

Fort Massey Church

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

5303 Tobin Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S3
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www.fortmasseychurch.com

Ministers: All of us by the grace of God;
Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne, Intentional Interim;
James Robertson, Usher;
Sally DeWolf, Liturgical Assistant; Jade Fraser, Lewis Affleck, Scripture Readers;
Jenny Trites, Music Director; John Walter, Assistant Organist; Jade Fraser, Soloist;
Sancia Knorr, Church School; Lilli Knorr, Nursery;
Tamara Mugford, Office Administrator; Emily Kiley Lawlor, Sexton



Pride, Union & Trinity Communion Sunday
June 4, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

On 9 October 1883 Fort Massey hosted for the first time the four-day annual meeting of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces (Presbyterian equivalent of today's Region 15). It was a big event, attended by some 200 registrants and open to the public. Fort Massey's minister, Dr Burns, was elected to succeed the retiring moderator "on a close vote": 43 to 42. It was subsequently reported that the original figures were inaccurate; Burns actually received 73 votes, giving him a respectable majority.

THE WORD MADE FRESH

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

PRELUDE

*INTROIT

And on This Path

MV 8

**And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide, (3X)
Open wide! (3X)
The gates are open wide!**

**So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide, (3X)
Open wide! (3X)
The gates are open wide!**

LIGHTING OF THE COMMUNITY CANDLE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LANDS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather, all part of this community of faith, and the community of all people.

All: We are all members of God's family.

One: We come seeking God's presence in our lives.

All: We enter this holy time together.

OPENING PRAYER / ASSURANCE / WORDS OF HOPE

*HYMN

My Love Colours Outside the Lines

MV 138

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

MV 191

**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.**

DEDICATION PRAYER

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG, AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The United Church celebrates an open table.
All are invited to share in receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Children who wish, are invited to proceed directly to Sunday School with Sancia during the singing of our Communion hymn or children can remain in the sanctuary and take part in the receiving of Communion, according to family wishes, and join Sunday School with Sancia following Communion.

***COMMUNION HYMN**

We Are Setting the Rainbow Table (*choir will sing verse 1, then all sing the hymn*)

**We are setting the rainbow table.
We are planning a giant feast.
We are birthing a new creation
for the lonely, the lost and least.**

**At that table will sit the weary,
knowing welcome in their souls.
There is magic at that table
for the broken know they are whole.**

**Come and sit at the rainbow table,
full of colors and bathed in light.
Come and learn how the rainbow table
offers grace to our rainbow lives.**

What Can I Do?:

Words and Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy © 2005. Arr. Alan C. Whitmore © 2005.

We Are Setting the Rainbow Table:

Words & Music: Amanda Udis-Kessler © 2019.

We Walk in Love:

Words: Deanna Witkowski and Lemuel Colon, Music: Deanna Witkowski © 2017 Witkowski and Colon/Music.

Open Our Hearts:

Words & Music: Jim and Jean Strathdee © 2006 Desert Flower Music.

Holy Spirit, Truth Divine:

Words: Samuel Longfellow 1864.

Music: attrib. John Antes ca. 1800, arr. John Lees 1824, adapt. John Wilkes 1861.

May the Grace of Christ:

Words: John Newton 1779.

Music: Corner's Gesangbuch 1631, arr. William Smith Rockstro ca. 1895.

Notices

We know all our hearts and attention continues to be with those affected by the devastation of the sweeping fires. Last Sunday we were speaking about the Pentecost language of "spreading like wildfire" not fitting at all for those dealing with fires, but we were holding those out west in our minds, never imagining a few short hours that north of Halifax would be facing this frightening reality. We continue to hold all in thought and in prayer, for those evacuated, those with no home to return to, those with damage, those who have lost pets and we pray for all the first responders, continuing to deal with all this tragedy. Please stay safe and keep taking care of each other.

*The flowers in the sanctuary are given
by Andrew Ritcey in loving memory of
his father, Harris Douglas Ritcey*

*Happy birthday to Peggy Murrell on June 6,
Julia Robertson and Kevin Robarts on June 9,
and Daisy Janson on June 10.*

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

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

Please stay after service for muffins, and to watch a short video and have an opportunity for discussion.

Update from Official Board Meeting Regarding Masks

It was moved, seconded and unanimously voted on that "the issue of whether or not to wear a mask at Fort Massey United Church be left to the discretion of each individual."

Affirming Moment—Comments from Fort Massey

Some comments after watching a video about Riverside United (London, ON) during its affirming process: "That Fort Massey should go ahead"; "Very ordinary folks like us."

Everyone Please Complete the Survey About Fort Massey by June 12

In order to help the search committee with their work as they review potential candidates' submissions and hold interviews, we ask you to complete the survey to give us some feedback to help us with our discernment.

Paper copies are available, or if you prefer there is an online option: <https://forms.gle/fKYc2RRqwxCAucqy9>

Please place completed print surveys in the tray in the lobby or through the mail flap/slot by the Tobin Street entrance.

Tech Support Needed

If you would be willing to advance PowerPoint slides on any of these dates, please contact Sharon: June 11, June 18, June 25, August 6, August 13, August 20, August 27, September 3, September 10, September 17, September 24, October 1, October 8. Likewise, if you would be able to assist with videoing the service on any of these dates, please let Sharon know. Our thanks to Clarissa Sit for covering June 11 with operating the video camera.

Other Upcoming Services and Events:

- June 9 to 11: Sharon at the Annual meeting of Regional Council at Mount Saint Vincent University
- Saturday, June 10: United Church of Canada's 98th birthday
- Sunday, June 11: Alison McDonald leading service
Final Sunday School before summer, outing to park (weather permitting); resumes September 10
- Sunday, July 2, 9, 16, 23, 31: Fort Massey is closed for the month of July
All are invited to join at St. Matthew's United Church for Sunday worship
- Saturday, July 22: Join Fort Massey in the Pride Parade Halifax at noon
- Sunday, August 6, 13, 20, 27: We welcome St. Matthew's United Church in worship at Fort Massey
Worshipping in the lower hall for the month of August
- Tamara is on summer break for July and August and the church office will be closed June 30 to September 6.

Thank You for Your Financial Support

We thank you for your financial support of Fort Massey. Whether using e-transfer to fmchurch@eastlink.ca, PAR, cheque or envelopes, all are so appreciated. Donations may also be made through the following online charity donation websites: CanadaHelps - <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/fort-massey-united-church/> or Charitable Impact: <https://my.charitableimpact.com/charities/fort-massey-united-church>. In the sanctuary, donations can be made as you leave 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)