

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;
Alison McDonald, Guest Worship Leader;
Vurain Tabvuma, Liturgical Assistant; Clarissa Sit, Scripture Reader;
Jenny Trites, Music Director; John Walter, Assistant Organist; Jade Fraser, Soloist;
Clarissa Sit, Camera Operator;
Sally DeWolf, Colleen Estabrooks, Viola Greer, Peggy Murrell, Coffee & Conversation
Sancia Knorr, Church School; Lilli Knorr, Nursery;
Tamara Mugford, Office Administrator; Emily Kiley Lawlor, Sexton

*FAITH AND
COMMUNITY*



**Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 11, 2023, 10:30 a.m.**

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

The first of Dr Burns' current series of lectures, "Three Weeks in Ireland," was delivered in Fort Massey's basement lecture room on Friday, 28 November 1884. He disembarked at Queenstown (Cobh) on 11 June and left Belfast for Scotland on 4 July. "The second lecture of Dr Burns's Fort Massey course ... on the 19th of December, will be on 'John Wycliffe, the morning star of the English Reformation,' in connection with the celebration to be observed the world over of the fifth centenary of his death. The third will be 'A Trip to Prague,' with sketches of that great Bohemian, John Huss, who owed so much to Wycliffe. The fourth ... will be 'Visit to the homes and haunts of Luther,' and the fifth 'From Belfast to Berlin'."

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 come in worship to God.

All: In our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.

One: We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus.

All: And who knows by experience, what human life is like.

One: We come with our faith and with our doubts.

All: We come with our hopes and with our fears.

One: We come as we are, because it is God who invites us to come.

All: And God has promised never to turn us away.

OPENING PRAYER / ASSURANCE / WORDS OF HOPE

*HYMN

This Is God's Wondrous World

VU 296

WELCOME

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Iona Abbey Worship Book

We believe in God

Whose love is the source of all life

And the desire of our lives.

Whose love was given a human face
In Jesus of Nazareth.
Whose love was crucified by the evil
That waits to enslave us all.
And whose love, defeating even death
Is our glorious promise of freedom.
Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful
And full of doubt,
In God we trust,
And in the name of Jesus Christ,
We commit ourselves, in the service of others,
To seek justice and to live in peace,
To care for the earth
And to share the commonwealth
Of God's goodness.
To live in the freedom of forgiveness
And the power of the spirit of love.
And in the company of the faithful
So to be the church.
For the glory of God. Amen.

DISCIPLESHIP AND MINUTE FOR MISSION Colleen Estabrooks

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

PRAYER

THE 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:** Love Is the Touch (*tune VU 642*)

MV 89

SCRIPTURE **Romans 4:13-25** *Faith, not the law*
Offered as wisdom for the journey.
May we walk in its light.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC For All the Children

SERMON Faith and Community

Please remain seated for the short music response of MV 21 which is played right after the message, inviting us all into prayer.

HYMN Open Our Hearts (*sung twice*) MV 21
**Open our hearts, open our minds.
Open our lives to you O loving God.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN** Bless Now, O God, the Journey VU 633

***PARTING WORDS** **May it be so.**

***CHORAL BLESSING** May the Grace of Christ VU 419

**May the grace of Christ our Saviour, and our Maker's boundless love,
with the Holy Spirit's favour, rest upon us from above.**

**Thus may we abide in union held together by the Word,
and possess in rich communion joys which earth cannot afford.**

POSTLUDE

Service Credits: "It's a funny old journey" by Liz Crumlish from *Summer: Liturgical resources for May, June and July, including Eastertide and Pentecost.* Ruth Burgess. Wild Goose Publications. Compilation © 2020 Ruth Burgess. *Affirmation of Faith from The Iona Abbey Worship Book, Wild Goose Publications, 2017. Used with permission.*

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And on This Path:

Words & Music: Linnea Good © 2003 Borealis Music.

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.

What Can I Do?:

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

Love Is the Touch:

Words: Alison M. Robertson © 1998.

Music: Irish traditional melody.

For All the Children:

Words & Music: David Lohman © 2007.

Open Our Hearts:

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

Bless Now, O God, the Journey:

Words: Sylvia Dunstan © 1991 GIA Publications Inc.

Music: Basil Harwood 1898.

May the Grace of Christ:

Words: John Newton 1779.

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

A huge thank you to Sancia Knorr for teaching Sunday School and to Lilli Knorr for looking after the children in our Nursery - they both do great jobs!

Thank you to Alison McDonald for leading service today.

Happy birthday to Doug MacDonald on June 16, and Dongjin Bae and Jasmine Mae MacDonald on June 17.

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

Survey Reminder

Thank you to all who have completed the community of faith survey. Please complete the Fort Massey survey if you have not yet done so. If you know anyone who might not have received it, please share it and encourage everyone to participate. We need all people to share their voice. Please complete this survey by tomorrow by picking up a paper copy or going to: <https://forms.gle/fKYc2RRqxwCAucqy9>

Affirming Process Thanks

Thank you to all who were able to stay for viewing of the Kamloops United Church Affirming video and share in the discussion questions June 4. Here are the questions we discussed:

Why is "everyone is welcome" insufficient?

What are qualities of an affirming church?

What do you think it means to be affirming?

What would you still like to learn about our ministry becoming Affirming (topics, questions, concerns)?

This was the Kamloops video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b89XHqGJ2ZQ>

Your feedback is so appreciated. Check out the rainbow bulletin board for all the feedback and comments. Don't forget to use our Affirming Mailbox to provide your comments, questions and any other feedback.

Tech Support Needed

If you would be willing to advance PowerPoint slides on any of these dates, please contact Sharon: June 18, June 25, August 6, August 13, August 20, August 27, September 3, October 8. Thanks to Brayden Knorr who has offered to advance PowerPoint on September 10, September 17, September 24, October 1. Likewise if you would be able to assist with videoing the service on any of these dates: June 18 through October 9, please let Sharon know.

Bake And Book Sale on June 24 from 10:30 to 12:30pm

Save the date: please mark your calendar and share with friends, family, coworkers, activity groups!

Tuesday Coffee on Summer Break until the Fall

Thanks to all the ladies who have hosted small groups, provided refreshments and participated in the Tuesday coffee groups.

Piano At Fort Massey to Give Away

Please check with neighbours, family, friends, coworkers, if you know of anyone who might be able to use a piano. Please contact Jenny, John or Kathy.

Affirming Moment - Comments from Fort Massey

"There are some people who walk through the world knowing that they're included in general welcome statements. There are others who, for many reasons, need to walk through the world with more caution. These are people who may never think to walk through our doors unless we specifically invite them in."

"Becoming an affirming church is just one step on our mission-journey of justice, equity and inclusion for everyone."

Other Upcoming Services and Events:

- 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.
- Sunday School resumes on September 10

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)