

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;
Vurain Tabvuma, Liturgical Assistant; Clarissa Sit, Scripture Reader;
Jenny Trites, Music Director; John Walter, Assistant Organist;
Sancia Knorr, Church School; Lilli Knorr, Nursery;
Tamara Mugford, Office Administrator; Emily Kiley Lawlor, Sexton



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 13, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

Fort Massey's annual report for 1883 showed that the congregation was flourishing financially — to the extent that Dr Burns' stipend was raised to \$3000, unusually high by the standards of the time. According to the board of managers' report, "For our present happy and prosperous condition as a congregation, your committee feel that we are, in the providence of God, largely indebted to our beloved pastor in his administrations from sabbath to sabbath. We have upon the watchtower of our Zion no sluggard at his post, but a faithful sentinel whose vigilant eye overlooks no lurking danger, and the clarion notes of whose trumpet give no uncertain sound. Nor can we close this report without especial reference to his recent services in strenuously maintaining and defending purity of doctrine in our community."

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

OPENING PRAYER / ASSURANCE / WORDS OF HOPE

*HYMN

Don't Be Afraid

MV 90

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

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:

Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

VU 563

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:22–33 *Jesus walks across stormy waters*

Offered as wisdom for the journey.

May we walk in its light.

SERMON

Come, Save Me

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

Over My Head

MV 88

***PARTING WORDS**

May it be so.

***CHORAL BLESSING**

You Shall Go Out with Joy

VU 884

**You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands!**

**And all the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands, (clap, clap)
the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
while you go out with joy.**

POSTLUDE

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And on This Path:

Words & Music: Linnea Good © 2003 Borealis Music.

Don't Be Afraid:

Words: John L. Bell and Graham Maule & Music: John L. Bell © 2007 GIA Publications Inc.

What Can I Do?:

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

Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore:

Words & Music: Cesáreo Gabardin © 1979 Oregon Catholic Press, trans. Gertrude C. Suppe,
George Lockwood, Raquel Gutiérrez-Achón © 1987 The United Methodist Publishing House.

Open Our Hearts:

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

Over My Head:

Words & Music: African-American spiritual, arr. Stephen Lee © 2011 OCP.

You Shall Go Out with Joy:

Words: Steffi G. Rubin and Music: Stuart Dauermann © 1975 Lillenas Publishing Company.

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!

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