



Reign of Christ Sunday

November 19, 2023, 10:30am

Gathering in the FBCH Sanctuary

Prayer candles are available in the north transept if you would like to light one as part of your prayer this morning. For more information about the life of FBCH, visit our website: fbchalifax.ca or like us on social media.

Wifi Password for FBCH Guest: youareloved

Prelude

Naomi Sney, soprano

So Shall the Lute and Harp Awake -G.F. Handel

Ringing of the Trinity

Welcome

Paula Zanello Antunes

If joining on Facebook Live or YouTube we invite you to say hello to everyone by posting a comment to the live stream.

Announcement

Jim Stanley

*Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-7

Paula Zanello Antunes

The Inclusive Bible

Come, let us sing joyfully to God! Raise a shout to our rock, our deliverance!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving, and sing our praises with joy!

For the LORD is a great God, the great Ruler, above all gods. O God, in your hands are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks are yours. Yours is the sea, for you made it, the dry land as well, for your hands formed it.

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker. For you are our God, and we are the people you shepherd, the flock under your care.

*Prayer of Approach:

Christ, our Good Shepherd, guide us to follow in your Way so that we may feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, visit the imprisoned, care for the sick, clothe the naked, and honour your presence in all people. Amen.

*Processional Hymn (next page)

802 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

(Psalm 23)

1 The King of love my shep-herd is, whose good - ness
 2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow my ran - somed
 3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but yet in
 4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear

fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
 soul he lead - eth, and where the ver - dant
 love he sought me, and on his shoul - der
 Lord, be - side me; thy rod and staff my

I am his and he is mine for - ev - er.
 pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 gent - ly laid, and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.
 com - fort still, thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
 thy unction grace bestoweth;
 and O what transport of delight
 from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
 thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
 within thy house forever.

Since its creation in the mid-19th century, this text has been one of the favorite paraphrases of Psalm 23 in the English-speaking world. That popularity increased in the early 20th century when *The English Hymnal*, 1906, first joined these words to this flowing Irish melody.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Rusty Edwards

New Revised Standard Version

^{34:11}For thus says the LORD GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the LORD GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the LORD GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;
 God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

This "short song," as the Iona Community calls it, can be especially effective as a means of setting a welcoming tone for a service (especially an ecumenical one). Like most such songs, it needs to be sung several times, adding and improvising harmony with each repetition.

TEXT: John L. Bell, 2008
 MUSIC: South African song; transcr. John L. Bell, 2008
 Text and Music Transcr. © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

THEMBA AMEN
 4.4.9

Children's Story

Rusty Edwards

***Blessing of the Children**

Beloved children of our church family: may God's Spirit be with you as you enter into the stories of our faith; may your imaginations be opened to encounter God's love for you and all the world; and may you be formed to care for others as you discover the Way of Jesus. Amen.

Children going into Primary-Grade 6 are dismissed to go to Godly Play.

***Doxology - OLD HUNDREDTH**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
 Praise Christ, all people here below, Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
 Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Donations

All contributions to FBCH support our mission and ministry and are greatly appreciated. Offering boxes are located at the side doors at the back of the Sanctuary. You can also go to our website fbchalifax.ca and click on the Ways to Give link for information about how to financially support the ministries of FBCH, including e-transfers or setting up recurring donations.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46**Rev. John Boyd***New Revised Standard Version*

^{25:31}When the Son of Humanity comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Creator, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

Spoken Reflection**Rev. John Boyd***A Failing Grade Brings Hope***Anthem****Sr. Choir; Rosalie Dowling, Leander Mendoza, soloists***Rain Come Down -Kirchner***Prayers Of the People****Rusty Edwards****Lord's Prayer****Our Creator, 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.**

***Recessional Hymn**

JESUS CHRIST: PASSION AND DEATH

203 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Capo 3: (D) (A7)
F C7

Refrain

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love; show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you. *Fine*

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their

2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and

3 These are the ones we should serve; these are the ones we should

4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, will - ing to wash oth - ers'

feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.

race; neigh-bors are near us and far a - way.

love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.

feet; this is the way we should live like you.

(D) (Bm) (Em) (A)
F Dm Gm C

(D) (Bm) (Em7) (A7) (D)
F Dm Gm7 C7 F *to Refrain*

Considering that this text comes from a part of the world where Christianity is not the primary religion gives these simple but powerful words even more depth and meaning. The tune name recalls the district in the Northern Region of Ghana where this tune was collected.

TEXT: Tom Colvin, 1969, rev. 1997, alt.
MUSIC: Ghanaian folk melody; adapt. Tom Colvin, 1963; arr. Jane Marshall, 1982
Text and Music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company
Music Arr. © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

CHEREPONI
7.7.9 with refrain

Benediction

Rusty Edwards

Amen

Postlude

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organ

Toccata on Veni Emmanuel -Andrew Carter



The Week Ahead at FBCH

For details go to fbchalifax.ca or read News Notes

Sunday, November 19

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary

11:30 am - Learn to Sing; Parlour

Tuesday, November 21

6:30pm Jazz Vespers; Sanctuary

Thursday, November 30

6:45pm - Choir Practice; Sanctuary

Sunday, November 26

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Advent 1

11:45 am - Congregational Meeting

Truth & Reconciliation

Each Sunday, we list one of the Calls to Action issued by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. These Calls to Action remind us of Jesus' calling to love God and love our neighbours. May they guide us to put loving justice into action.

Legacy: Education

9. We call upon the federal government to prepare and publish annual reports comparing funding for the education of First Nations children on and off reserves, as well as educational and income attainments of Aboriginal peoples in Canada compared with non- Aboriginal people.



Thank you to our live stream worship leaders

John Boyd, Senior Minister of FBCH from 1988-2015

Jean Ferguson, Coordinator of Congregational and Community Engagement

Arla Johnson, Minister of Inclusive Community

Lynette Wahlstrom, Director of Music

Paula Zanello Antunes, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Coordinator

Katie Pezzutto, Lead Godly Play Storyteller

Rusty Edwards, Senior Minister

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HALIFAX

Breaking Stereotypes Since 1827

The story of the early church in the New Testament is a story of the ever-expanding circle of those included in the community of Jesus. We believe that circle expands to include all people.

Because we are followers of Jesus, First Baptist Church Halifax welcomes all people into the full life of the church community. This means we will not discriminate on the grounds of gender, age, race, national or ethnic origin, colour, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or economic circumstances.

We really do want you to join us. Our diversity helps us all expand our understandings of God.

Learn more about First Baptist Church Halifax at www.fbchalifax.ca or find us on FaceBook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter.