

**Trinity – Clifton Community of Faith  
United Church of Canada**



**March 8, 2020 10:30 a.m.**

**Second Sunday in Lent**

**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.

**Food for Thought:** "Do you Want to fast this Lent?"

(In the words of Pope Francis)

- \*Fast from hurting words and say kind words,
- \*Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude,
- \*Fast from anger and be filled with patience,
- \*Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope,
- \*Fast from worries and have trust in God,
- \*Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity,
- \*Fast from pressures and be prayerful,
- \*Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy,
- \*Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others,
- \*Fast from grudges and be reconciled,
- \*Fast from words and be silent so you can listen."

**The Gathering**

**Prelude:** "Cantabile" (C. Franck)  
"Intermezzo Op 119" (J. Rheinberger)

**Words of Welcome:** Rev. Doreen Bird-Daley

**Lighting of the Christ Candle:** Jordan & Emily Lucas

**Lighting of the Rainbow Candle  
Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

**Call to Worship:** Lent 2 Theme: Transformation

God invites us into this place of safety and care.

**We are each invited by name.**

Jesus invited Nicodemus to be reborn from above.

**Jesus invites us to explore what would renew us.**

Let us worship God in the Spirit of transformation.

**Let us worship with hopeful Spirits this day.**

**\*Introit #415, vs. 1** "God We Praise You for the Morning"

**God, we praise you for the morning;  
hope springs forth with each new day,  
new beginning, prayer, and promise,  
joy in work and in play.**

**\*Prayer of Approach:**

**Holy One, we come with fears and tears, dreams and longings. We gather here in this sacred place, seeking Your call to live fully and to love deeply. May we live our lives with curiosity, embrace wonder, and dare to experience and renew our lives. May we be "born again" each day as we open our eyes and start our new day. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn #266** "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

**Prayer of Confession:**

**Forgiving Divine One, we confess that we do not always follow Your will. We do not always reach out to those in need because we may see no connection between their need and our faith. Forgive us. Restore us. Open our eyes. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Children's Hymn: Psalm #121, p. 842 vs. 1,2** "Unto the Hills"

**Time for All Ages**

**Children's Hymn: Psalm #121, p. 842 vs. 3,4** "Unto the Hills"

### **The Word**

**Prayer for Illumination** Reader: Alan Edwards

**Hebrew Scripture:** Genesis 12:1-4a

**Gospel Lesson:** John 3: 1-17

**Anthem:** "Near the River" (A. Page)

**A Lenten Meditation:** "Born Again! What Does It Mean?"

**\*Hymn #382** "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

### **Response to the Word**

**Minute for Mission**

**Offering Invitation**

**Offertory:** "Prelude in E Flat Major Op 101 no 3" (C.V. Stanford)

**\*Presentation of Offering:** Tune #542

**These Lenten Gifts we bring, our living faith express.**

**We offer them most lovingly,**

**and thus our hearts are blessed.**

**O loving God, receive these gifts we gladly give**

**that show our faith and hope and trust;**

**Your way we seek to live.**

**\*Offertory Prayer**

**Loving Eternal Creator, you reach out to us with unceasing mystery. Grace, hope, and a renewed life are your amazing gifts to us. May our offerings bring new possibilities to us of transformation. We give now, in the name of the One who is resurrection and life. Amen.**

## **Sending Forth**

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

**\*Closing Hymn #567** "Will You Come and Follow Me"

#### **\*Commissioning and Benediction**

Break open the rocks strewn in the pathways of life to discover the life-giving water gushing forth from within.

**We pledge to share that living water with others.**

Dip your cups into the well and drink deeply of the Spirit.

**We go to live as those who have been transformed by love.**

**Postlude:** "Prelude and Fugue in C Major BWV 545" (J.S. Bach)

#### **Greeters:**

**Head Greeter:** Harvey MacEwen

**North Side:** Mary Cowper-Smith, Alan Brady, Anne MacEwen

**South Side:** Willard MacKinnon, Murray Cook, Chris Cook

**Balcony:** David Younker, Maurice Wood

**Supply Minister:** Rev. Doreen Bird-Daley

**Music Director:** Donald Fraser

**Custodians:** Lorraine Worth & Andy Gagnon

**Office Administrator:** Ellen Locke Doiron

**Web Page:** [www.trinityclifton.org](http://www.trinityclifton.org) **Email:** [trinityunited@eastlink.ca](mailto:trinityunited@eastlink.ca)

**Phone:** 902-892-4114 **Office Hours:** Mon. – Fri., 8:30 am – 4 pm

## **Announcements**

**Sympathies of the congregation** are extended to Keith and Joan (Auld) Pigot on the death of their brother, Bruce Pigot.

**Today's bulletins** are in loving memory of Carol Evelyn Wonnacott McQuillan presented by Don & Florence Wonnacott and family.

**Happy Birthday** to Tim Cook on Mar. 13.

**Prince Street Lenten Service and Luncheon** will take place this coming Wednesday, March 11, 12:10 pm at Zion Presbyterian.

**Pick Your Favorite Hymns:** There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church – we invite you to pick your favorite hymn and then, on a Sunday in the near future, we will have more singing than we usually do during our worship service.

Youth Forum is looking for facilitators for 2020! Youth Forum is a youth event (for grades 9 to age 19) that is only made possible by our incredible volunteers. If you have a passion for youth, and are looking for a way to give back to the youth in our church, we would love you to join our team! Facilitators need to be at least 21 years old and be available April 15th for a training day and from May 21-24, 2020 for the main event!

**Congregational Pastoral Care** is available as this pastoral charge moves towards healing by contacting Rev. Keith MacPherson at 902-969-6784.

**Food Bank** donations can be dropped off during the week or on Sunday mornings. Most needed items are Kraft dinner, cereal bars, juice, canned meats and fish, and pasta.

**The Trinity-Clifton Annual General Congregational Meeting** will take place after church on Mar. 29. The Worship & Stewardship Committees will serve lunch after worship. Those with last names from A to M are asked to bring sandwiches and those with last names from N to Z are asked to bring desserts. Please be willing to stay to help with the clean-up.

**Gift Cards** for gas, groceries, restaurants and department stores and more are available in our church office during the week.

**Sunday, March 15:** Lectionary Readings – Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42

### **Trinity Events**

**Youth Choir**, Sun., Mar. 8, 11:45 am.

**Unit 5 UCW**, Tues., Mar. 10, 1:30 pm.

**Worship Committee**, Tues., Mar. 10, 4:30 pm.

**Unit 2 UCW**, Thurs., Mar. 12, 2 pm.

**Weekly Pickleball**, Thurs., Mar. 12, 5:30 pm.

### **Other Church and Community Events**

**Camp Abby's Annual meeting** is on Mar. 11 at North Bedeque United at 6:30 pm. As with all Annual meetings, it's good to have stake holders join the conversation. Our congregations are our stake holders. We are asking for ONE person from each pastoral charge to join us for that meeting – no we won't give you a job or pressure you to be on the Board. We do need your input to help us in our planning and dreaming. Send your name and Pastoral Charge name to Pix Butt, [pixmpc@bellaliant.net](mailto:pixmpc@bellaliant.net). THANK YOU!

**Winsloe Players** presents "Family Antics", a three-act comedy, directed by Ivan Proude and Gordon Aten, April 15, 16, 17, 18, at the Carrefour Theatre. Doors open at 7 pm each evening, and the play starts at 7:30 pm. This production is a fundraiser for the QEH/Eastlink Telethon, supporting the purchase of a new CT Simulator for the PEI Cancer Treatment Centre at the QEH. Tickets: Adult - \$20, Children 12 and under - \$10 and are available at Proude's Shoes (902-894-3504), Winsloe Irving (902-569-0166), or the QEH Foundation (902-894-2425)

**Calling all fudge makers!** The Winsloe Players are graciously accepting donations of homemade fudge, to sell at intermission as an additional way to raise funds during their event. If you are able to donate this sweet treat to help raise money for the QEH please contact Barb Jenkins at 902-626-6313. Thank you!

Council is pleased to report that on Monday, March 2, 2020 we met with the Commission identified in the Congregational Review Report. The gathering began with the members sharing their feelings resulting from the review process, the report, and the final recommendations. They shared their concerns about the current situation and the well-being of our faith community. Discussion was held around the individual recommendations (listed below) with which the Commission has been tasked to assist our Community of Faith in implementing, as well as a process as to how and when they can be completed.

Recommendations:

1. Develop training/educational workshops on holy manners and respectful workplaces for all staff, church council members and anyone else relevant to the operation of the church;
2. Develop or define a process to quickly, effectively and fairly examine complaints about congregants, whether they are volunteers or not, who are said to have behaved in a manner that is harmful to the fabric of the church community;

3. Provide a workshop for the M&P committee and the church council to ensure it is using an acceptable process and to ensure that all members understand the need for confidentiality in all its aspects;
4. Develop a process to arrive at a vision statement that can be added to the proposed new governance hand book that is focused on the question "As a Christian community of faith in 2020, what is our priority and how do we witness our faith with each other and in the wider community?"

The next meeting, which will be in the form of a workshop, will begin to address the first recommendation, Holy Manners and Respectful Workplaces. This workshop will be for Council Members and Committees and will be held in late April 2020, with the exact date to be determined.

Council members left the meeting feeling a glimmer of hope and encouraged by the experience, caring and perspectives offered by each of the members of the Commission that have been provided to assist us during this healing journey.

#### Trinity-Clifton 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.

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As an Affirming Ministry of the United Church of Canada, Trinity-Clifton is committed to broadening social justice concerns within church and society.

The United Church of Canada has stated:

“In order to promote mutual respect, peace, and friendship, the 40th General Council encouraged the recognition of Traditional Territories of First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples at the gatherings of the Courts and Pastoral Charges of the United Church of Canada. A proposal has been brought to the General Council Executive to encourage Parliament to include a similar acknowledgment in its Opening Address.”

We follow the lead of the United Church of Canada in acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional and unceded territory of the Abegweit Mi'kmaq First Nation.

