



Fifth Sunday in the Season of Creation

October 4, 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 Miniatures -Rebecca Groom Te Velde

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

Janet Margeson

Adapted from Iona Abbey Worship Book, Prayer of Thanks for Creation

Thank you, God,
thanks for beauty:
the twinkle in an older person's eye,
a child's shout of laughter;
thanks for autumn trees and frozen waterfalls,
stunning buildings and stained glass windows.

Thanks for beauty.

Thank you, God,
thanks for creativity:
the skills of a tapestry weaver,
the imagination of a web designer;
thanks for bakers and singers and macrophotographers,

for spiders' webs and city murals.

Thanks for creativity.

Thank you, God,

thanks for abundance:

For seeds and raindrops,

For grains of sand and infinite galaxies;

Thanks for seagulls, plankton and shoals of mackerel,

for wiggly words and crimson maple leaves.

Thanks for abundance.

Thanks for your world, God,

and for our part in it.

Thanks that you are a maker,

and that you made us makers too.

Help us to love Creation as you love it,

to take risks to value it as Jesus did,

and with all peoples of the earth

draw us into the wildness and wonder

of your Holy Spirit

on this 199th Anniversary Sunday and every day.

Amen.

***Processional Hymn (next page)**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven 619

(Psalm 103)

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your
 2 Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore - bears
 3 Like a lov - ing par - ent car - ing, God knows well our
 4 An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion; you be - hold God

car - ols raise; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; God is still the same for - ev - er,
 fee - ble frame, glad - ly all our bur - dens bear - ing,
 face to face. Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion,

who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
 slow to chide, and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
 still to count - less years the same. Al - le - lu - ia!
 dwell - ers all in time and space: Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! All with - in me, praise God's name!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

This adaptation of an older paraphrase of Psalm 103 (see no. 620) is informed by an awareness that much of the received language of religious traditions enshrines social values that obscure the goodness of God, which far transcends all our labels and categories and hierarchies.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Welcoming New Members

Dawn Maxwell and Roy Lounsbury

Welcome into the Congregation of FBCH

In response to your decision, we pledge ourselves to be the family of God for you in this place; we offer you our love, our care, our kinship, and our hopes. We hope to learn from you, give to you, and receive from you, by God's grace.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-15

Janet Margeson

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

^{2:13} Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt

¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

*Children's Hymn

God Welcomes All

399

The musical score is written for a children's hymn in 4/4 time, key of D major. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: "God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends; God's love is strong and it nev - er ends." The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final double bar line at the end of the second system.

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

***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: Music and Godly Play Story

***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.

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-22

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

^{14:5}When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the minds of Pharaoh and his officials were changed toward the people, and they said, "What have we done, letting Israel leave our service?" ⁶So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him; ⁷he took six hundred elite chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them.

¹⁰As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to The Eternal. ¹¹They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." ¹³But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that The Eternal will accomplish for you today, for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. ¹⁴The Eternal will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Eternal drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

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: Moving for Liberation

Anthem

Leander Mendoza, soloist & Senior Choir

Panis Angelicus -Franck

"The angel's bread becomes the bread of all"

Invitation to the Holy Feast

Rusty Edwards & 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

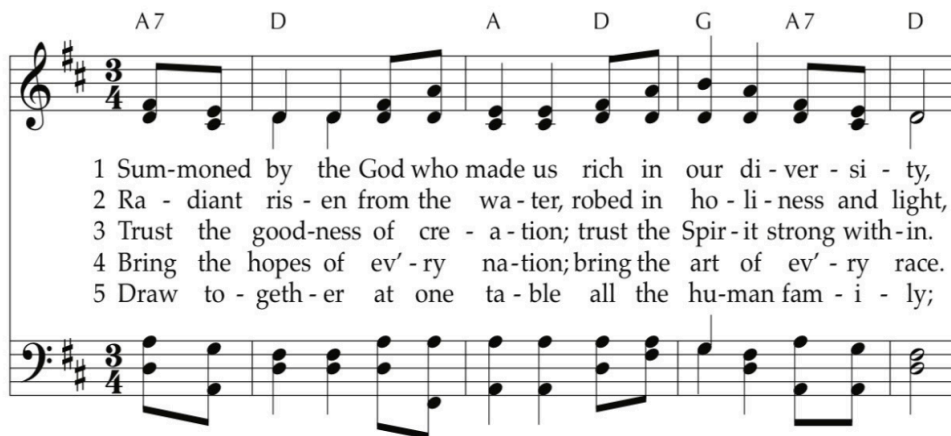
Gluten Free option available on the tables beside each communion station

***Recessional Hymn (next page)**

1 Summoned by the God Who Made Us

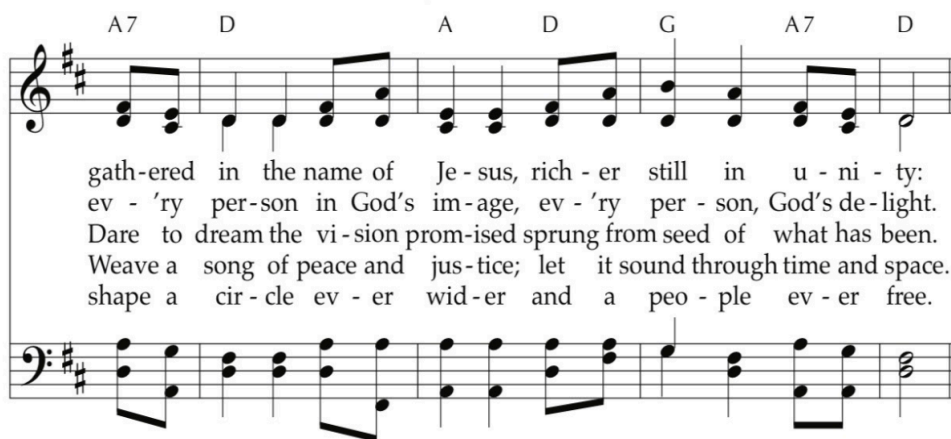
NETTLETON 8.7.8.7 D

A7 D A D G A7 D



1 Sum-moned by the God who made us rich in our di-ver-si-ty,
 2 Ra-diant ris-en from the wa-ter, robed in ho-li-ness and light,
 3 Trust the good-ness of cre-a-tion; trust the Spir-it strong with-in.
 4 Bring the hopes of ev'-ry na-tion; bring the art of ev'-ry race.
 5 Draw to-gether at one ta-ble all the hu-man fam-i-ly;

A7 D A D G A7 D



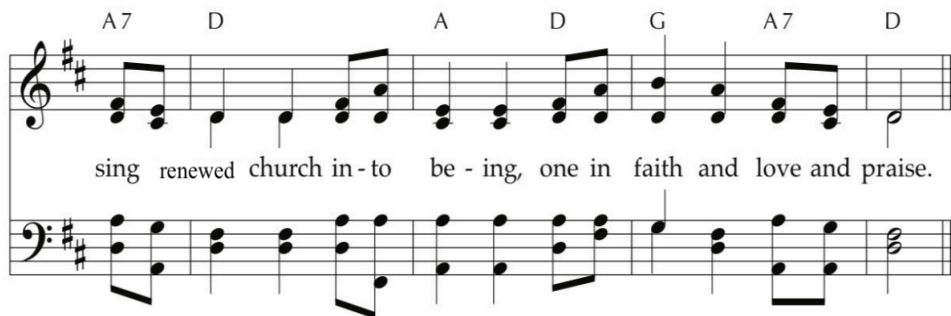
gath-ered in the name of Je-sus, rich-er still in u-ni-ty:
 ev-'ry per-son in God's im-age, ev-'ry per-son, God's de-light.
 Dare to dream the vi-sion prom-ised sprung from seed of what has been.
 Weave a song of peace and jus-tice; let it sound through time and space.
 shape a cir-cle ev-er wid-er and a peo-ple ev-er free.

Refrain A7 D G D A7 D G D



Let us bring the gifts that dif-fer and, in splen-did, var-ied ways,

A7 D A D G A7 D



sing renewed church in-to be-ing, one in faith and love and praise.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB (USA), © 1993 Delores Dufner (published by OCP)
 Music: American traditional (USA), in John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813



Benediction

Rusty Edwards

Amen

Postlude

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organ
Gigue Fugue -Buxtehude

THE WEEK AHEAD AT FBCH

Sunday, October 4 - 199th Anniversary & World Communion Sunday

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary

11:45am - World Communion Potluck & 199th Celebration; Parlour

Tuesday, October 6

10:00am - Chores & Coffee; Parlour

Thursday, October 8th

7:00pm - Choir Practice

Sunday, October 11th

10:30am - Sunday Worship; Sanctuary

Monday, October 12th

The office is closed - Happy Thanksgiving!

For details go to fbchalifax.ca or read News Notes



**FIRST
BAPTIST
CHURCH
HALIFAX**

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

fbchalifax.ca

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First Baptist Church Halifax

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