



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024, 10:30am

Sailing Together - Easter 2024

During the Season of Easter, the first followers of Jesus prepared to set sail as a community centred in the Way of Jesus. The ship became a symbol of the Church—with sails hoisted the Church is propelled by the winds of the Spirit.

Welcome Aboard!

We invite you to be part of our growing community.



- Join FBCH as a member
- Become a Monthly Supporter
- Volunteer today - Contact the staff and find ways you can contribute regularly
- Find many treasures - Subscribe to our weekly News Notes on our website and stay in the loop
- Stay connected - Life is a voyage, and so is our social media feed. Stay onboard for all the good stuff!

 fbchalifax.ca

 office@fbchalifax.ca

  [fbchalifax](#)

 [First Baptist Church Halifax](#)

**Stand as you are able*

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

Lynette Wahlstrom

Favourite Hymns

Ringling of the Trinity

Welcome

Rusty Edwards

***Call to Worship & Prayer of Approach**

We gather around the table of Christ to celebrate Life: the life of God in the world, made flesh and blood in Jesus, embodied in us. We come to re-member the body that was broken:

the hands that touched the untouchable, healed the hurting and did no violence;

the feet that got dusty along city streets and at the lake's shore;

the arms that welcomed the stranger and embraced the outcast;

the legs that entered homes and synagogues and danced at celebrations;

the eyes that blazed against injustice, knew how to cry and saw the potential in everyone;

the belly that shared table with unexpected people and shook with laughter;

the lips that wove stories and painted pictures of a new community and a better world.

the blessed body that was broken, abused and rejected; we come to re-member, for we are called to be the body of Christ.

As you Risen Christ re-member our lives, so we re-member you.

And not only at this table, but in our life together may we embody your kingdom and re-member your life in the world.

***Processional Hymn (next page)**

Here in This Place

Gather Us In

401



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing; now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-tery. We are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter; here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ish-ed a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth. Here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way: here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion; give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The "you/your" mentioned in every stanza is never identified, but this 1979 hymn is clearly a corporate prayer to God on behalf of the diverse congregation who have assembled for worship, longing to be transformed and used as God's witnesses and for God's purposes.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

*Psalm Reading: Psalm 145:1-8

John Dalton

The Inclusive Bible

Hal H. Hopson



© 1988 Hope Publishing Company

I will extol you, my God, my Ruler, and I will bless your Name forever and ever! Every day I will bless you, and I will praise your Name forever and ever!

Great you are, O LORD, and greatly to be praised; your greatness is unfathomable. R

Generation after generation praises your works and proclaims your mighty deeds; they will speak of the splendour of your glorious majesty,

and I will meditate on your wondrous acts.

They will discourse of the power of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.

They will celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and I will joyfully sing of your justice. O LORD, you are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love. R

Children's Hymn

God Welcomes All

399

God wel - comes all, stran - 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 WGRC, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

THEMBA AMEN
4.4.9

***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 invited 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.

New Testament Reading: Acts 8:14-25

New Revised Standard Version

^{8:14}Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹saying, 'Give me also this power so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.' ²⁰But Peter said to him, 'May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain God's gift with money! ²¹You have no part or share in this, for your heart is not right before God. ²²Repent therefore of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. ²³For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and the chains of wickedness.' ²⁴Simon answered, 'Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may happen to me.'

²⁵Now after Peter and John had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, proclaiming the good news to many villages of the Samaritans.

Spoken Reflection

Rusty Edwards

Sailing with Peter: Breaking Barriers

Anthem

Senior Choir

Ubi Caritas -Durufle

Where charity and love are, God is there.
Love of Christ has gathered us into one.

Invitation to the Holy Feast

Rusty Edwards

Prayers of the People

John Dalton

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.**

Sharing the Holy Feast

***Recessional Hymn (next page)**

282 Come Down, O Love Divine

1 Come down, O Love Di - vine; seek out this soul of mine,
 2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn
 3 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with your own ar - dor glow - ing.
 to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing.
 shall far out - pass the power of hu - man tell - ing.

O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear,
 And let your glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,
 For none can guess God's grace, till Love cre - ates a place

and kin - dle it, your ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
 and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
 where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

This *lauda spirituale*, a kind of vernacular Italian sacred song from the late Middle Ages and Renaissance, was translated into English in the 19th century but received little notice until this tune (named for the composer's birthplace) was created for *The English Hymnal*.

Benediction

Rusty Edwards

Amen

Postlude

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organ

Postludio en estilo clásico -Joven



The Week Ahead at FBCH

For details go to fbchalifax.ca or read News Notes

Sunday, May 5

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary

11:45am - Just Lunch & Youth Group Walk; Assembly room

Wednesday, May 8

10:30 am - Walk to celebrate NS Walk Day; Meet at FBCH

Thursday, May 9

10:30am - Auxiliary Guest Speaker; Parlour

7-9pm - Senior Choir; Sanctuary

Sunday, May 12

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary



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: Justice

32. We call upon the federal government to amend the Criminal Code to allow trial judges, upon giving reasons, to depart from mandatory minimum sentences and restrictions on the use of conditional sentences.

Lay Leaders

Marilyn Peers, Lay Leader

Church Staff Team

Paula Zanello Antunes, Community Engagement Lead
David Bourque, Lay Minister
John Dalton, Lay Minister
Rusty Edwards, Senior Minister
Jean Ferguson, Congregational Coordinator
Arla Johnson, Minister of Inclusive Community
Chip Murray, Custodian
Katie Pezzutto, Lead Godly Play Storyteller
Lynette Wahlstrom, Director of Music

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Easter 2024 Monthly Supporter Goal

Our goal for the season of Easter is to grow participation in our monthly giving plan (often referred to as Preauthorized Offering Plan or POP). Consistent, monthly support gives FBCH predictable income to support our mission and ministry.

*Our goal is to double the number of
Monthly Supporters to 88 donors.*

Watch us achieve our goal in Easter:

