

Fort Massey Church

Spiritual Seekers **United** in Community

5303 Tobin Street, Halifax, NS B3H 1S3

Office: 902-423-4294 ftmassey@eastlink.ca

Minister: 902-333-3123 minister@fortmasseychurch.com

www.fortmasseychurch.com

Ministers: All of us by the grace of God

Clergy: Rev. Beth Hayward

Music Director: Jenny Trites

Assistant Organist: John Walter

Guest Musician: Garry Williams

Office Administrator: Tamara Mugford

Sexton: Emily Kiley Lawlor

Church School: Sancia Knorr, Nursery: Lilli Knorr

Section Leads: Laura Johnston, Lisa Thornhill

Ushers: Anne Naldrett, Colleen Estabrooks

Liturgical Assistant: David Griffiths, Scripture Reader: Nancy Riggs



Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 12, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

Further on the old Kent Street manse. The “Young” was George Renny Young, a prominent Reform politician. The “Stairs” was William James Stairs, an original trustee and one of the principal pillars of Fort Massey. The church never owned the house, which Mr Stairs purchased in 1879 for use as the manse. It is unclear when the house ceased to be the manse. According to the official architectural description, “the building ... is a two-story wood frame structure built along the Second Empire style which was erected on a square stone foundation. These houses sometimes have a rectangular or square projecting tower, similar to the one on this structure, which is centred on the front facade. Both the building as well as the tower have a mansard roof. On the north [front] side, projecting from the roof, is a cantilevered window. Constructed on each side of the tower are two two-story projections. The bottom half of the projection is designed as a three-bay window with arched-shaped windows. The top half is styled in a rectangular shape, with gabled roofs. A small circular-shaped window was added as decoration to the roof of the tower. Cornices were added under the top portion of the three projections. The entryway has a large double door with a transom window.”

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

Prelude

Introit: “One God, Many Names!”

Then Let Us Sing

Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Call to Worship

Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Hymn:** “Let Us Build a House”

MV 1, vs 1,2,5

Announcements

Passing the Peace **One:** The peace of Christ be with you.
 All: And also with you.

***Affirmation of Faith:** A New Creed

VU 918

Time for the Young and Young at Heart

***Hymn:** “God of the Sparrow”

VU 229 vs 1,2,5,6

Offering

Response: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

VU 541

Ministry of Music: “Consider the Lilies”

Scripture: Matthew 6:25-34

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

Sermon: “Don’t Worry”

Hymn: “Where Two or Three Are Gathered”

MV 14

Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer

VU 921

*Hymn: "All Creatures of Our God and King"

VU 217

*Blessing and Sending Forth

*Sung Blessing: "Go Now in Peace"

VU 964

Postlude

Notices

Happy birthday to Donna Lesser on November 13

Blessings and our best wishes to all who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries or other milestones this week. Likewise, if you're walking through some difficulty this week: grief, anxiety, challenge, we hold you in prayer.

Sympathies of the congregation are extended to John Beveridge and the family of Mary Carmichael, who passed away on November 8. The Celebration of Life will take place at a later date.

A special welcome to all who are worshipping here for the first time. We strive to notice you and make you feel welcome.

Do let us know if we fall short of our aspiration. We know that stepping into a new church can be daunting.

If, after you leave, you find questions, curiosities, or insights arising, you are most welcome to reach out to our minister Rev. Beth (minister@fortmasseychurch.com).

We offer a pretty great coffee hour. Following the service, make your way to the front of the church and down the stairs and you'll be greeted by warm hospitality and terrific snacks!

Please feel comfortable to sit, stand, stretch, move for your own self-care and comfort.

Our services are generally an hour in length. When the Postlude begins, please feel free to get up and chat.

Why do we encourage name tags be worn?

In a spirit of **radical welcome**, we encourage **everybody** to wear a name tag today.

Name tags help us recognize and remember each other. They are a small gesture appreciated by those learning many names at once; those who are deaf or hard of hearing; or those who struggle to match names with faces.

If you are **comfortable** doing so, consider adding your **pronouns**. Sharing **pronouns** is a signal that we welcome those of **all genders** and we appreciate knowing how to speak of each other **respectfully**.

Help Wanted 🙏

As of January 1, 2024, Fort Massey will be without a treasurer since our current treasurer is unable to continue past that date. The position of treasurer is not as onerous as it once was since many of the tasks are done by others. We aim to have the position as a three-year term. Anyone who is interested please speak to Alison McDonald or Kathy Evans from the Nominating Committee as soon as possible.

Mission to Seafarers

Once again, we'll be collecting shoeboxes for Mission to Seafarers to be taken down to the mission in December. What is in a shoebox gift, which is delivered to every seafarer who enters the Port of Halifax?

**socks; hard candy/chocolate; toothpaste & toothbrush;
razors; lip balm; hat; scarf; playing cards; memento of Nova Scotia or Canada**

Items in high demand: shampoo, deodorant, shaving cream; work gloves

Upcoming Services & Events:

Order of Fort Massey – Sunday, November 19

Each year we members of the congregation who have offered long standing service to the community. Join us on the 19th when we will continue this time-honoured tradition.

Anniversary Sunday – Sunday, November 26

We will celebrate our 152nd on November 26 with a soup lunch to follow. Guest preacher is The Rev. Canon Dr. Jody Clarke, Professor of Pastoral Theology at The Atlantic School of Theology. Dr. Clarke's specializations include pastoral psychotherapy, death and dying, trauma and trauma recovery, guilt, forgiveness, and peace. He teaches courses in these areas, as well as sexuality, congregational dynamics and development, leadership, personality theory, sports and religion, and individual and community resilience. He is a certified trainer and supervisor of Clinical Pastoral Education supervisors.

Communion Sunday – Sunday, December 3

This week the Session determined that we would experiment with serving communion in pre-pandemic ways. Join us on the first Sunday of Advent when we mark the season by sharing in the nourishment of the communion table.

Casual Carols

There will be a "Casual Carol" Sing on Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary led by Jenny. Invite everyone to join us. Don't forget to pick up your carol sing requests sheet in the Queen and Tobin Street lobbies.

Christmas Eve - Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. Join us for Advent 4 worship at the usual 10:30 a.m. on December 24 and the Candlelight Christmas Eve service at 7:00 p.m.

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.

Fort Massey Vision Statement

At Fort Massey, we live into being a vibrant and evolving community where tradition is honoured, change is embraced, and injustice is challenged, where everyone is welcomed, needed, valued and belongs. Following Jesus' example of expansive love, we aim to provide a safe, nurturing environment where everyone is free to be themselves. We celebrate and encourage people of every age, health situation, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, family configuration, background, ability, interest, culture, economic circumstance and faith journey into the full participation and leadership of ministries in the life and work of Fort Massey United Church.

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)