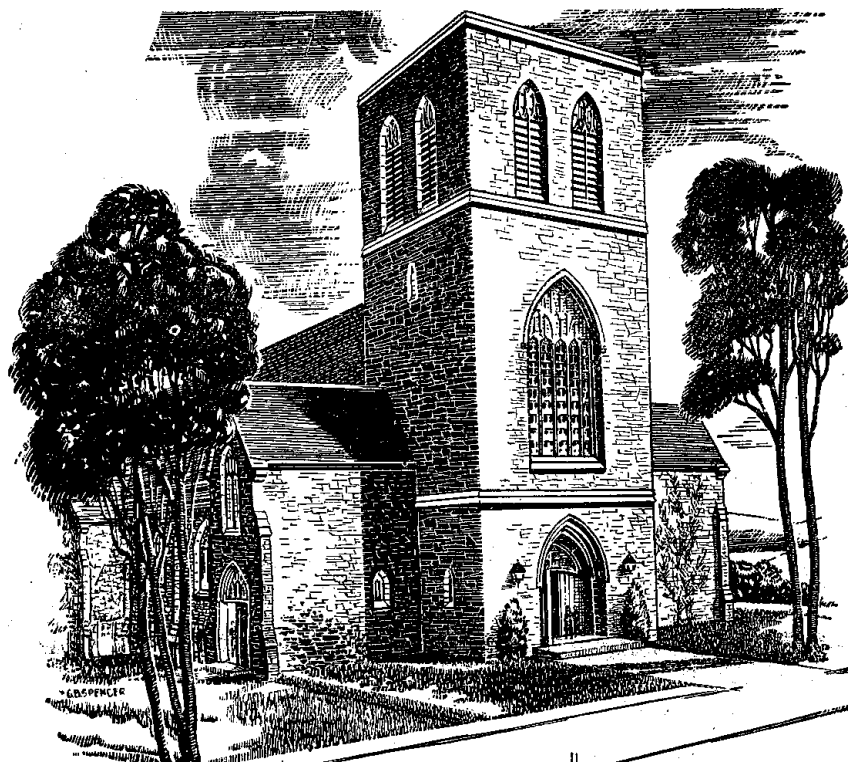


*Celebration of the Baptism of the Lord*  
*First Baptist Church Halifax*  
*January 7, 2018*



Today we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord and the calling of the first disciples. On this Sunday we mark the beginning of Jesus' public ministry when he was baptized in Jordan River by John the Baptist. This story can be found in Matthew 3: 13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22 and John 1:35-51.

## The Community Gathers for Worship

Prelude:

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organist

Noel IV- Daquin

*Please use this time to settle for worship*

**\*Please stand as you are able**

**\*Processional Hymn**

Congregation

#67 "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning" (MORNING STAR)

**\*Call to Worship:**

Julian Summers

LORD, let us hear Your call to us.

**Let us hear the word of the LORD! The glory of God is among us.**

As we prepare for this new year, let us be guided by Your eternal grace.

**Let our hearts be open! Let the LORD's song bring joy to all.**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

LORD, sometimes the way is lost, and the path is made unclear. Through our pride we hide our pains and our weaknesses from each other, replacing love with resentment and fear. During these times, it becomes easy to forget our trust in You and our openness towards Your grace. We give thanks for all that You have done for us even if we have failed to see Your light and return to You in faith. Give us strength, LORD, as we pray to restore our trust in You. Teach us to be gracious in receiving and be humbled in not knowing, be in wonder when seeing and trust absolutely when falling. In Your name we pray.

**\*Words of Assurance**

Rev. Jenny Drewitz

Anthem

Choir

*Adoramus Te, Christe -Dubois*

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

**\*Children's Hymn:**

Congregation

#36 "In the Bleak Midwinter" (CRANHAM)

*Children are welcome to come to the chancel steps during the last verse.*

Children's Story

Rev. Jenny Drewitz & Congregation

*The children and youth in Primary to Grade 2 are dismissed for Sunday School*

First Testament: Proverbs 1:8-19 (pg. 584)

Aaron Ashton

**\*Psalm Lesson:** Psalm 66:1-5  
(the Inclusive Bible)

Julian Summers & Congregation



God is our ref - uge; God is our strength.

Shout to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of God's Name—give glorious praise!

Say to God, "How awesome are your deed! Your enemies cower before your great strength!" R

The whole earth worships you and sings praise to you—all creation praises your Name!

Come and see the works of God—God's deeds on our behalf are wondrous.

Shout to God, all the earth!

Sing the glory of God's Name—give glorious praise! R

**Epistle:** 1 John 1:1-4 (pg. 238)

Sophie Ashton

**\*Gradual Hymn**

Congregation

#68 "What Star is This, with Beams so Bright" (PUER NOBIS NASCITUR)

**Gospel:** John 1:35-51 (pg. 92)

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

**Sermon:** *Where Are You Abiding?*

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

**Offertory Anthem**

Choir

*Walk in the Light -Houghton*

**\*Presentation of Offering:** Offertory Response (DIX)

As they offered gifts most rare, At that manger rude and bare;  
So may we with holy joy, Pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King. Amen.

**Invitation to the Table**

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards & Rev. Jenny Drewitz

**Communion Hymn**

Congregation

#506 "Deck Yourself, Thy Soul with Gladness" (SCHMUCKE DICH)

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Jenny Drewitz

Our Father, 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 that 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.

## The Peace

## Sharing the Holy Feast

## Prayer After Communion

Rev. Jenny Drewitz

## Recessional Hymn

#28 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" (IN DULCI JUBILO)

## Benediction & Choral Amen

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

## Postlude:

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organ

In dulci jubilo- arr. Fischer

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## News Notes

### Our Prayer List

We pray for all members of our congregation, especially those who are in frail health and unable to join with us for worship and activities. Particular prayers are requested for: Lynne Alary, Roy Yetman, Judy Morton, Pearl Stevens, Marjorie Morrisson, Bruce Sterns, Betty Deal, and Dr. Daniel Macintosh.

## Faith Development Notes

### New Parent and Tot Drop-In Program

Weekly Tuesdays from 9:45-11:15 am, beginning Jan. 9

### First Baptist Church Halifax, Creche (second floor)

Parents/guardians and children up to age 5 are welcome to come for a morning drop in play time in the First Baptist Creche. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with other parents in the neighbourhood and meet new children. This is a free program; coffee and light peanut-free snacks will be provided. The drop in will be free play with a closing circle time of story and song at 11:00 am. Please feel free to contact Rev. Jenny Drewitz with any questions, [jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca](mailto:jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca).

## Looking for Hosts for Monday-Night Meal at the Dalhousie Multifaith Center

Monday, January 29, 5:00-7:00pm

Dalhousie International Centre, 1246 LeMarchant Street suite 1200, Main Floor

Every Monday evening the Multifaith Center puts on a free meal for the students and staff of Dalhousie. This has been a shared responsibility of all the chaplains and denominations affiliated with the Multifaith Center. This is a great way to serve our community, get to know and welcome more students. Meals typically serve about 35 people and have vegetarian, halal and gluten-free options (usually 3 crock pots plus a salad, bread and dessert). If you would like to prepare, host (stay and chat) or clean up for this meal, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board across from the parlour. If you have any questions, please speak with Rev. Jenny Drewitz.

## Youth and Young Adult Baptism Class

Jan. 28, Feb, 11 and 18, 12-1:30pm – includes lunch

Youth Room

Classes will be held to prepare youth to join First Baptist Church Halifax either by baptism or by transfer from another Christian Church. The class will cover such questions as: What does it mean to be a Christian? Why do Baptists baptize the way they do? What is different about a Baptist Church? How can I continue to grow in my faith? What is the First Baptist Church Halifax story? The class is always open to youth inquirers who have not made up their minds about joining the Church, but have lots of questions! For more information, contact Rev. Jenny Drewitz.

If you would like to sponsor one of the lunches (prep, serving and cleaning up) for the class, please speak with Rev. Jenny. Receipts will be reimbursed.

## Community Notes

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Join along with Christians of all denominations worldwide to celebrate our diversity and unity through prayer. Halifax South-end Churches will gather for short mid-day services (note differing times) throughout the week, all are welcome.

Tues 16 Jan at 12:15pm: First Baptist Church The Rev Kimber McNabb (Lutheran)

Wed 17 Jan at 12:15pm: All Saints Cathedral The Rev Brian MacMillan (Catholic)

Thurs 18 Jan at 11:45am: Atlantic School of Theology The Rev Paul Friesen (Anglican)

For more information on the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity sponsored by the Canadian Council of Churches, visit: [www.weekofprayer.ca](http://www.weekofprayer.ca)

### GO Project Retreat

## February 9 – 11

### St. John's United Church (6199 Chebucto Rd)

St. John's United invites youth to join them for outreach, learning, discernment, and fun! Activities may include connections with the Islamic Development Centre, The Magic Project, Kairos, participating in spiritual practices, and outreach work. RSVP or for more information to Martha Martin, marthamartin2687@gmail.com or contact Deacon Sandy Yip-Ashton.

## Annual Report

All Board / Committee reports for the 2017 Annual Report are due no later than Jan. 15, 2018.

### This Week in Our Church: Jan 7 - 14

Please refer to the calendar on our website for a complete list of activities.

Church Office hours: Tues. - Fri. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm, 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm.

#### Today

10:30am Creche, Worship  
11:45am, Coffee & Conversation, Parlour  
Monday – 10:00am, Face of Poverty, Boardroom  
Tuesday – 9:45am, Parents & Tot, Creche  
Tuesday – 6:30pm, Finance Committee, Boardroom  
Tuesday – 7:00pm, Visitation Committee, Parlour  
Wednesday – 9:30am, CABF Credentials, Boardroom  
Wednesday – 11am, Clergy Meeting  
Wednesday – 2:00pm, CABF Constitution, Old Creche  
Wednesday – 6:30pm, Property Maintenance, Boardroom  
Thursday – 7:00pm, Choir Practice

#### Next Sunday: January 14, 2018;

9:00am Communication Group Meeting  
10:30am Creche, Worship  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany  
*Life of the Party*  
Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards  
11:45am, Coffee & Conversation, Parlour



First Baptist Church Halifax - Where Faith Comes To Life!

Founded in 1827

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[facebook.com/FirstBaptistHalifax](https://facebook.com/FirstBaptistHalifax)

### Of Service To You Today

Deacon Duty: Arla Johnson

Sexton on Duty: Caitlin Smithers

**Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards**, Senior Minister

([rustyedwards@fbchalifax.ca](mailto:rustyedwards@fbchalifax.ca))

**Rev. Jenny Drewitz**, Minister of Faith Development

([jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca](mailto:jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca))

**Ms. Lynette Wahlstrom**, Director of Music

([lynettewahlstrom@fbchalifax.ca](mailto:lynettewahlstrom@fbchalifax.ca))

**Dr. Pauline Allsop**, Deacon Emerita

### Our Mission

To be an inclusive and ecumenical community of believers in Jesus Christ, committed to proclaim God's mission of love by word and deed.

### Our Vision

To be a Christ-centered community of diverse people experiencing God's unconditional love and acceptance, finding opportunities to grow and nurture our faith, and sharing that love, acceptance and faith with the world.

***"Using gifts God has given us to do the work God is calling us to do!"***

*Welcome to First Baptist Church Halifax! If you are visiting with us today, please know how glad we are to have you with us as we worship God together. We invite you to complete a visitor's card, located in the hymnal rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate later in the service. You are also invited to stay for coffee & conversation immediately following the service. We gather in the parlour, right behind the sanctuary.*