



Summer Church

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 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

Open Our Eyes - Hymn improvisation

Ringling of the Trinity

Luke Dowding

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

Welcome

Paula Zanella Antunes

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

Gathering Song

God Welcomes All 399

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;

God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The image shows a musical score for the song 'God Welcomes All'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics 'God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;' are written below the first system. The second system continues the melody and harmony, with the lyrics 'God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.' written below it. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a church service.

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

Childcare is provided at this time - Godly Play resumes September 8

***Summoning Prayer**

Words in third stanza are from Barbara Brown Taylor, *An Altar in the World*

Gather us in... from homes and from cottages, from work and from play, that we might rest in the company of friends.

Gather us in... from sandy beaches and waterfront boardwalks, from peaceful porches and tourist-filled sidewalks, that we might celebrate life as the people of Jesus.

Gather us in... to remember good news: that we are called to live a life of purpose, high and low; that we may be more fully human when we connect with what it means to be “good for something”.

As we rest and celebrate, may we discover wonder in creation, humility in our knowing, and joy in the gift of being alive. Amen.

*** Hymn (next page)**

Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
C7 F C F B^b C Dm



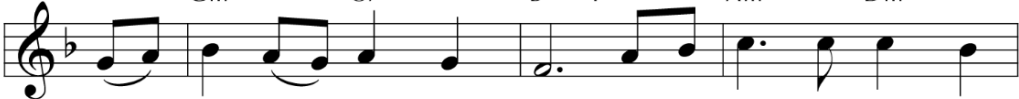
1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
F C F Dm7 Gm C



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
Gm C7 B^b F Am Dm



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
Gm C F B^b



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Although it was written for a church dedication, this text is not about a physical structure but a spiritual one. The building is at best only a vessel for the essential love and hope, life and faith, peace and justice, hospitality and nurture that form the worshipping community.

Summer Reading from Job 38-42

Through the summer, we will read the closing chapters in the book of Job. These chapters depict Job waking-up to the world around him as God presents Job a new and more expansive vision of God, humanity, and Creation. God speaks not with answers or explanations, but with invitations to notice: notice the dawn, notice the rain, notice the stars, notice the ostrich, notice Leviathan. What emerges is not a solution to suffering, but a re-enchantment of the world.

Job 40:15-24

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

- 40:15 “Look at Behemoth,
which I made just as I made you;
it eats grass like an ox.
16 Its strength is in its loins
and its power in the muscles of its belly.
17 It makes its tail stiff like a cedar;
the sinews of its thighs are knit together.
18 Its bones are tubes of bronze,
its limbs like bars of iron.
19 “It is the first of the great acts of God;
only its Maker can approach it with the sword.
20 For the mountains yield food for it
where all the wild animals play.
21 Under the lotus plants it lies,
in the covert of the reeds and in the marsh.
22 The lotus trees cover it for shade;
the willows of the wadi surround it.
23 Even if the river is turbulent, it is not frightened;
it is confident though Jordan rushes against its mouth.
24 Can one take it with hooks
or pierce its nose with a snare?

*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 Parable: Matthew 25:14-30

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

^{25:14}“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once ¹⁶the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless servant, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

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.**

Reflection: Summer Practices Series

The Practice of Living with Purpose

Luke Dowding

Prayers of the People

Judy Whalen

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.

*Hymn

DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

Jesus Calls Us

720

1 Je - sus calls us: o'er the tu - mult of our
2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
4 Je - sus calls us: by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,

life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thy o -

sound - eth say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

Like many hymns that adults have come to cherish, this text based on Jesus' calling of the disciple Andrew was written for a 19th-century collection of hymns for children. The popular tune used here was composed for these words more than a quarter of a century later.

TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1852
MUSIC: William H. Jude, 1887

GALILEE
8.7.8.7

Sending Song

841 As You Go Out from Here

SENDING SONG Irregular
Capo 3: (D) (D/F#) (G)
F F/A Bb

As you go out from here, may the Lord go
with you. The face of God shine on you ev - 'ry day.
We are sent by God wher - ev - er we are liv - ing,
salt and light as peo - ple of the Way.

(D) (D/F#) (G) (A)
F F/A Bb C

(D) (D/F#) (G) (D)
F F/A Bb F

(Em) (D) (A7) (G/D) (D)
Gm F C7 Bb/F F

Text: Bryan Moyer Suderman (Canada), 2001
Music: Bryan Moyer Suderman, 2001; acc. Charlene Nafziger (Canada)
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Postlude

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organ

Fugue in G minor, BWV 578 - J.S. Bach

For details go to fbchalifax.ca or read News Notes

SUMMER @ FBCH

10:30am
Sunday Worship

Office Closed:
July 1 - Canada Day | August 3 - Natal Day

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BREAKING STEREOTYPES SINCE 1827

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. Our diversity helps us all expand our understandings of God.

FIND OUT MORE

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