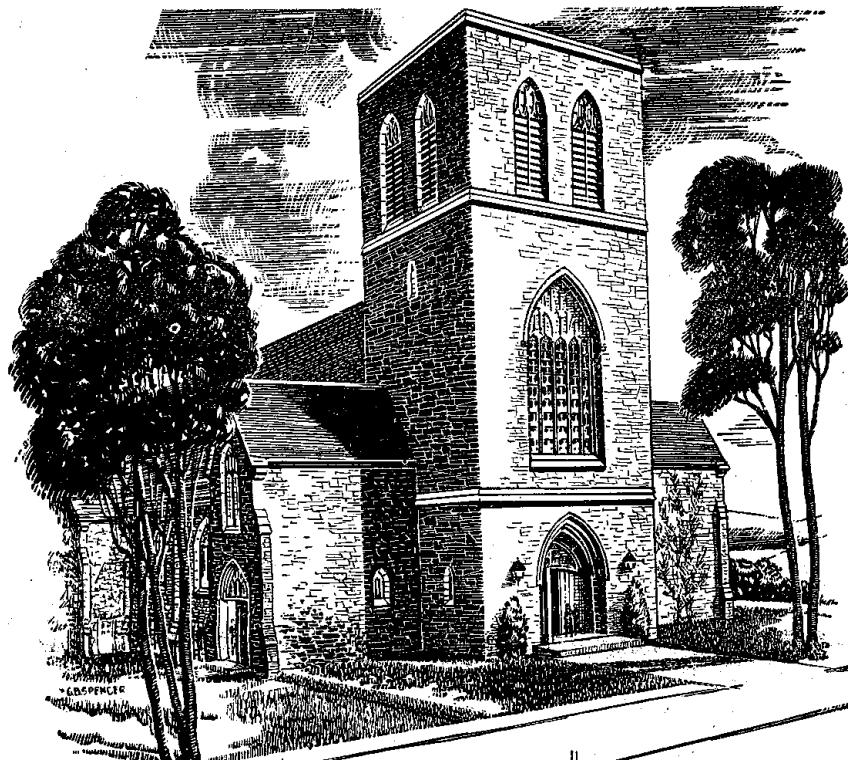


Fourth Sunday of Epiphany
First Baptist Church Halifax
January 28, 2018



The Community Gathers for Worship

Prelude

Lynette Wahlstrom, Organist

Soeur Monique -Couperin

Please use this time to settle for worship

***Please stand as you are able**

*Processional Hymn

Congregation

#358 "Help Us Accept Each Other" (BARONITA)

*Call to Worship

Rev. Jenny Drewitz

Friends of God, believe this –

God loved the world, God loves the world, we are the beloved!

May the truth of this great love story, shine through our worship today,
and renew our sense of calling.

*Prayer of Approach

God of Love, we come to you with our tiredness, our frustrations and our discouragements. We come with our doubts, our fears, and our longings. We come, to discover yet again how you reveal love and mercy. Let us listen for your Word to us, to offer our prayers, and to renew our calling. Amen.

Anthem

Choir and Soloist: Amanda Zadeh

God so Loved the World -Chilcott

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

*Children's Hymn

Congregation

#272 "God of the Sparrow" (ROEDER)

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

Children's Story

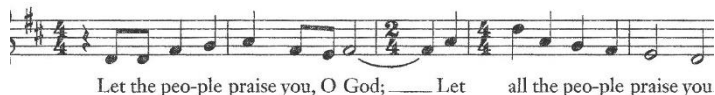
Rev. Jenny Drewitz

The children and youth in Primary to Grade 12 are dismissed for Sunday School

First Testament: Proverbs 3:1-12(pg. 585)

Lic. Arla Johnson

***Responsive Psalm:** Psalm 139:1, 6, 13-18 Deacon Kathy Schwartzentruber & Congregation
(the Inclusive Bible)



O LORD, you have searched me, and you know me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, a height my mind cannot reach!

You created my inmost being and stitched me together in my mother’s womb. For all these mysteries I thank you—for the wonder of myself, for the wonder of your works—my soul knows it well. R

My frame was not hidden from you while I was being made in that secret place, knitted together in the depths of the earth; your eyes saw my body even there.

All of my days were written in your book, all of them planned before even the first came to be. How precious your thoughts are to me, O God! How impossible to number them!

I could no more count them than I could count the sand. But suppose I could? You would still be with me!

O LORD, you have searched me, and you know me. R

Epistle: 1 John 2:7-11 (pg. 239)

Deacon Joanne Stonehouse

***Gradual Hymn**

Congregation

#131 “Wind Who Makes All Winds that Blow” (ABERYSTWYTH)

Gospel: John 3:1-21 (pg. 93)

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

Sermon: *Are you Windblown?*

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

Offertory Anthem

Choir

Jesus Christ the Apple Tree -Poston Choir

***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.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Deacon Kathy Schwartzentruber

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.

*Recessional Hymn

Congregation

“In Water We Grow” (STANLEY BEACH)

1. In wa - ter we grow, se - cure in the womb,
 2. In wa - ter we wash the dirt of each day,
 3. In wa - ter we dive, and can - not draw breath,
 4. In wa - ter we dwell, for by its deep flow

And speech - less - ly know love's safe - ty and room.
 Its trou - ble and rush are car - ried a - way.
 The sur - face a - live, re - bound - ing from death.
 Through blood - stream and cell, we live, think, and grow.

Bap - tiz - ing and bless - ing, we pub - lish for good art,
 In Christ re - cre - a - ted by love's cleans - ing art,
 Our old self goes un - der, in Christ dead and drowned.
 Praise God, love out - flow - ing, whose well of new birth

The free - ing, ca - ress - ing safe - keep - ing of God.
 Self - will and self - ha - tred dis - solve and de - part.
 We rise, washed in won - der, by love clad and crowned.
 Bap - tiz - es our know - ing, and wa - ters the earth.

*Benediction & Choral Amen

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards

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, Judy Morton, Pearl Stevens, Marjorie Morrisson, Betty Deal, Dr. Daniel Macintosh, and Marion Crowell (HI).

Music Announcement

Schubert and Friends: Chamber Music

Sunday January 28th, 7pm

First Baptist Church

Joint concert venture with Fountain School of Performing Arts. An evening of vocal and chamber music featuring Dalhousie's Fountain School of Performing Arts in the style of the original Schubertiads. Donation at the door, all are welcome!

Faith Development Notes

Free Parent and Tot Drop-In Program

Weekly Tuesdays from 9:45-11:15 am

First Baptist Church Halifax, Creche (second floor)

Parents/guardians and children up to age 5 are welcome to join a morning drop in play time, to include free play with a closing circle time of story and song at 11:00 am. Complimentary peanut-free snacks provided. Please contact Rev. Jenny Drewitz with questions.

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 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 (IE: prep, serve and clean up) one of the lunches, please speak with Rev. Jenny. Receipts will be reimbursed.

Woman's Discussion Group

Saturday Feb. 3rd, 10:30-Noon

Arla and Julie's on Lower Water Street, private room

All women are invited to a morning discussion the first Saturday of each month. We will watch a TED talk or Youtube clip to begin our conversation. Coffee & Tea provided. Please feel free to bring a friend!

Community Notes

Construction 2018!

Voting required by Sunday February 4th!

The FBCH youth have introduced two possible themes for this year's project - a piano themed tag line "music to lift the soul and feed the body" or a Scales of Justice tag line "can we balance the effects of hunger?" Donation bins and sketches can be viewed during coffee & conversation. We will build the theme that receives the most donations. All donations (cans & monetary) go to Feed Nova Scotia. Build date is March 7th, public exhibit from Mar 7-10 at Sunnyside Mall. Contact Rev. Jenny Drewitz or Deacon Bryan Darrell with any questions.

Special Bulletin: The piano-themed tagline is currently in the lead!!!

Annual Budget Meeting

Sunday February 4, following worship service

Assembly Room (light lunch will be served)

In preparation for this meeting, the 'Proposed Operating Fund Budget 2018' has been issued electronically. Hard copies can also be found in the Narthex or outside of the Parlour.

Valentine's Dinner

Saturday February 10, 6:30pm

Assembly Room

Mark your calendars for this year's Valentine Dinner! Tickets are \$10 per person or \$30 for families. Tickets will be available for purchase outside of the parlour after Sunday worship or from the office during regular business hours.

ARK Sunday Supper

Sunday February 18th

St. Andrew's Church

Volunteers are needed to prepare the casseroles (ham & vegetable bake). The recipe is beside the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the parlour. These meals are an important way for our church community to provide a hot meal for homeless people and people experiencing hardship in our city who would otherwise go without dinner.

Congregational Annual Meeting

Sunday February 25, following worship service

Assembly Room (light lunch will be served)

Please mark your calendars for our Annual meeting where we will consider the reports from staff, boards, committees and other groups. We will receive the reviewed 2017 Financial Statements, and will receive reports from our nominating committees. Copies of the 2017 Annual Report will be available by mid February.

Pastoral Care While in Hospital

If you or a loved one are in the hospital and would like a visit from one of our Ministers, please notify the church office. Rev. Rusty or Rev. Jenny are more than happy to come and visit in a time of need.

Casual Employment Opportunity (Daytime availability required)

There is an occasional need for an individual to supplement the work done by our Office Administrator, Part-Time Custodian or Assistant Sextons during the business day. IE: Assistant sexton duties for an event, reception type duties, or other duties in the absence of regular personnel. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Sheila Stanley, Chair of the Personnel Committee at sheilastanley@fbchalifax.ca.

Wider Community Notes

United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week

February 1 – 7

This is an opportunity to visit sacred spaces in Halifax to observe, meet, and engage with diverse faith communities. The website ihhalifax.ca contains all of the details.

This Week in Our Church: Jan 29 – Feb 4

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 – 1:30pm, CABF, Parlour
Tuesday – 9:30am, CABF Constitution, Old Creche
Tuesday – 9:45am, Parents & Tot, Creche
Wednesday – 11:00am, Clergy Group, Parlour
Wednesday – 4:00pm, Community Outreach, Parlour
Thursday – 7:00pm, Choir Practice

Next Sunday: February 4, 2018;

10:30am Creche, Worship
5th Sunday of Epiphany
Give Me a Drink
Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards
12:00pm, Congregational Budget Meeting, (light lunch)



First Baptist Church Halifax - Where Faith Comes To Life!

Founded in 1827

1300 Oxford Street, Halifax, NS B3H 3Y8

Office 902-422-5203

www.fbchalifax.ca; office@fbchalifax.ca

facebook.com/FirstBaptistHalifax

Of Service To You Today

Deacon Duty: Arla Johnson

Sexton on Duty: Sandrico Provo

Rev. Dr. Rusty Edwards, Senior Minister
(rustyedwards@fbchalifax.ca)

Rev. Jenny Drewitz, Minister of Faith Development
(jennydrewitz@fbchalifax.ca)

Ms. Lynette Wahlstrom, Director of Music
(lynnettewahlstrom@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.