

2nd Sunday of Easter

April 12, 2026



St. John's United Church of The United Church of Canada
75 Alma Street, Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3
506-858-8289 stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com
www.stjohnsmoncton.ca
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/16465565858>
<https://www.instagram.com/stjohnsmoncton>
Office Hours: M-F, 9am–1pm

A warm welcome is extended to all.

If you are a parent or caregiver, there is a kitchen and washrooms on the main and upstairs levels, as well as a diaper changing area upstairs. Please feel free to return to the service at any time.

*The congregation is invited to join in responses printed in **bold**. Stand as you are able.)*

PRELUDE

CROWN HIM

(Music: Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, George Job Elvey, Godfrey Thring, Matt Maher. Matthew Bridges)

DOXOLOGY (541 VU)

(OLD 100TH) (Thomas Ken, Genevan Psalter)

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION & SERVICE STORY

Read by Coleen Whitford

- Springtime of the Spirit

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 16)

Let us say to the Holy One:

You are our God, we have no good apart from you!

**Holy One, you are our God,
we have no good apart from you!**

The Holy One is our chosen portion and our cup; God holds our lot.

**Holy One, you are our God,
we have no good apart from you!**

The Holy One provides us protection and refuge,
keeps us in pleasant places, and gives a good heritage.

**Holy One, you are our God,
we have no good apart from you!**

HYMN 169 VU *GOOD CHRISTIANS ALL, REJOICE AND SING*

(VULPIUS (GELOBT SEI GOTT)) (Words: Cyril Argentine Alington /
Music: melody of Melchior Vulpius; arr. Ernest Campbell MacMillan)

Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

The Lord of life is risen today!
Bring flowers of song, bedeck the way;
let every tongue rejoice and say:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Gracious and Eternal God, you are the one who calls us together and the one who sends us out in the world. Remind us, as we gather, how good it is to dwell with you and one another. Stir our hearts to love boldly, freely, and joyfully. Let us praise you with our whole lives and magnify your name by our works. We bless and honour you, O Faithful One, from generation to generation and from community to community.

Speak to our spirits and receive our worship.

We pray with the words Jesus taught us, saying, “Our Father...Amen.” (960 VU) (A laminated handheld version of The Lord’s Prayer can be found in the hymnbook holder in the pew.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and Eternal God, you never abandon us the way that we sometimes abandon you. We doubt your power and your compassion. We call upon your name, but too often without expectation that you will answer. We blame you for the things we have collectively caused or that life demands. Yet, we give ourselves credit for the good that comes our way. We offer empty apology devoid of real repentance. We want to be absolved without engaging in repair. Help us to cherish grace as a gift and mercy as a miracle. Have mercy on us, Holy One. Amen.

(moment of silence to offer personal thoughts and concerns)

WORDS OF GRACE

Beloved, the Redeemer of our souls meets us in our doubts, uncertainty, and questions. When we call, God responds. When we do not call, God remains present with us. Receive the grace of God to trust the Holy One with our struggles, pain, and brokenness. Have life in the name of the One who came to us, comes to us, and will come to us again and again.

OFFERING

Offering boxes are located inside the Sanctuary at the two main entrances.

OFFERTORY (537 VU)

YOUR WORK, O GOD, NEEDS MANY HANDS

(KILMARNOCK) (Words: Calvin Weiss Laufer / Music: Neil Dougall)

Your work, O God, needs many hands to help you everywhere, and some there are who cannot serve unless our gifts we share.

Because we love you and your work, our offering now we make:
be pleased to use it as your own, we ask for Jesus' sake.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Generous One, may these gifts be a blessing to those in need, a source of hope for those in despair, comfort for those who grieve, encouragement for those who doubt, a balm for those in pain. May our generosity reflect our gratitude and our giving be another source of praise. Amen.

REMAIN SEATED

HYMN 183 VU *WE MEET YOU, O CHRIST*

(LIFE) (Words: Fred Kaan / Music: Peter D. Smith; arr. Peter R. Walker)

We meet you, O Christ, in many a guise;
your image we see in simple and wise.
You live in a palace, exist in a shack.
We see you, the gardener, a tree on your back.
In millions alive, away and abroad;
involved in our life you live down the road.
Imprisoned in systems you long to be free.
We see you, O Jesus, still bearing your tree.
We hear you, O Christ, in agony cry.
For freedom you march, in riots you die.
Your face in the papers we read and we see.
The tree must be planted by human decree.
You choose to be made at one with the earth;
the dark of the grave prepares for your birth.
Your death is your rising, creative your word:
the tree springs to life and our hope is restored.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children up to age 12 yrs. are now invited to go to our Sunday School program time. If you are a child here for the first time, please feel welcome to join the children's group upstairs, or remain here for the rest of the service.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Read by Lois Thorne

1 Peter 1:3–9

Salvation is the outcome of faithfulness.

Psalms 16 (p. 738 VU)

In you, God, I take refuge.

(Music: M. Christian T. Stover)

R Protect me, God: I trust in you.

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I have said to God, "You are my God"
from you alone comes all my prosperity."

**All my delight is in the faithful who dwell in the land,
and in those who excel in virtue.**

But as for those who run after other gods,
their troubles shall be multiplied.

**Liberations of blood I will not offer to those gods,
nor will I take their names upon my lips. R**

You, God, are my allotted portion and my cup;

you yourself have cast my lot.

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;

indeed I have a noble heritage.

I will thank you, God, for giving me counsel;

at night also you teach my heart.

I keep you always before me;

you are on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall R

So my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;

for my body shall also rest in safety.

**For you will not surrender me to the Grave,
nor suffer your beloved to see the Abyss.**

You will show me the path of life.

In your presence is fullness of joy;

and from your right hand flow delights for evermore. R

John 20:19–31

Jesus appears to the disciples and to Thomas.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 168 VU

THE RISEN CHRIST

(WOODLANDS) (Words: Nigel Weaver / Music: Walter Greatorex)

The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet
from garden tomb through darkened city street,
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,
and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.

The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side,
breathes out his Spirit on them to abide
whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe,
new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.

The risen Christ, who breaks with wounded hand
the bread for those who fail to understand,
reveals himself, despite their lingering tears,
enflames their hearts, then quickly disappears.

May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with the oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity

SERMON

ANTHEM

CHRIST AROSE

(Words / Music: Robert Lowry)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(We pray for Doaktown Pastoral Charge)

HYMN 586 VU

WE SHALL GO OUT WITH HOPE OF RESURRECTION

(LONDONDERRY AIR) (Words: June-Boyce-Tillman / Music: Traditional Irish melody; arr. John Barnard)

We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy with those who are still weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story
including all in circles of our love.

BENEDICTION

Beloved, as you go know that you have been sent
By a Creator who endowed you with every gift you need
By a Loving God who stays with you on the journey
By a Sovereign God who protects and provides
By a Purposeful God who has a role for you in the kingdom
By a Merciful and Gracious God
who understands and anticipates your mistakes
By a Mighty God who offers refuge and hope in the raging storms
By a Kind God who blesses us with community
By a Challenging God who holds us accountable
By a Risen God who laid the path that you might follow
In love and hope, empowered and equipped, for honour and glory.
Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SUNG POSTLUDE

GO NOW IN PEACE (Words: Don Besig, Nancy Price / Music: Don Besig)

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

POSTLUDE

REJOICE THE LORD IS KING

(Music: Charles Wesley)

During the postlude the congregation is welcome to depart.

**You are invited to join us in the Owen Fraser Hall
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.**



*The bulletin and pastoral letter are dedicated
in Loving Memory of
J. Grant MacMellon
by Lillian, Christine, Jennifer and Family*

MEMORIAL

*A donation has been made to
St. John's United Church in memory of
Donald "Don" Dunn (husband of Beverly Dunn)
by Carolyn Beers
Seymour Kell (husband of Grace Kell)
by Charles and Roberta Hayek and Trudy Richards*

NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Check our website at www.stjohnsmoncton.ca
for **Sunday online Worship links**, calendar, and more.

Apr. 12	Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Greater Moncton Music Festival, 10:30am (Social Hall)
Apr. 12	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Music Director: Lorilee Redmond
Apr. 12	Sun.	1:30 p.m.	Concert, 3pm – Choeur Beausejour (Sanctuary & Social Hall)
Apr. 13	Mon	7:00 p.m.	Al-Anon (weekly-Owen Fraser Hall)

Apr. 14	Tues.	2:00 p.m.	Friendship Group - Show and Tell. Bring something special to you to show the group and tell us why it is special to you. It could be something from a loved one ,something that you collected over the years, a recipe you always make, etc...  (monthly-Fellowship Room/Owen Fraser Hall)
Apr. 15	Wed.	6:15 p.m.	Sparks, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Apr. 16	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Choir (weekly-Choir Loft/Fellowship Room)
Apr. 16	Thur.	7:15 p.m.	Pathfinders, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Social Hall)
Apr. 10	Fri.	10:30 a.m.	Worship with the Rev. Aaron Billard at Royal Court Chapel , 6 th Floor, Coverdale Rd., Riverview If you are a resident there, we ask you to help us spread the word to members of the congregation who live there.
Apr. 16	Thur.	2:00 p.m.	Pastoral Care & Membership Committee (Owen Fraser Hall)
Apr. 17	Fri.	2:00 p.m.	Funeral for George LeBlanc
Apr. 18	Sat.	12:00 p.m.	Rehearsal, 12:30pm – Choeur des Aboiteaux (Sanctuary)
Apr. 19	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Music Director: Lorilee Redmond - Council Investiture
Apr. 21	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	WiNGS (Norman Sinclair Room)
Apr. 21	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Finance & Property Management Committee (Owen Fraser Hall)
Apr. 25	Sat.		Spring Indoor Yard Sale (Social Hall)
Apr. 26	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Grocery Sunday (see note) 
Apr. 27	Mon.	2:00 p.m.	UCW (Fellowship Room)

Announcements from other United Churches, Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region 14 and the community are shown on the TV in the Owen Fraser Hall and also located on the bulletin boards located at the Alma St. entrance and outside the Church Office.

SOBEYS & SUPERSTORE GIFT CARDS are sold each Sunday in the Sanctuary before and after Worship and at the Church Office M-F, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.



We make 4% on every card sold. Your support is needed and appreciated.

WELCOME!

We would like to warmly welcome any new faces to our church family today! Please feel free to introduce yourself to a fellow member or reach out to our minister if you have any questions. We invite you to stay after the service for fellowship. Fill in the “welcome” envelope located on the table at our two main entrances and place in the offering box (no money required) or email the church office at stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com to let us know you are worshipping with us.



MUSIC FAVOURITES - Your Worship & Music committee are compiling a list of favourite worship music requests that we will attempt to include in future services. Just follow this QR link to add your suggestions.



SOLACE CHOIR LIST - Singers who would like to be added to a list of those willing to sing at funerals, please let Karen at the church office know via email with the Subject: Solace Choir List. You will then be included in the invitation that goes out to our usual Choir members.

The **PASTORAL CARE & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** needs volunteers for the various roles and activities the committee undertakes. If you would like to help or for more information, speak to Valerie Roy or contact the church office.



Saturday, Apr. 25
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
(Social Hall – use Karing Kitchen entrance)

You'll find clothing, books, toys, linens, household goods, and much, much more.

You Don't Want To Miss It!

We welcome your donations of 'slightly used' clothing, books, household items, etc., in good, saleable condition, for this UCW fundraiser. Please bring your donations to the Church before the sale (Monday-Friday from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm), but no later than noon on Thursday, Apr. 23. If you can help set up for the sale, please come to the Social Hall on Friday, **Apr. 24** at 1:00 pm. We also need volunteers to pack up on Sunday after church on **Apr. 26** and on Monday morning, **Apr. 27** at 9:00 a.m.

On Monday morning, **April. 27**, at 9:00 a.m., if anyone who has access to a truck, van, or SUV and could help us deliver the leftovers to the various thrift stores around the city, it would be much appreciated. This worked very well last year and the clean up was done in record time. Please let Brenda McFarlane or Phyllis Perry know if you are able to help with this. The success/or lack of this will determine the fate of future Basement Sales.

GROCERY SUNDAY FOR KARING KITCHEN

(**Apr. 26** – last Sunday of the month)

The Outreach Committee would like to bring your attention to the Karing Kitchen's need for these groceries: cream of celery soup, honey garlic sauce, flakes of ham and crackers. *White baskets will be at the main entrance for your donations.* Thank you.



SCHOLARSHIPS

The following scholarships are available to students who have been active, and are currently participating, within the congregational life of St. John's UC.



Applications are available on the church website and Facebook group, at the church office or by contacting the church office.

Applications are to be returned by **May 24, 2026** to the church by: email, dropping the submission into the mail slot in the door or by bringing it along with you on Sunday morning.

Henrietta Potter Scholarship is available to students currently in high school and pursuing first-year studies at a post-secondary educational institution in the upcoming year.

Robb Scholarship is awarded to children to further his/her studies in music.

Charles E. Woodrow Memorial Music Scholarship is available to students currently in high school and pursuing first-year music studies at a post-secondary educational institution in the upcoming year.

CAMP TA-WA-SI SUPPLIES DRIVE!

We are supporting Camp Ta-Wa-Si this spring. Each Sunday **until May 31** you are invited to bring items to place in the white basket as you come into the church.



United Church of Canada camps offer a variety of experience for people of all ages, focusing on faith formation, leadership development, and outdoor adventures.

Items the camp can definitely use: glowsticks, craft supplies, -life jackets (youth sizes), goggles and snorkels, pool noodles, wall plug night lights, bedside clocks, batteries (AA/AAA)

Office supplies such as: clipboards, sharpies, tape (all kinds), children's books, sidewalk chalk, camping chairs, reusable water bottles

Cleaning supplies of all kinds but specifically: disinfectant spray, dish soap, toilet bowl cleaner, bleach, hand soap, brooms and dustpans

Small furniture such as: side tables/lamps/comfy chairs etc.

Furniture: we're hoping to get a side table and lamp in each cabin as a lot of young campers complain about it being so dark and struggle when getting up in the middle of the night!

Anything else you think would be helpful, even if a bit more out of the box.

Lastly, please note that we have a surplus of toiletry and hygiene items from last year's supplies drive, so those are on the "do not need" list for this year.

THE "BAKELESS BAKE SALE" has become an annual event of the St. John's UCW. This is a very popular and highly successful project. Our little rhyme explains how it works, and we hope you will give it your support.

We appreciate any amount you may wish to donate. Please have all donations in by the **end of June**. Envelopes are located at the church entrance. If you use SJUC box offering envelopes, an envelope is in your box. If you use PAR, an envelope is in your PAR envelope packet. Place your donation in the offering box on a Sunday morning, mail, drop off in the mail slot or use e-transfer.

STEWARDSHIP SECOND – Generous people live expectantly, freeing their gifts for resurrection miracles that bring hope into the world.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH CARES... To notify the Minister of personal concerns, anxieties, illnesses, hospitalizations or deaths, or to pass along a prayer request, contact Rev. Aaron Billard at 506-858-8289 or sjucrev@gmail.com

Greeters & Offering

South Door – Alma St
Bruce MacLeod

North Door – Victoria St.
Cheryl & Graham McCrea

EASTER SEASON



CHURCH MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND STAFF



Rev. Aaron Billard, *Minister*
sjucrev@gmail.com



Shelley Arsenault, B.Mus.B.Ed.
Music Director



Karen Geldart
Office Administrator
stjohnsmoncton@gmail.com



Pat Arsenault, *Custodian*



Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
Minister Emeritus
douglasimaceachern@gmail.com

Church Council

Chair: Roland Gallant

Secretary: Karen Teed

Treasurer: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

Board of Trustees: Graham McCrea

Christian Development: vacant; Sunday School: Sonja Webster

Finance & Property Management: Marlene Godfrey

Fundy-St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region reps.: Rev. Aaron Billard,

Kimberley Buck de Jesus and Karen Geldart

Ministry & Personnel: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

Pastoral Care & Membership: Valerie Roy

UCW: Brenda McFarlane

Worship & Music: Sheri Brooks