



Celebration Sunday

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 7, 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

David Fletcher, Organ

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.

Ringling of the Trinity

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

*Call to Worship & Prayer of Approach

Manuela Roemer

Prayer by Baptist minister, John Ballenger

We gather this day, to acknowledge a threshold moment—a thin place between what has been and what is to be—

between what has been studied, learned, and accomplished, and all the more there is to study and learn and do.

It is so very good to mark growth in celebration, and then so very good to celebrate having further to grow—

to note a mile-marker on the longer way and to take joy both in the distance traveled and the distance yet ahead.

O God, bless this liminal time and space and those who stand in thresholds looking back and looking ahead.

May it be with a sense of both gratitude and anticipation.

May it be with awareness of how we grow our life long with our whole person—our minds, bodies, spirits, and emotions.

And may it be with a profound sense of what it means to place our way (where we have been and where we are going) within the Way of Jesus.

***Processional Hymn**

CREATION AND PROVIDENCE

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 12

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small.
4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light.

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might:
In all life thou liv - est, the true life of all.
Thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight.

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice, like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove;
We blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
All praise we would ren - der; O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds, which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
then with - er and per - ish; but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

The opening line of this hymn was inspired by the three divine attributes listed in 1 Timothy 1:17 (King James Version), and it continues by considering how God's life exceeds our own finite existence. The text is well set to a Welsh melody shaped by many three-note units.

TEXT: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.
MUSIC: Welsh folk melody; arr. *Caniadau y Cyssegr*, 1839

ST. DENIO
11.11.11.11

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prophetic Reading: Micah 6:6-8

Hudson Currie

The Inclusive Bible

^{6:6}“What shall I bring when I come before the LORD, and bow down before God on high?” you ask. “Am I to come before God with burnt offerings? With year-old calves? ⁷Will the LORD be placated by thousands of rams or ten thousand rivers of oil? Should I offer my firstborn for my wrongdoings—the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸Listen here, mortal: God has already made abundantly clear what “good” is, and what the LORD needs from you:
simply do justice,
love kindness,
and humbly walk with your God.

*Children’s Hymn

God Welcomes All

399

The musical score is written for a four-part setting in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are: "God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;". The piano accompaniment begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 4/4 time signature. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "God's love is strong and it nev - er ends." The piano accompaniment continues with the same key signature and time signature.

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

Recognition of Graduates

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 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.

New Testament Reading: Acts 27:1-8, 28:11-16, 30-31

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

^{27:1}When it was decided that we were to sail for Italy, they transferred Paul and some other prisoners to a centurion of the Augustan Cohort, named Julius. ²Embarking on a ship of Adramyttium that was about to set sail to the ports along the coast of Asia, we put to sea, accompanied by Aristarchus, a Macedonian from Thessalonica. ³The next day we put in at Sidon, and Julius treated Paul kindly and allowed him to go to his friends to be cared for. ⁴Putting out to sea from there, we sailed under the lee of Cyprus, because the winds were against us. ⁵After we had sailed across the sea that is off Cilicia and Pamphylia, we came to Myra in Lycia. ⁶There the centurion found an Alexandrian ship bound for Italy and put us on board. ⁷We sailed slowly for a number of days and arrived with difficulty off Cnidus, and as the wind was against us, we sailed under the lee of Crete off Salmone. ⁸Sailing past it with difficulty, we came to a place called Fair Havens, near the city of Lasea...

^{28:11}Three months later [following a shipwreck that stranded them on the island of Malta] we set sail on a ship that had wintered at the island, an Alexandrian ship with the Twin Brothers as its figurehead. ¹²We put in at Syracuse and stayed there for three days; ¹³then we weighed anchor and came to Rhegium. After one day there a south wind sprang up, and on the second day we came to Puteoli. ¹⁴There we found brothers and sisters and were invited to stay with them for seven days. And so we came to Rome. ¹⁵The brothers and sisters from there,

when they heard of us, came as far as the Forum of Appius and Three Taverns to meet us. On seeing them, Paul thanked God and took courage.

¹⁶When we came into Rome, Paul was allowed to live by himself, with the soldier who was guarding him...

³⁰He lived there two whole years at his own expense and welcomed all who came to him, ³¹proclaiming the kingdom of God and teaching about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance.

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

*For Every Beginning, There is an Ending...
For Every Ending, There is a New Beginning...*

Anthem

Sr. Choir

Precious Lord -Dorsey, arr. Schrader

Invitation to the Holy Feast

Rusty Edwards and John Dalton

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

Gluten free option available on small stands next to communion cups

***Recessional Hymn (next page)**

ADORATION

625

O Lord My God

How Great Thou Art

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
 2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion and take me

all the *worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I
 birds sing sweet-ly in the trees, when I look down from
 die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then *I shall bow in

hear the *roll-ing thun-der, thy power through-out the
 loft-y moun-tain gran-deur and hear the brook and
 bur-den glad-ly bear-ing, he bled and died to
 hum-ble ad-o-ra-tion, and there pro-claim, "My

*Author's original words are "works," "mighty," and "shall I bow."

This tuneful retelling of the salvation story began in Swedish and was translated into German and then into Russian before reaching its English form. Despite such linguistic and musical revisions, it continues to be a meaningful source of comfort to many people.

TEXT: Stuart K. Hine, 1953; Spanish trans. Arturo W. Hotton Rives, alt.; Korean trans. anon.

MUSIC: Swedish folk melody; adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1949

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HOW GREAT THOU ART

11.10.11.10 with refrain

Refrain

u - ni - verse dis - played:
 feel the gen - tle breeze:
 take a - way my sin: Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to
 God, how great thou art!"

thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my

Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

Benediction & Blessing of the BBQ**Rusty Edwards****Amen****Postlude****David Fletcher, Organ***Preludium in G minor, BuxWV 149 -D. Buxtehude*



High School Graduates

Hayden Carras

Church member and Grandson of Elaine and Ron Cox
Graduating from Halifax West High School
Will be attending NSCC for Business

Hudson Currie

Son of Shelly and Mike Currie
Graduating from Armbrae Academy
Will be attending University of Victoria for Child and Youth Care

Kendra Fader

Granddaughter of Betty and Owen Evans
Graduating from Hydrostone Academy (formerly Shambala School)
Will be attending MSVU in the fall for Child and Youth Studies

Kinsey Fader

Granddaughter of Betty and Owen Evans
Graduating from Hyderostone Academy (formerly Shambala School)
Will be pursuing the Vet Assistant programme at the SPCA College of Animal Welfare

Manuela Roemer

Church member and Daughter of Ian Roemer and Joselia Marques
Graduating from Dartmouth High School
Will be attending McGill University for Bachelor of Architecture

University Graduates

Mary Banks

Friend of FBCH
Graduating from Moravian University, Bethlehem PA
Certificate in Spiritual Direction

Evelyn Cain Archibald

Church Member
Graduating from NSCC
ASL English Interpreting Program

Katie Cox

Grandchild of Elaine and Ron Cox
Graduating from Dalhousie University
Bachelor of Science with Honours in Chemistry - receiving the University Medal in Chemistry

Beck MacKay

Grandchild of Elaine and Ron Cox
 graduated from Medavie Health in Paramedicine

Rian Mackay

Grandchild of Elaine and Ron Cox
 Graduated from Holland College in Professional Firefighting

Ruth McGill

Grandchild of Frank & Sharon McGill; daughter of Andrew McGill & Dr. Tara McCallan
 Graduating from University of Kings College
 Bachelor of Arts, First Class Honours in Social Anthropology with a Minor in Classics
 She also received the University Medal in Social Anthropology

Joshua McKee

Son of James and Suzanne McKee, grandson of Ian and Johanne McKee
 University of Waterloo
 Bachelor of Science in Math and Financial Analysis and Risk Management

Madison Salcedo

FBCH Choir Former Alto Section Lead
 Graduating from Dalhousie
 Bachelor of Music
 She will be pursuing her Masters in Choral Studies at the University of Alberta

Ethan Wright

Grandchild of Elaine and Ron Cox
 Graduating from the University of Toronto
 Masters in Economics

Thomas Min-Jie Yip Ashton

Son of (Alexandra) Sandy Yip & Brian Ashton, grandson of Alice Chan-Yip
 Graduating from Dalhousie University-University of King's College
 BSc Microbiology & Immunology

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FBCH

For details go to fbchhalifax.ca or read News Notes

Sunday, June 7

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary
 11:45am - Annual Graduation BBQ

Sunday, June 14

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary
 11:30am - Congregational Meeting; Sanctuary

PLEASE NOTE: STAFF AWAY

Paula Antunes will be away from June 9th -24th

CONNECT WITH FBCH STAFF

Paula Zanello Antunes | **Community Engagement Lead**
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Rusty Edwards | **Senior Minister**
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Arla Johnson | **Minister of Inclusive Community**
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Lynette Wahlstrom | **Director of Music**
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Special thanks to
today's worship leaders:

David Fletcher
Manuela Roemer

FIND OUT MORE

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HALIFAX

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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.

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10



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