

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026



St. John's United Church of The United Church of Canada
75 Alma Street, Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3
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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 *I MUST TELL JESUS* (Music: Elisha Hoffman)
SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER (Music: William Walford, William Bradbury)

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

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 116)

We call upon the name of the Holy One who hears our cry and responds to our prayer. What shall we return to the Holy One for all the blessings we receive?

**We will call upon the name of the Holy One
for as long as we live.**

The Holy One has been our Companion in suffering and our Comforter in anguish. What shall we return to the Holy One for their presence among us?

**We will serve the Holy One and
be companions and comforters for God's people.**

The Holy One has given a new covenant of salvation, redemption, and restoration for the world. What shall we return to the Holy One for the gift of covenantal love?

**We will declare the goodness of God
with praise and thanksgiving. Hallelujah!
Bless the name of the Holy One!**

HYMN 135 MV CALLED BY EARTH AND SKY

(Words / Music: Pat Mayberry; arr. Margaret Stubington)

*Called by earth and sky, promise of hope held high.
This is our sacred living trust, treasure of life sanctified,
called by earth and sky.*

Precious these waters, endless seas, deep ocean's dream,
waters of healing, rivers of rain, the wash of love again. *R*

Precious this gift, the air we breathe; wind-born and free.
Breath of the Spirit, blow through this place,
our gathering and our grace. *R*

Precious these mountains, ancient sands; vast fragile land.
Seeds of our wakening, rooted and strong,
Creation's faithful song. *R*

Precious the fire that lights our way, bright dawning day.
Fire of passion, sorrows undone, our faith and justice one. *R*

PRAYER OF APPROACH

**Living God, you are the fire that burns within us.
You open our hearts to your presence, revealed in
word and song, in hospitality and friendship, in
sacrament and presence. Open our minds again so
that we may recognize you when you meet us in
unexpected moments. Let us encounter you in every
phase and movement of worship that we might know**

you and love you more than before we gathered. And, may that love burn brightly like the sun cutting through the gloom of the storm to inspire us to go on with renewed hope and spirit.

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

Spirit of the Living God, we ask you to meet us in those moments when we recognize that we have caused, through action or inaction, through words or silence, through participation or lack of participation, that we have caused or allow harm to take place. In those moments, allow our hearts to break in order to be mended with the burning fire of repentance and sharpening. In those moments, let our hearts cry, “what should we do?” In those moments, guide us to wisdom and discernment, Holy Spirit, so that we would not only be forgiven but gifted with the work of repair and restoration. Amen.

(moment of silence to offer personal thoughts and concerns)

WORDS OF GRACE

Beloved, the Holy Spirit continues to be our present companion. When we seek them, the Spirit responds with wisdom, hope, and peace. Be encouraged that the Holy One awaits to meet us where we are in order to journey with us to where we could be for the glory of God and the good of the world.

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 God, we pray that these gifts will bring glory
to your name and bless your creation through good
stewardship, Spirit-led discernment, and generous
love. Amen.**

REMAIN SEATED

HYMN 182 VU **STAY WITH US THROUGH THE NIGHT**

(CASSWELL) (Words: Walter Farquharson / Music: Ron Clusmeier)

Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the pain.
Stay with us, blessed stranger til the morning breaks again.

Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the grief.
Stay with us, blessed stranger til the morning brings relief.

Stay with us through the night. Stay with us through the dread.
Stay with us, blessed stranger til the morning breaks new bread.

COUNCIL INVESTITURE

We pay tribute to the volunteers on our Church Council and
Committees who have shown their dedication and commitment
towards our collective church goals:

Roland Gallant, Council Chair

Karen Teed, Council Secretary

Graham McCrea, Chair, Board of Trustees

Marlene Godfrey, Chair, Finance & Property Management

Kimberley Buck de Jesus, Chair, Ministry & Personnel
and also Church Treasurer

Valerie Roy, Chair, Pastoral Care & Membership

Sheri Brooks, Chair, Worship & Music

Brenda McFarlane, President, UCW

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

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 Elsa Sage

Acts 2:14a, 36–41 Three thousand new followers of the Way.

Psalms 116 (p. 836 VU) How can I repay you, God?
(Music: Stephen Dean)

*R How can I repay you, God,
for all the goodness you show to me?*

I love you, God,
because you heard my voice when I made application.

**because you turned your ear to me,
when I called upon your name.**

The cords of death entangled me,
and the pangs of the Grave laid hold on me;

I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called upon the name of God:

“O God, I pray, save my life”. *R*

How can I repay you, God,
for all the good things you have done for me?

**I will take up the cup of salvation,
and call upon the name of God.**

I will pay my vows in the presence of all God's people. *R*

Precious in the sight of God is the death of the saints.

O God, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your maidservant.

You have freed me from my bonds.

I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving.

and will call upon the name of God.

I will pay my vows to God in the presence of all God's people,

**in the courts of the house of God,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.** *R*

Luke 24:13–35 Jesus' appearance on the road to Emmaus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 480 VU *LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER*

(LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER) (Words / Music: African-American spiritual)

Let us break bread together on our knees,
let us break bread together on our knees,

*When I fall down on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
Oh, Lord have mercy on me.*

Let us drink wine together on our knees,
let us drink wine together on our knees. *R*

Let us praise God together on our knees,
let us praise God together on our knees. *R*

SERMON

ANTHEM *IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL*

(Words / Music: Horatio Spafford, Philip Bliss)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(We pray for Stanley Pastoral Charge)

HYMN 661 VU *COME TO MY HEART*

(COME TO MY HEART) (Words / Music: Joe Pinson)

Come to my heart, Lord Jesus; teach me to walk in your way.
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus; come to my heart today.
Give me the peace and joy that only you can bring.
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus; give me a song to sing.

Fill me with love, Lord Jesus; teach me to walk in your way.
Fill me with love, Lord Jesus; fill me with love today.
Give me the peace and joy that only you can bring.
Fill me with love, Lord Jesus; give me a song to sing.

Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus; teach me to walk in your way.
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus; answer my prayer today.
Give me the peace and joy that only you can bring.
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus; give me a song to sing.

BENEDICTION

As you go, may your heart burn
For the love of God to ignite throughout the world
Through acts—great and small—of compassion,
kindness, and community
Through sacrifices—great and small—for justice,
liberation, and restoration
Through commitments—great and small—to bring good news to
every moment, decision, and interaction.
Go on...enflamed with the hope of peace
burning brightly from the heart.

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 *THE SOLID ROCK* (Music: Edward Mote, William Bradbury)

During the postlude the congregation is welcome to depart.

Going On: *Service Prayers for the Third Sunday in Easter Year A* was written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ.

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



*The bulletin is dedicated in Loving Memory of
our Aunts, M. Lois Matthews
and Dorothy L. Steeves
by Shelly Steeves and Bonnie Steeves*

NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

Apr. 19	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Music Director: Lorilee Redmond - Council Investiture
Apr. 19	Sat.	1:00 p.m.	Concert, 2:30pm – Chœur des Aboiteaux (Sanctuary)
Apr. 20	Mon	7:00 p.m.	Al-Anon (weekly-Owen Fraser Hall)
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. 22	Wed.	6:15 p.m.	Sparks, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Owen Fraser Hall)
Apr. 23	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Choir (weekly-Choir Loft/Fellowship Room)
Apr. 23	Thur.	7:15 p.m.	Pathfinders, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Social Hall)
Apr. 25	Sat.	8:30 a.m.	Spring Indoor Yard Sale (see note) (Social Hall) 
Apr. 25	Sat.	10:00 a.m.	Greater Moncton Music Festival (Sanctuary)
Apr. 26	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Grocery Sunday (see note) 
Apr. 27	Mon.	9:00 a.m.	Greater Moncton Music Festival (Sanctuary)
Apr. 27	Mon.	2:00 p.m.	UCW (Fellowship Room)
Apr. 28	Tues.	9:00 a.m.	Greater Moncton Music Festival (Sanctuary)
Apr. 28	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Church Council (Owen Fraser Hall)
Apr. 29	Wed.	9:15 a.m.	Greater Moncton Music Festival (Sanctuary)
May 3	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School
May 3	Sun.	1:00 p.m.	Concert, 3:00pm – Chœur Louisbourg (Sanctuary)

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.



March 2026 GIVINGS			
Local Offering - Env	\$ 9,275.00	Local Offering - PAR	\$ 5,918.87
Mission & Service – Env	\$ 775.00	Mission & Service - PAR	\$ 815.46
Plate Loose	\$ 236.76	Memorial Donations	\$ 100.00
Bulletin Sponsorship	\$ 200.00	Grocery Card Revenue	\$ 0.00
Revenues Year-to-Date:	\$ 60,397.80	Expenses Year-to-Date:	\$ 79,629.14
Mission & Service Year-to-Date:	\$ 4,486.38	Mission & Service 2026 Goal	\$ 18,500.00
Thank you for your generous and continued support!			

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 baskets 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 – With peace rooted in our own spirits, we can bloom and share ourselves with others.

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
Lyn Young

North Door – Victoria St.
Sandy Ross

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

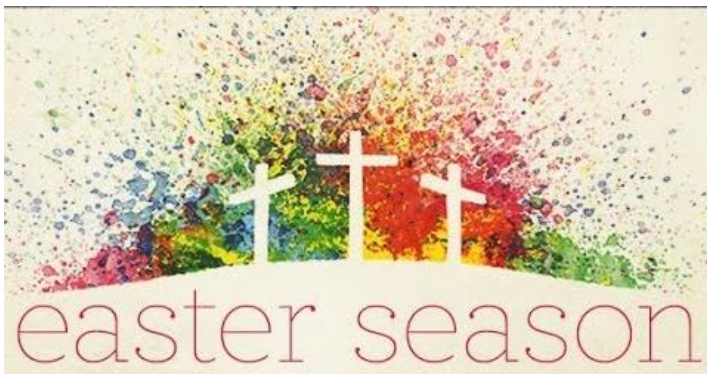
Fundy-St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region reps.: Rev. Aaron Billard,
Kimberley Buck de Jesus and Karen Geldart

Ministry & Personnel: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

Pastoral Care & Membership: Valerie Roy

UCW: Brenda McFarlane

Worship & Music: Sheri Brooks





Earth Week, April 19–26, 2026



Volunteer Week, April 19–25, 2026