: Ken Medema © 1971 Hope Publishing Company.

Blessed Assurance:
Words: Fanny J. Crosby 1873, alt.
Music: Phoebe Palmer Knapp 1873.

Go Now in Peace:
Words & Music: Natalie Sleeth © 1976 Hinshaw Music Inc.

We welcome David Maginley, our worship leader for today

Church Donation Receipts for 2022

Please pick up your receipts; our thanks to Ruth for her diligence and quick processing to make them available.

Financial Support of Fort Massey

We thank you for your financial support. Whether using e-transfer to 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.

Transition Team Update, Church Profile and Permanent Minister Search

The transition team has shared with the official board members that "the time has come to update the community of faith profile and to initiate the search process."

Input Needed for Fort Massey Profile (Faith Story) for Church Hub

All committees, groups and interested individuals are asked to provide input for the Community of Faith profile. Fort Massey "faith story" needs to be updated and will be what an interested potential permanent minister will read to learn more about who Fort Massey is. Please contact the Chair of the Transition Team Alison McDonald by February 6 with input.

Worship Survey and Community of Faith

Do you have some ideas of what questions you would like to ask, as we move into more post-Pandemic possibilities, develop the new faith profile, begin search for permanent minister, energize and enliven ministries and outreach in the life and work of Fort Massey? Send ideas or chat with someone on the transition team (Alison (chair), Alan, Kathy, Jake, Brooke, Sharon).

Affirming, Lunch and Learn Opportunities, Feedback Needed, Are We Interested?

Prior to the pandemic, there was some interest at Fort Massey to become an affirming ministry, but the process was never started. Kim Curlett, a former student minister at Fort Massey, beloved and known to many is the Atlantic contact for Affirm United. So, what of our actions? The United Church of Canada continues to invite us in our own learning journeys. If you might be interested in forming a steering committee to explore the process to be recognized as an affirming ministry in the United Church of Canada, please contact Sharon. If there is enough energy and interest to further conversations and learning, we can start the process in 2023. to keep learning how to ensure all people are welcome. Now that Fort Massey has shared its first public meal post-pandemic this week with our successful pizza lunch Sunday, what about some "lunch and learn" opportunities? On the topic of affirming or other ideas! We need your feedback.

Craft and Chat on January 30 at 11:00 a.m. to Noon on Sharon's Zoom

Each Monday, depending on interest, join us for a virtual craft and chat time on Sharon's Zoom. Bring a craft or a snack or make your lunch while you join us on Zoom.

Peninsula Youth Group Hosted at St. John's United Begins February 5 from 5 to 7 p.m.

We are grateful to Cathy Causey and her leadership team who will be facilitating this group. They will meet every other Sunday at 5:00 p.m. for a meal and then an activity. It is for grades seven to twelve. While we believe we have contacted all families with youth in this age group, if you have grandchildren, neighbours or know of any youth, who are interested, please reach out to sharon.ballantyne@gmail.com and Sharon will send you the letter of invitation to share. Their first service project is going to involve creating a tiny library or tiny pantry initiative. Even if you can't participate right now, Cathy Causey can put you on her contact list to advise of plans.

Other Upcoming Services and Events:

- Tuesday, January 31: Session Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Sharon's Zoom
- February is Black History Month

*Happy belated birthday to Diane Gillis on January 24 and
happy birthday to Brenda Burton on February 2*

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