



Second Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026 | 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.

*Stand as you are able

Wifi Password for FBCH Guest: youareloved

Prelude

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organ

Hymn Favourites from Voices Together

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.

Ringing of the Trinity

We Gather in the presence of God - Creator, Christ, and Spirit

*Call to Worship

In the beginning,
God formed the first human from the humus of the earth
and breathed the wind of life into its nostrils.
The human became a living being.

God, breathe your wind of life among us.

When the world unraveled into fear and violence,
when hope seemed sealed behind stone,
the wind of life continued to blow.

God, breathe your wind of life among us.

On the evening of resurrection,
Jesus stood among his friends,
behind locked doors, inside their fear,
he breathed on them and filled them with the Spirit.

God, breathe your wind of life among us.

*Prayer of Approach

God-Creator, Christ, and Spirit-move among us now. Not as a memory, but as a presence. Not as an idea, but as life itself. Not once, but again and again. Breathe the wind of life into our weary lungs and guarded hearts. Amen.

*Processional 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*.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Psalm Reading: Psalm 148

The Inclusive Bible



Alleluia! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights! Praise God, all you angels; praise God, all you hosts! Praise God, sun and moon; praise God, you highest heavens; and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the Name of the LORD, by whose command they were created. God established them forever and ever and gave a decree which won't pass away. R

Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea creatures and ocean depths, lightning and hail, snow and mist, and storm winds that fulfill God's word, mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle, small animals and flying birds, rulers of the earth, leaders of all nations, all the judges of the world, young people, old people and children—

let them all praise the Name of the LORD whose Name alone is exalted, whose majesty transcends heaven and earth, and who has raised up a Horn for God's people to the praise of the faithful, the children of faith, the people dear to God! Alleluia! R

*Children's Hymn

God Welcomes All

399

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God's love is strong and it never 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.

***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.
Today's formation activities: Godly Play Story and Response

***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: John 20:19-31

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

^{20:19}When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the religious leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Creator has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Reader For the Word of God in Scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Spoken Reflection

Rusty Edwards

Unseen

Anthem

Sr. Choir

Locus iste -Bruckner

"This place was made by God, a priceless mystery without reproach"

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.

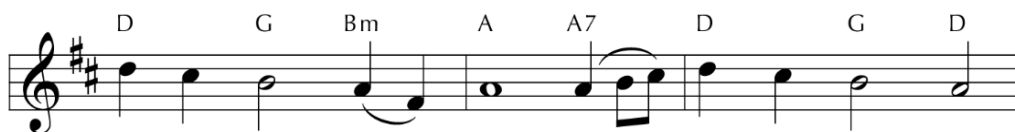
***Recessional Hymn (next page)**

LIVING AND DYING IN CHRIST

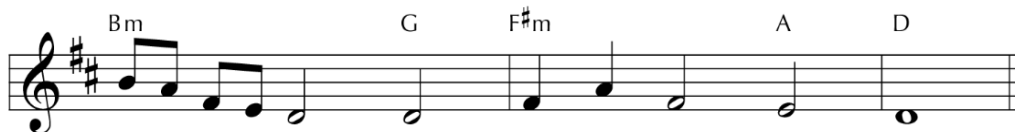
817 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 And when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light may we be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - jice and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found.
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The opening line here is essentially a quotation of 2 Corinthians 5:7, but that affirmation is fleshed out by references to the appearance of the risen Christ to Thomas (John 20:19–29). The shape note tune, named for a stream in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, adds resolution to the words.

TEXT: Henry Alford, 1844, alt.
MUSIC: Samuel McFarland, c. 1814; harm. Richard Proulx, 1986
Music Harm. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

DUNLAP'S CREEK
CM

Benediction

Rusty Edwards

Amen

Postlude

Inaya Seraj, Piano

Andante and Allegro, fr. Sonatina in C major, op. 36, no. 1 -Clementi

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FBCH

Sunday, April 12

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary
11:45am - Orange Shirt Beading Workshop; Hall
11:45am - PMC Meeting; Community Room

Wednesday, April 15

7:00pm - Sacred Silence Sacred Sounds; Sanctuary

Thursday, April 16

7-9pm - Choir Practice; Sanctuary

Sunday, April 19

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary
11:45am - University Lunch; Parlour

For details go to fbchalifax.ca or read News Notes

CONNECT WITH FBCH STAFF

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Special thanks to
today's worship leaders:

Inaya Seraj

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First Baptist Church Halifax 

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FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH
HALIFAX

Breaking Stereotypes Since 1827

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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.

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