

# Fort Massey Church

Spiritual Seekers **United** in Community

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[www.fortmasseychurch.com](http://www.fortmasseychurch.com)

Ministers: All of us by the grace of God

Clergy: Rev. Beth Hayward

Music Director: Jenny Trites

Guest Musician: Garry Williams

Sexton: Emily Kiley Lawlor

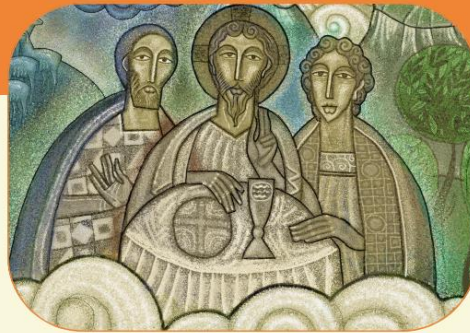
Church School: Sancia Knorr, Nursery: Lilli Knorr

Section Leads: Laura Johnston, Lisa Thornhill

Greeters: Kari & James Robertson

Liturgical Assistant & Scripture Reader: Carol Sinclair & Nancy Riggs

## “See for Yourself”



JOHN 20:19-31

April 07, 2024

**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 07, 2024, 10:30 a.m.**

Service recorded and posted online @ FMC Facebook & Web Page



United against Racism



MISSION AND  
SERVICE FUND

Fort Massey had become so famous thanks to Dr Burns that the search for his successor was news. According to the Morning Chronicle of 27 August 1892, "In view of some sensational statements which are going the rounds of the papers respecting Fort Massey congregation ... and Rev. Mr Knowles of Ottawa, it may be stated (1) that Fort Massey congregation has not extended a call to Rev. Mr Knowles, of Ottawa; (2) that Fort Massey has not yet decided whom she will extend a call to. Consequently, all statements and speculations on the subject are at the present time incorrect or misleading, unfair to Fort Massey congregation and calculated to place Mr Knowles and his congregation in a false position. There is reason to believe that these sensational stories are the outcome of a misleading telegram sent from Halifax to the Saint John Sun, embodying incorrect statements based on imperfect information as to the action taken at a recent meeting of Fort Massey congregation."

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

## **Prelude**

**Introit:** "O Let the Power Fall on Me" MV 13

## **Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Call to Worship**

### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**\*Hymn:** "Draw the Circle Wide" MV 145

## **Announcements**

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

## **Time for the Young and Young at Heart**

**\*Hymn:** "It's a Song of Praise to the Maker " MV 30

## **Offering**

Response: "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" (V1) VU 575

**Scripture:** John 20:19-31

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

**Sermon:** "See for Yourself"

**\*Hymn:** " There is Room for All" MV 62

## **Prayers of the People**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**Hymn:** "Now the Green Blade Rises" VU 186

### **\*Blessing and Sending Forth**

**\*Sung Blessing:** "Halle Halle Halle" VU 958

## **Postlude**

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.

**Please join us in wishing Aaron Joel MacDonald, David Griffiths, Linda Dean, and Nahlah Rose MacDonald happy birthdays this week! 😊 🎂**

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](mailto:minister@fortmasseychurch.com)).

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. 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!

### ***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**.

### **Something New**

During the Easter season (the 50 days following Easter Sunday) we will be experimenting with some new elements to our worship service. Here's what you can expect.

**The Lord's Prayer:** Each week we will speak together a different paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer. The beauty of the traditional translation lies in its familiarity, how the words roll off the tongue, how we can go into places of worship around the world and hear the familiarity of the same words spoken. Language is a powerful tool in shaping our minds and hearts. By interspersing contemporary translations with the traditional we can become aware of new insights, and our hearts can be opened in new ways. We might hear nuances in the prayer that otherwise would remain hidden. You are urged to pay attention to which paraphrases resonate with you, which ones make you bristle, which ones open new questions.

**Silence:** From time to time we will introduce more extended periods of silence and quiet reflection into the worship service. This might be woven in after the sermon or as part of our regular prayers, perhaps when we light the candle. So much of our lives is filled with words, with an outward focus. Silence holds the potential for us to hear the calling of God on our lives in ways that words cannot.

### **Study Leave**

Rev. Beth will be participating in a preaching conference in Denver later this week. The Conference is entitled: "Persuade: Open Relational, and Process Preaching" and Rev. Beth will be a panelist.

Please remember that we are still without an Office Administrator; calls and emails might take a while to receive a response. For pastoral emergencies while Beth is away (April 10 - 16) please contact Rev. Betsy Hogan at: 902-453-9471 or [stmatts.betsy@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:stmatts.betsy@ns.sympatico.ca)

## **Brunswick Street Food Bank**

April is "**Protein Drinks/ Bars Month**" please bring Boost and other brand names of protein drinks, and protein bars throughout the month of. All other items are still much appreciated; please refer to the list in the Tobin St. Entrance.

### **Brunswick Street Mission: Annual General Meeting**

The Board of BSM will hold its 9<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting on Tuesday April 30, 2024 at 7:00 pm in-person at the Mission.

### **Flourishing Nova Scotia – Time with the Moderator – Save the Dates**

Flourishing Keynote presentation with Andre Picard and the Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne

April 11 at the Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Day-long Free Workshop on April 13 from 9 am to 4:30 pm at Bedford United Church

To register for these events, please use the links in the weekly newsletter

### **From the Nominating Committee**

Fort Massey is looking for a new treasurer. 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.

### **Thank You for Your Financial Support**

We thank you for your financial support of Fort Massey. Whether using e-transfer to [fmchurch@eastlink.ca](mailto: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)*