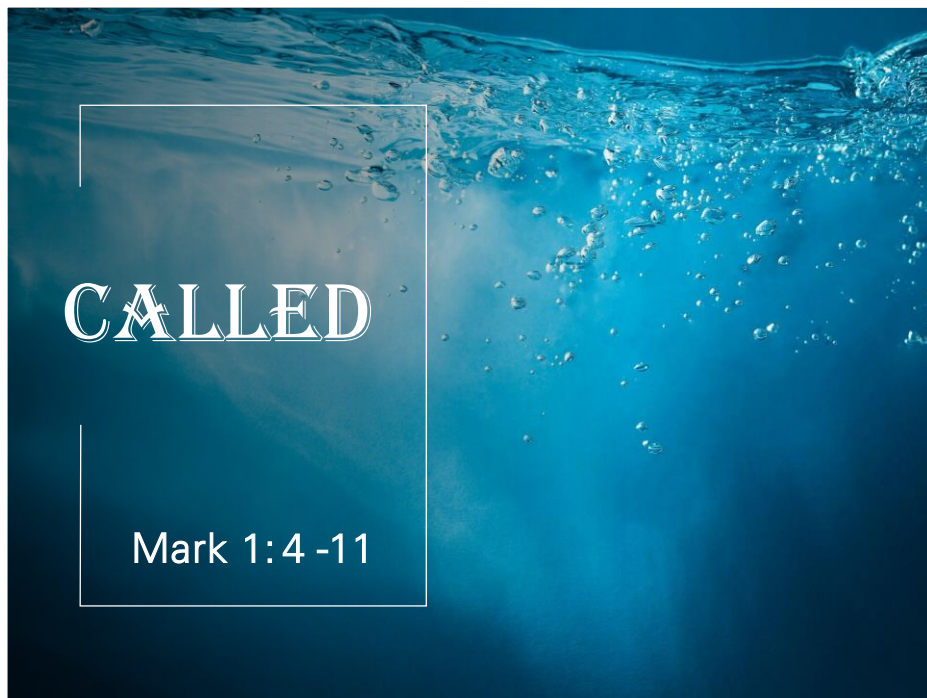


Fort Massey Church

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
Office Administrator: Tamara Mugford
Sexton: Emily Kiley Lawlor
Church School: Sancia Knorr, Nursery: Lilli Knorr
Section Leads: Laura Johnston, Lisa Thornhill
Usher: Alison McDonald
Liturgical Assistant: Alison McDonald, Scripture Reader: Colleen Estabrooks



Baptism of Jesus
January 7, 2024, 10:30 a.m.

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



HERITAGE MOMENT *By Barry Cahill*

As a writer and lecturer Dr Burns was best known in Halifax as a pamphleteer and commentator on current affairs. But before he came to Fort Massey, while he was still minister at Cote des Neiges church in Montreal, he published in 1872 one great book: "The Life and Times of Rev. Robert Burns" (1789-1869), who was among the founders of the Free Church of Scotland in Canada. At 462 pages, Burns's biography of his father and namesake is a remarkable achievement.

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

Prelude

Introit: "A Light Is Gleaming" (*refrain*) VU 82

Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Call to Worship

Lighting of the Christ Candle

***Hymn:** "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" VU 509

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:** "All Who Are Thirsty" MV 4

Offering

Response: "What Can I Do?" MV 191

Ministry of Music: "On Jordan's Bank"

Scripture: Mark 1:4-11

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

Sermon: "Called"

***Hymn:** "O God We Call" VU 411

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer VU 921

Hymn: "O World of God" VU 258

*Blessing and Sending Forth

***Sung Blessing:** "May the Peace of God Be Your Peace" MV 222

Postlude

Notices

Happy birthday to Carol Dobson on January 10

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.

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**.

The boxes of 2024 donation envelopes are now available for pickup in the Tobin St lobby.

Rev. Beth's Contact for Emailing: Please use the Fort Massey email address: minister@fortmasseychurch.com – thank you.

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.

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)



Say It with Stars



In memory of Mike Surette from Rian Boutilier

*In memory and thanks for all at Fort Massey who have gone before us from Kathy Evans
In celebration of the arrival of Rev. Beth and family at Fort Massey from Bill & Diane Gillis*

In gratitude for our family from Bill & Diane Gillis

In memory of family members from Sally DeWolf

In honour of and gratitude for the wonderful Fort Massey Family from Carol Dobson

In memory of Allan Gillis and Catherine May Gillis from Angela, Stephanie, Gail & Patricia Gillis

In memory of unnamed individuals from Viola Greer

In memory of the life of Mary Carmichael from Alan Hayman

In celebration of the birthday of Alan Hayman from Joanne Hayman

In appreciation for the people of Fort Massey from Beth Hayward and Steven Chambers

With love and in memory of our parents at Christmas from Peter & Stephanie Coulthard

In memory of Mary Carmichael, with love from Colleen Estabrooks

*In honour of Bill & Diane Gillis for a lifetime of commitment to family and church
from John Gillis, Rhia Perkins, Owen & Morgan*

In honour of rhubarb pies and Ruth who makes them from John Gillis & Rhia Perkins

As a gift from Viola Greer

In celebration of the life of Rev. Betty Griffiths-Ling and Rev. Kenneth Griffiths from David Griffiths

In memory of my parents, Isabel & Ronnie MacEachern, from Elaine Janson

In memory of Mary Carmichael from Alison McDonald

*For UCW in honour of their hard work in supporting Fort Massey and their compassionate work in
supporting families through receptions following celebration of life services from Alison McDonald*

Wishing Rev. Beth and her family a very happy Christmas from Alison McDonald

In loving memory of Phil Pacey from Betty Pacey

In memory of Alasdair from Carol Sinclair

Merry Christmas to all from Kathy Evans

In Memory of Evelyn Jean Sinclair from Margie James

In memory of Great Pappa (Grampie). Nan Nar and Nanny Cohen from Sancia Knorr

*In memory of Irene Parks, because we miss you: your family
and your "Lil' Darlings", now numbering five, from Angela Twohig*

Total of gifts: \$2810.00