

Fort Massey Church

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

5303 Tobin Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S3
902.423.4294 ftmassey@eastlink.ca
www.fortmasseychurch.com

Ministers: All of us by the grace of God;
Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne, Intentional Interim;
Linda and Ian MacDonald, Ushers;
Lilli Knorr, Liturgical Assistant; Nancy Riggs, 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



Transfiguration Sunday
February 19, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

If Fort Massey took its name from the general officer commanding the British Army in Nova Scotia during the American War of Independence, then everything else took its name from the fort: the church, the cemetery, the old Fort Massey Academy, the nearby estate of Justice William Blowers Bliss, and today's Fort Massey Apartments. Had Fort Massey been a Kirk rather than Presbyterian, it would have been named for an Apostle, as was any church which had originally been a Kirk (St John's) or became one (St Andrew's, St Matthew's). That dissenting congregations did not name their churches after Apostles was a symbolic declaration of independence from Kirk traditions. Another was opposition to pipe organs accompanying sung worship — a huge controversy in Presbyterian Halifax in the aftermath of 1875 church union. Fort Massey acquired its first pipe organ in 1884; had it been a Kirk like St Andrew's, it would have had one from the start.

THE WORD MADE FRESH

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

PRELUDE

*INTROIT

As a Fire Is Meant for Burning (*v 1*)

VU 578

**As a fire is meant for burning
with a bright and warming flame,
so the church is meant for mission,
giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs,
but to build a bridge of care,
we join hands across the nations,
finding neighbours everywhere.**

LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LANDS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: God touches the world,

All: and the world changes.

One: God touches us,

All: and we are transformed.

One: Both in the brightness of day,

All: and in the deepest part of night,

One: God's light shines through.

All: Come let us worship in the light.

OPENING PRAYER / ASSURANCE / WORDS OF HOPE

*HYMN

Arise, Your Light Is Come

VU 79

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

Shine, Jesus, Shine

**Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.**

Refrain:

**Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire,
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

**Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance.
By the blood I may enter your brightness;
search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me. (refrain)**

**As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me. (refrain)**

SCRIPTURE Matthew 17:1-9 *Jesus transfigured on the mountain*

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

MINISTRY OF MUSIC Climbing Up the Mountain

SERMON Beloved Metamorphosis

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** Let There Be Light VU 679

***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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As a Fire Is Meant for Burning:
Words: Ruth Duck © 1992 & Music: Marty Haugen © 1987 GIA Publications Inc.

Arise, Your Light Is Come:
Words: Ruth Duck © 1992 GIA Publications Inc.
Music: William H. Walker 1872.

What Can I Do?:

Words & Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy © 2005.

Shine, Jesus, Shine:

Words & Music: Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music.

Climbing Up the Mountain:

Words & Music: Donald Moore © 2004 Jubilate Music Group.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered:

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

Let There Be Light:

Words: Frances Wheeler Davis © 1970.

Music: Robert J.B. Fleming © 1976.

Go Now in Peace:

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

Happy birthday to Joyce MacDow on February 23.

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

Sexton Vacancy

Unfortunately Derek was unable to start as planned. We wish him and his family all the best in their future. Alison has put up an ad on Kijiji for the sexton position. The position is approximately ten hours/week. If you know anyone who might be interested, please invite them to apply.

Volunteer Vacancies Need Filling, Names Needed in Advance of March 12 Annual Meeting

The nominating committee reminds you that there are important vacancies that need representation. To be vibrant, energized and able to offer the best support to others, our staff, and the committees, we need you to prayerfully discern if you might serve as a member of the Ministry and Personnel Committee, as a member of Administration committee, property committee or nominating committee. Perhaps you feel called to be a representative for regional council. Please contact Linda MacDonald. If God is not nudging you to a particular role, perhaps you might have a name to suggest, and please do keep all our needs, the life and work of this community of faith in your prayers.

Transition, Transfiguration and Metamorphosis

Today as we conclude the season of Shrovetide and Epiphany, we prepare to move into the season of Lent. Will you be taking anything on? Giving something up? How will you be seeking to draw into deeper relationship with the divine this season?

Heritage Day Tomorrow

Have a happy holiday with family and friends. The church office is closed and there is no craft and chat.

Peninsula Youth Group Reminder: Tonight at St. John's United Church

The Youth Group (grades 7-12) will be using the question "What's the smallest object to have a gravitational pull" to discuss the concept of kindness and the Good Samaritan. Dinner is included. If possible, please let Kathy know how many people will be coming, just for food planning: kcawsey@eastlink.ca

Shrove Tuesday

For those staying home on Shrove Tuesday, February 21, join Sharon and Cliff on Sharon's Zoom between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. The Committee of Stewards is meeting later that night on Sharon's Zoom at 7:30 p.m. If you are wanting to go out for pancakes, consider supporting the following fundraiser for Phoenix House.

Pancake Supper, a St. Andrew's Fundraiser on February 21 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The Social Justice Committee is hosting a fundraiser pancake supper in support of Phoenix House; good will offering.

Dalhousie Monday Night Suppers

Fort Massey folks will be responsible for supplying the food for the Monday Night Supper at Dalhousie University on Monday, February 27. 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.

Affirming Steering Committee

We have a working committee and welcome any additional members who are interested. Watch for coming information. We need everyone's contributions of thoughts, ideas and feedback.

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 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.

Other Upcoming Services and Events:

- Tuesday, February 21: Committee of Stewards Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Sharon's Zoom (rescheduled from the 14th because of Valentine's Day)
- Wednesday, February 22: Ash Wednesday (no service at Fort Massey)
For your pondering -- Seeking: What do I choose? Focus text: Isaiah 58:1-12
How will you live your faith? How will you live the questions of your faith?
- Friday, February 24: The next Men's Breakfast at Steak & Stein on Young Street at 9:30 a.m.
- Sunday, February 26: First Sunday in Lent - Seeking: Who are we listening to?
Message: Who will you listen to?
- Save the Date: Please plan to attend the congregational annual meeting Sunday, March 12, after worship.
People are invited to bring their own lunch. Pack a sandwich and join the meeting.

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.