



Fourth Sunday in the Season of Creation

September 27, 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

Prière à Notre-Dame - Boëllmann

Welcome

Hillary Raley

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

*Season of Creation Introit: *The garden needs our tending now (v4)*

While people die in poverty, some lives are thick with waste.
The Prophets warn us: "Simplify!" Their challenge must be faced.
Creation groans, awaiting still
a Church responsive to God's will:
Earth shall be green and new, Eden restored.
Terra viridissima. [*Latin for Greenest Earth*]

*Call to Worship & Prayer of Approach

Elena Mason

We worship the Creator of sea and sky, of the great waters and the rocky shore, of the forests and fields, the coves and harbours of this land.

The earth is God's, and all that is in it.

Here in Kijipuktuk, the "Great Harbour," we remember with gratitude the Mi'kmaq People, who from time immemorial have received this land and water as sacred gift, and who have walked gently here as its faithful caretakers.

We give thanks for the Mi'kmaq, and we seek to learn from their wisdom, walking together as children of one Creator.

We remember the Peace and Friendship Treaties, covenants made to bind peoples together in mutual care. We confess the ways these covenants have been broken, and the deep harm done to Indigenous Peoples, including harm in which churches have been complicit.

Creator of justice and mercy, forgive us. Teach us to listen, to unlearn the harms, and to walk in new ways.

Clothed in the grace of Christ and guided by the Spirit, let us journey toward right relationship—receiving wisdom from the Mi'kmaq, caring for this land of sea and shore, and seeking the Creator who makes all things new.

Thanks be to God.

***Processional Hymn**

DISCIPLESHIP AND MISSION

744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!

1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun - tains burst in song!

show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken-heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Echoing imagery from Isaiah 61:1–2 and other passages, this text was created as an inclusive-language alternative to an older hymn using this late 19th-century tune. Because it is a song of encouragement rather than a song of praise, it is not directed to God but to people.

TEXT: Ruth Duck, 1974
MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894
Text © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc.

FESTAL SONG
SM
(this tune in a lower key, 815)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:35-40

Scarlet Mason

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

^{25:35}[Jesus continued speaking] "...for 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 siblings of mine, you did it to me.'

*Children's Hymn

God Welcomes All

399

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 invited to go to Godly Play.

Today's formation activities: Do Justice - Truth & Reconciliation

***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.

Reading: Genesis 39:1-20

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

^{39:1}Now Joseph was taken down to Egypt, and Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard, an Egyptian, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. ²The Eternal was with Joseph, and he became a successful man; he was in the house of his Egyptian master. ³His master saw that The Eternal was with him and that The Eternal caused all that he did to prosper in his hands. ⁴So Joseph found favour in his sight and attended him; he made him overseer of his house and put him in charge of all that he had. ⁵From the time that he made him overseer in his house and over all that he had, The Eternal blessed the Egyptian's house for Joseph's sake; the blessing of The Eternal was on all that he had, in house and field. ⁶So he left all that he had in Joseph's charge, and with him there he had no concern for anything but the food that he ate.

Now Joseph was handsome and good-looking. ⁷And after a time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Lie with me." ⁸But he refused and said to his master's wife, "Look, with me here, my master has no concern about anything in the house, and he has put everything that he has in my hand. ⁹He is not greater in this house than I am, nor has he kept back anything from me except yourself, because you are his wife. How then could I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" ¹⁰And although she spoke to Joseph day after day, he would not consent to lie beside her or to be with her. ¹¹One day, however, when he went into the house to do his work, and while no one else was in the house, ¹²she caught hold of his garment, saying, "Lie with me!" But he left his garment in her hand and fled and ran outside. ¹³When she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and had fled outside, ¹⁴she called out to the members of her household and said to them, "See, my husband has brought among us a Hebrew to insult us! He came in to me to lie with me, and I cried out with a loud voice, ¹⁵and when he heard me raise my voice and cry out, he left his garment beside me and fled outside." ¹⁶Then she kept his garment by her until his master came home, ¹⁷and she told him the same story, saying, "The Hebrew servant, whom you have brought among us, came in to me to insult me, ¹⁸but as

soon as I raised my voice and cried out, he left his garment beside me and fled outside.”

¹⁹When his master heard the words that his wife spoke to him, saying, “This is the way your servant treated me,” he became enraged. ²⁰And Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined; he remained there in prison.

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

Migrating World: Human Trafficking

Anthem

Sheila Davis, soloist & Sr. Choir

O Taste and See -Vaughan Williams

Prayers Of the People

Dawn Friedrich

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)**

GATHERING

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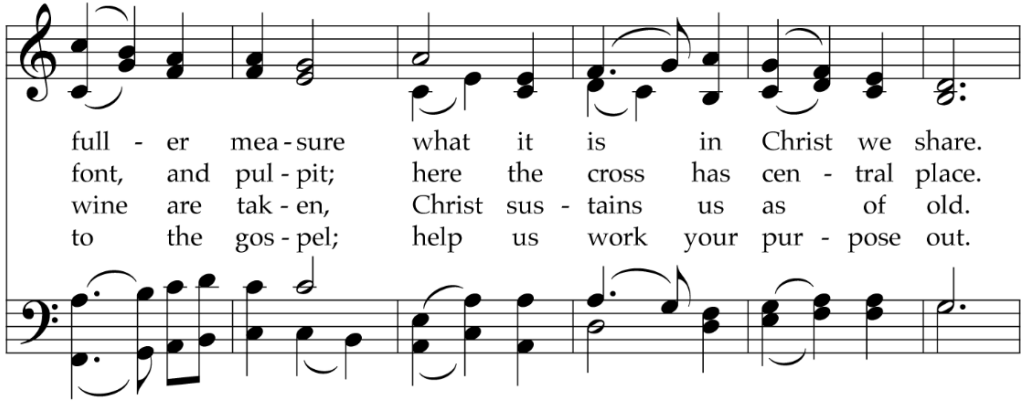
God Is Here!



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an



of - fer praise and prayer, may we find in
 life - long need of grace; here are ta - ble,
 Shep - herd's flock and fold; here as bread and
 age of change and doubt keep us faith - ful

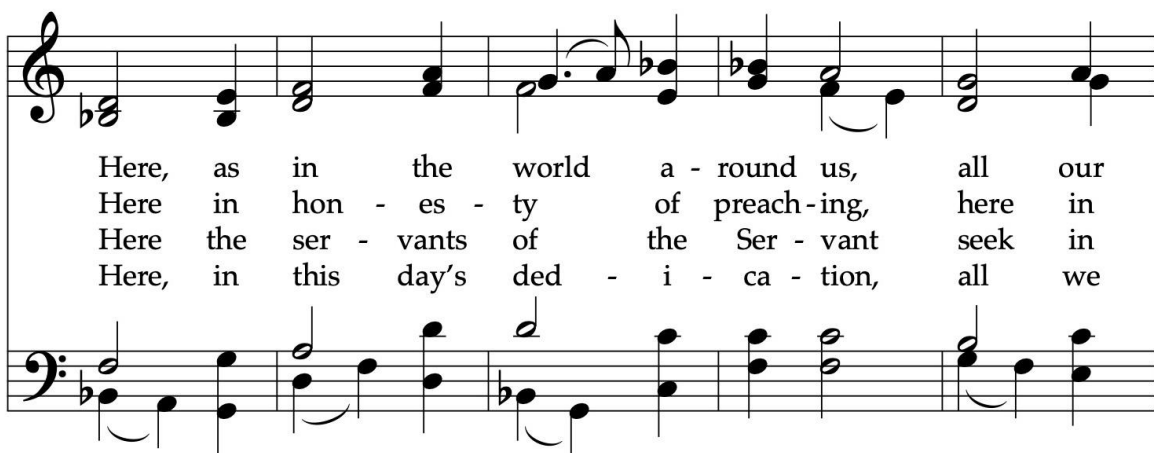


full - er mea - sure what it is in Christ we share.
 font, and pul - pit; here the cross has cen - tral place.
 wine are tak - en, Christ sus - tains us as of old.
 to the gos - pel; help us work your pur - pose out.

Commissioned for the dedication of a renovated worship space in Austin, Texas, this text is one of the few to devote attention to how customary church features facilitate worship. The tune was composed in wartime Britain to replace a Haydn tune tainted by Nazi associations.

TEXT: Fred Pratt Green, 1979, rev. 1988
 MUSIC: Cyril Vincent Taylor, 1941
 Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company
 Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company

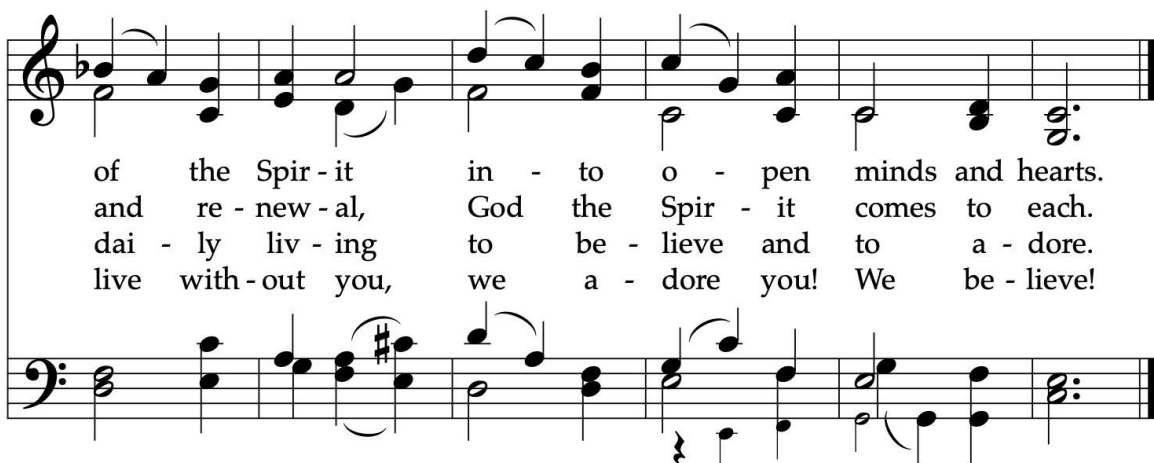
ABBOT'S LEIGH
 8.7.8.7.D



Here, as in the world a - round us, all our
 Here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in
 Here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in
 Here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we



var - ied skills and arts wait the com - ing
 si - lence, as in speech, here, in new - ness
 wor - ship to ex - plore what it means in
 have to give, re - ceive: we, who can - not



of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

Benediction

Rusty Edwards

Amen

Postlude

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organ

Menuet Gothique -Boëllmann

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FBCH

Sunday, September 27

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary

11:45am - Youth Group; South Transept

Thursday, October 4th

7:00pm - Choir Practice; Sanctuary

Sunday, October 4 - World Communion Sunday

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary

11:45am - Just Lunch Potluck; Parlour & Sanctuary

For details go to fbchalifax.ca or read News Notes

199th

Anniversary

WORLD COMMUNION POTLUCK

Join us October 4, 2026 for the Celebration.
We encourage dishes representing your
heritage



CONNECT WITH FBCH STAFF



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