

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



January 26, 2020 10:30 a.m.

**Sacrament of Holy Communion
Third Sunday after Epiphany**

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.

Thought for the day: "You can take your negative experiences as devastating and let them slowly destroy you, or you can learn from them and take them as an opportunity to grow stronger."

Author unknown

The Gathering

Prelude	Diapason Movement	Bennett
Words of Welcome	Rev. Doreen Bird-Daley	
Lighting of the Christ Candle	Isabella & Helena Neale	

The light of Christ is in our midst.
**Light is a gift from our Creator,
a gift to be shared.**

Lighting of the Rainbow Candle

Acknowledging Traditional Territory

Quiet Time in Preparation for Worship

Call to Worship

For those who are tired, may this sacred space be a place of rest. For those who are hurting, may this holy place be a place to heal. For those who are seeking answers to difficult questions, may this be a place where questions are accepted and wise and caring words are spoken. We all come here for different reasons; we come from different places. But here, we are all embraced by the same Spirit. In that Spirit, let us now worship. Amen.

Prayer of Approach

We gather in this space made beautiful by the Spirit's presence and by the love shared in community. In this place we can behold the beauty of our Holy Divine One. We sing of this great beauty with our voices and also with our hearts. As Christians who follow the Christ, we answer the call to be all we can possibly be.

The Lord's Prayer

***Opening Hymn** Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies VU #336

Call to Confession

Our confessions are gently gathered up by the Holy Presence and transformed by that love and mercy. Let us confess our sins this day - let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Gracious Holy One, you have called us into being and equipped us with communication and knowledge, and with every spiritual gift we need, and yet sometimes we fail to use those gifts, or to follow where you led us. Help us to remember that you have instructed us how to be and will always strengthen us to the very end. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Repent, turn back to God, so that the way can be made real within you.

As we turn and follow the vision of God before us, we experience the liberating joy of living in Our Divine One's Way. Amen.

Hymn Jesus, Friend of Little Children VU #340, vs. 1 & 2

Time for All Ages

Hymn Jesus, Friend of Little Children VU #340, vs. 3

The Word

Prayer for Illumination

Susan Willis

Loving Creator, we gather to hear the scriptures so that they may speak to us and open a window that may allow us to see who we really are. Hopefully that will help us understand the mystery of where we have come from and also inspire us to go where we are called to go next. As we worship this morning, help us to listen and be open to Your leading. Amen.

Epistle Lesson 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

Congregational Reading Psalm 27: 1, 4-9 Pages 754-755

Gospel Reading Matthew 4: 12-23

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the People.
Thanks for these sacred words.

Anthem Angel Voices Ever Singing Tambling

Spiritual Reflection Holy Manners!

Response to the Word

Offering Invitation

Offertory Siciliano Stanley

***Presentation of Offering** Grant Us, God, the Grace VU #540

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

***Offering Prayer**

**Loving Holy One, we present these gifts which will
give light. May they pierce the world's darkness; may
they help to increase joy; may they break oppression
and bring release to those in captivity. Through them,
may Your light shine into the deep recesses of our
lives and into every corner of Your world. Amen.**

Communion Hymn As We Gather at Your Table VU #457

Sacrament of Communion - see insert

Sending Forth

***Closing Hymn** I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say VU #626

***Commissioning and Benediction**

Go from this place.

We go from this place knowing that Our Creator cares, despite our fears, our sorrow, and our losses.

Go in faith and love.

We go with the assurance that God walks with us, nudging us to live our lives in the light of the Christ.

Amen.

Postlude

Trumpet Voluntary

Heron

Greeters:

Head Greeter: David Essery

North Side: David Essery, June Ives, Errol Andrews

South Side: Judy Irwin, Mary Chandler, Natalie Smith

Balcony: David Younker, Linda Sherren

Clergy: Rev. Cathie Crooks

Minister of Visitation: Rev. Anne Dalziel Singer

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 **Email:** trinityunited@eastlink.ca

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

Announcements

Sympathies of the congregation are extended to Willard MacKinnon and family on the death of his twin brother Hillard.

Happy Birthday today to Curtis Duckworth and to Cathie Crooks on Jan. 29.

Congregation Meeting: Please mark your calendars for a meeting on Sunday Feb 2nd, with the Regional Minister the Rev. Kendall Harrison, and the Executive Minister Rev. Faith March-MacCuish. The

meeting will take place following a "bring and share" lunch of sandwiches and sweets. Sunames A-M, please bring sandwiches and N-Z, please bring sweets.

Food Bank donations collected during the month of February will be given to the UPEI Food Bank. You can drop off donations during the week or on Sunday mornings. Most needed items are Kraft dinner, cereal bars, juice, canned meats and fish, and pasta.

New Pulpit handrails: The Property Committee and the UCW wish to extend a huge thank you to Harry Hibbs for recently designing, constructing and installing the beautiful new handrails to the pulpit. These will make access to the pulpit a lot easier and safer for all concerned. Thank you for this wonderful gift.

Sunday, February 2: Lectionary Readings – Isaiah 9:1-4, Psalm 27:1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23

Trinity Events

Sherwood UCW, Tues., Jan. 28, 10 am.

Weekly Meditation, Wed., Jan. 22, 4:30 pm.

Weekly Pickleball, Thurs., Jan. 23, 5:30 pm.

The first Tuesday night Church Supper of 2020 will be held on Tues., Feb. 4 in the Church gym at 6 pm. The guest speaker will be Reg "Dutch" Thompson. The title of his address is "Happy Tales". Tickets will be available after the service today at the Richmond Street entrance for \$10. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Other Church and Community Events

Camp Abby: It's winter and we are thinking about Camp Abby Staff (many positions available) for this summer! Applications are now on our web site. If you have any young people in your circles (16 years or older by July 1, 2020) who love the outdoors and working with children and youth, please encourage them to check us out!

<https://www.campabegweit.ca/> We would like to help pay for courses needed to finish lifeguard training for anyone interested. Applications are due January 31. Please note: Counselors- in -Training will be called for a little later.

Valentine Coffee Party: Spring Park United Church Women are hosting a Valentine Coffee Party on Sat., Feb. 8, 9:30 - noon in the Church Auditorium. Tickets are available by calling Joan @ 902-892-3865. The cost is only \$8. Don't forget to check out the "New to You" jewelry table while you are there. Storm date: February 15th.

Central Queens United Church, Hunter River, is pleased to invite folks to our annual Valentine's Dinner on Fri., Feb. 14 at 7 pm. This year the main course features a hot roast beef dinner with all the trimmings. This tasty and "hearty" meal will be topped off with a choice of either blueberry or cherry cheesecake. Musical entertainment will be provided by the talented duo of Jeannie Campbell and Charles Reid. Tickets \$25 each and can be purchased by contacting Lois at 902-621-0669. Come celebrate the love or appreciation for a friend, a partner or a neighbor, and enjoy a lovely evening out in your community. Storm date Sat., Feb.15th.

Park Royal Valentine's Dinner: Please join us at Park Royal Church on Sat., Feb. 15 at 5:30 pm. Treat your honey to a fabulous meal, prepared by men, entertainment and decadent giant chocolate/white cupcakes for dessert. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. Please call church office to reserve yours today at 902-894-9656.

Camp Abby's Annual meeting is on March 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. THANK YOU!

Sacrament of Holy Communion - January 26, 2020

May God be with you,

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts,

We lift them up to our Divine One,

Let us give thanks for what we have been given,

It is right and good to give our Creator thanks.

Loving One, we thank you that in the quiet dark nights you are there.
When the noise has hushed and the fevered pace of life has chilled,
you draw us close and tell us that there is more than what we see.

“Be still and know that I am God.”

When we cannot see an end to our troubles and are uncertain about what tomorrow will bring, you show us that change is possible. As the land rests under a blanket of snow and cold permeates the land and we worry, you remind us that there is a plan and a purpose.

“There is a time for everything under heaven.”

In our distress You comfort us with peace and hope. As we look to the future with anxiety, You whisper about the possibility which can be ours. When we dare to dream, You encourage us with glimpses of Your vision and tastes of Your promises.

“With Christ all things are possible.”

Loving Eternal One, you lead us to this table that You have prepared for us. On this table, You offer us bread to build up our strength and drink as a sign of Your grace. You invite us to set aside everything that would stop us from seeing and knowing the beauty and joy around us. You offer us these gifts and invite us to be Your people.

“We are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”

As we take this bread and break it, we remember that on the night before Jesus died he took bread, broke it and offered it to his followers. He told them it was his body broken for them.

We remember Jesus’ death upon the cross.

As we share this cup, we remember that on the night before he died Jesus took the cup and offered it to his followers. He told them it was his blood through which a new promise was being sealed.

We remember Jesus rising from the grave.

Gracious God, let your Holy Spirit move among us and transform these gifts and our lives. Allow us to see the eternal, experience the extraordinary, and be filled with Your love once again. For we are

Your people and have come at Your bidding in the name of Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer after communion: (all)

Eternal and Loving One, for the bread which we have eaten and the cup we have tasted, we thank you. For You have touched us by Your Holy Spirit, and challenged us to live as Your people, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

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.

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.

