



**Trinity – Clifton Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada**



April 22, 2018 10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Earth Sunday

Welcome

We are glad that you are here as a visitor, a seeker, someone looking for a new church home, or as a regular worshipper or member.

All are welcome in this place.

*Please rise as you are able.

The Gathering

Prelude

Welcome

Rev. Cathie Crooks

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Val Downe

Quiet Preparation for Worship

***Introit**

Spirit of Life

VU #381 v. 1

***Call to Worship**

Let the heavens be glad,
And let the earth rejoice;

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

Let the field exult, and everything in it.

**Then shall all the tree of the forest sing
for joy before its Maker.**

Let us sing for joy before our God.

We gather in worship and praise.

Adapted from Psalm 96:11-13

***Hymn** Called by Earth and Sky MV# 135

Opening Prayer

**Generous and Gracious Creator,
we come to you this day,
each with different stories, different pains
asking for your blessing and your wisdom.
Guide our hearts and minds into stillness
as we seek to hear your voice.
In the sounds of this worship,
and the silence in between,
let us grow in the wisdom held by you, O God.
Let us grow in the wisdom held by the Earth,
by each other,
and by the blessed safe keepers
of traditional knowledge.
With ancient words we pray as Jesus taught us -**

**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 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 Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah! MV #121 vss 1-3

Time with Our Children

Hymn Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah! MV #121 vss 4, 5

Prayer of Confession

**Faithful One,
we have erred.
We have caused the extinction of species,
of cultures, of language, and
turned our back to your Goodness and each other.**

**We continue to err,
ignoring those who hold wisdom about our Earth,
pushing them to fragile places and infertile lands,
sacrificing sustainability for comfort and the
future for today.**

**We assume that everything will adapt, that nature
will right itself,
that we don't have to change.**

**In our darkness, help us find courage
to grow in understanding of ourselves, each other,
and our blessed Earth.**

**In our mistakes, help us find wisdom
to change our ways and make things right.**

**In our guilt and fear, help us find freedom
to live simply, speak bravely and act justly.**

In the name of Jesus the Christ we pray.

Words of Assurance

The Word

Prayer for Understanding Joy Ikede

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 96 VU #816

Romans 8:18-25 Rev. Greg Davis

Anthem Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer Willan

Sermon The Last Straw

***Hymn**

O Beautiful Gaia

MV #41

Response to the Word

Indigenous Wisdom - Care of Creation

This we know. The Earth does not belong to us; we belong to the Earth. Humankind did not weave the web of life, we are merely a stand in it. Whatever human kind does to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are connected like the blood which united one family. All things are connected.

Adapted from Sealth (Chief Seattle), 1854

Offering Invitation

Offertory

***Presentation of Offering**

VU #538

For the Gift of Creation

***Offering Prayer**

Pastoral Prayer

O God of all Creation

Our hearts fill with gratitude

and wonder at all you have made.

We bask in the abundance of creation

And are nourished by all that is good in it.

Our thirst is quenched by clean waters, the rivers

And oceans team with life.

Our hunger is satisfied by bountiful harvests;

The orchards and fields burst with food,

We are comforted and loved by friends and family.

We freely create and work and play.

**Every day we are reminded –
all life depends on all life.**

Our hearts fill with sorrow and guilt for the

Destruction we have caused.

We misuse the abundance of creation

And squander the goodness in it.
Our thirst for resources knows no end, the land and
Waters dies by our hands.
Our appetite for power blinds us to the vulnerable
And the sacred;
We hurt and oppress each other;
We freely consume and pollute and destroy.

**Every day we are reminded –
all life depends on all life.**

Our hearts fill with courage and hope for a New
Heaven and a New Earth.
We heed your call to care for and restore creation,
And are energized by the goodness in it.
Our thirst for justice knows no end;
Our hunger for peace opens us to new ways of being.
We find joy and support in each other;
We freely share and cooperate and grow.

Every day we learn – All life depends on all life.

Sending Forth

***Hymn** I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me VU #575

***Commission and Benediction**

Postlude

Portions of this morning's liturgy are adapted from **KAIROS
Worship in Celebration of Earth Sunday.**

Greeters:

Head Greeter: David Younker

North Side: Austin & Isabel Bowman, Sylvia Gunn

South Side: Don & Jeanette Scott, Jean Peterson

Balcony: Miriam Lank, Moe Wood

Ministers: All of Us

Clergy Team: Rev. Cathie Crooks & Rev. Greg Davis

Music Director: Donald Fraser

Office Administrator: Ellen Locke Doiron
Custodians: Lorraine Worth & Charles Baglole
Web Page: www.trinityclifton.org **Email:** trinityunited@eastlink.ca
Phone: 902-892-4114 **Office Hours:** Mon. – Fri., 8:30 am – 3 pm

Announcements

Sympathies of the congregation are extended to Ron & Charlotte Estabrooks on the death of Ron's mother, Margaret Ellen Estabrooks of St. Stephen, NB.

Happy Birthday to Karen Burgoyne today, to Jean Yeo on Apr. 23, to Michael Goodwin & Eva Hache on Apr. 27, and to Anita Young & Virginia McGowan on Apr. 28.

During Rev. Greg's Sabbatical, we will be blessed with the ministry of Rev. Melanie Matheson and Rev. Anne Dalziel Singer. Rev. Melaney will share in Sunday worship, and Christian Development for 15 hours per week and Rev. Anne will share in Pastoral Visitation for 6 hours per week.

Upcoming Trinity Events

Communications Committee meets on Tues., Apr. 24, 5:30 pm.

Spring Awakening: Godly Play for Adults: Do you enjoy listening to a good story? Join us:

Thursday evening, 7:00-8:30 p.m., April 26

"Knowing Jesus in a New Way"

Hear and ponder the stories of The Ascension and Pentecost.

Storyteller: Gail Hopkirk

Sunday morning, 9:30-10:15 a.m., April 29

"The Faces of Easter"

Consider the life of Jesus through the stories of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. Storyteller: Linda Lavoie

Parents and guardians please note that childcare will be provided.

Tuesday Night Church Supper: There will be a Tuesday Supper on May 1 at 6 pm in the gym. Three nuns from Great Enlightenment Buddhist Institute will speak on their religion, why they came to PEI, and what they are building in Brudenell. Cost of the meal is \$10.

Tickets are available after the service at the Richmond Street entrance or during the week in our office.

Trinity United Take-Out Lobster Supper: Our annual take-out lobster supper is being held on Wed., June 6, with pickup from 3:30 - 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$22 and are available from UCW members, Trinity Men, our church office, and from Norman Carruthers (902-566-3007). Deliveries are available for shut-ins. Tickets will be available today after our service at the Richmond Street entrance.

Other Church and Community Events

PEI Chapter Parkinson Canada will have the 7th annual Porridge for Parkinsons on Sat., Apr. 28 from 8:30 to 11:00 am at Jack Blanchard Hall, 7 Pond Street. This is a table served breakfast of steel cut oats with a selection of toppings and tea/coffee. Admission by donation will all the proceeds used for programs for Islanders Living with Parkinsons. There will be a 50/50 draw, door prizes and tulip sales. An event for the entire family. For information call 902-368-8329 or email idoyle@eastlink.ca

The Latin American Mission Program invites Islanders to an interactive Community Forum entitled, **Is Charity enough: Asking why?** It will be held at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Hall, 151 Stratford Road, on Sun., Apr. 29, 2 - 4 pm. The forum aims to engage people in challenging our charity approach to deep-seated impoverishment of many people in PEI. As part of LAMP's annual mission education work, the forum also aims to encourage new forms of relationships between Canadians and people in countries of the Global South. **Pre-registration is preferred** in order to facilitate planning. Please pre- register before April 25 by calling Marie at 902-894-4573 or by e-mail burgemarie@gmail.com.

Fundscrip – Gift cards for gas, groceries, movies, books, clothes and more can be purchased with cash or cheque before and after our service each Sunday or in our church office during the week. Use them yourself or give as gifts – a great way to help our church as we receive a percentage from the sale.

Available Cards:

Gas - all stations **Groceries** - all stores **Office** - Staples
Health - Lawtons, Shoppers **Entertainment** - Indigo, Cineplex
Apparel - Payless Shoes, Claires, Aldo, Marks Work Wearhouse, Old Navy, GAP, Le Chateau **Children** - Toys R Us, Children's Place
Department Stores - Hudson Bay, Winners, Walmart
Electronics - Best Buy, The Source
Home and Garden - Home Furniture, Stokes, Home Sense, Home Hardware, Canadian Tire, Home Depot
Restaurants – Tim Hortons, Pizza Hut, Boston Pizza, Wendys, KFC, Harveys, Starbucks, Swiss Chalet, Subway, Montanas
Other - Pet Smart, SportChek, Running Room, Best Western, Fairmont Hotels, Giant Tiger

Following an educational period of 2.5 years of discussions, study sessions, and with input from members of the LGBTQ community in PEI, Trinity-Clifton Pastoral charge voted to become an Affirming Ministry on Dec. 6, 2015, the first Affirming Ministry on PEI. As part of our congregational studies, Trinity-Clifton developed the Vision Statement listed below which was approved at a Congregational Meeting on May 24, 2015.

Vision Statement

We, the Trinity-Clifton Christian family, believe that God has blessed us with diversity, including diversity in sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, race, age, ability and faith. We believe that Jesus challenged boundaries by reaching out to all people, welcoming and honouring all in their uniqueness.

We publicly declare our commitment to openness, growth, action, and education, honouring diversity and challenging injustice in solidarity with those who experience discrimination.

We offer our resources and talents with open hands and hearts in love and service to all as we work for reconciliation and justice locally, regionally, and globally.

Our ongoing commitment as an Affirming Congregation and Ministry is to offer a ministry that publically declares our commitment to inclusion and justice for people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Although Affirming Ministries make an explicit statement about issues of sexuality and gender, their commitment to justice is far broader as stated in the goals of Affirm United below:

Affirm United goals are:

- *To support United Church Ministries in their ministry to people of all sexual orientation and gender identities.*
- *To broaden Social Justice Concerns within church and society.*

