

5th Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024



The United Church of Canada
75 Alma Street, Moncton, NB E1C 4Y3
506-858-8289 sjuc@nb.aibn.com www.stjohnsmoncton.ca
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/16465565858>
Office Hours: M-F, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

A warm welcome is extended to all.

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

PRELUDE *ARIOSO (Thanks be to Thee)* (G.F. Handel)

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

As we gather, may we open our hearts to receive newness of life.

We come with hope for renewal.

In our time of worship, may we be inspired by God's wisdom.

We come seeking to learn and to draw closer to God.

Come, let us worship, as the beloved children of God.

HYMN 1 MV

LET US BUILD A HOUSE

(TWO OAKS) (Words/Music: Marty Haugen)

Let us build a house
where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children
tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Let us build a house
where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and a symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: *R*

Let us build
a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat;
a banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *R*

Let us build
a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger: *R*

Let us build a house
where all are named, their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace;
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *R*

PRAYER OF APPROACH (Inspired by 1 John 4:7-21)

**Come, Beloved,
to take up root in the tender soil of our lives.
Graft with us hope
that will show us again what love can do.
Reveal to us
that which is alive because we have felt so dead.
We have felt so dead and buried
that it is hard to know how to come alive.
Come to water us with possibility.
Come, Beloved, so that we might grow in love. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

**O God, giver of life, we confess the times when we fail
to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.
God, forgive us when we ignore or we fail to see
our neighbours in need.
Abiding God, also forgive us when we reject love from
others, and shut down completely.
As we confess the times when we did not tend
to our own needs, and denied ourselves
of your forgiveness and grace.
In our failures, we have refused your invitation
to grow closer to you.
In our confession, O God, we pray your abiding love
be shown through the ways we love more fully. Amen.**

WORDS OF GRACE

O God, hear your beloved community
as we repent and pray for your forgiveness.
Give to us your grace and restore to us
your love that is forgiven and fearless.
God, we desire for your loving Spirit
to renew and strengthen us daily. Amen.

OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY 678 VU, Verse 1

FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS

(WESTMINSTER ABBEY) (Words: Fred Kaan / Music: Henry Purcell)

For the healing of the nations, God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING

**Holy God, as we offer these gifts today,
help us to listen for the movement of your Spirit
and be willing to respond.**

**May the giving of these gifts be just another way
that we share your hope and peace and love
with the people you set on our path.**

May it be so. Amen.

HYMN 145 MV

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE

(Words / Music: Gordon Light)

*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone.
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms *R*

Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. *R*

Let the dreams we dream be larger,
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door. *R*

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. 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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Read by Judy Chase

Psalm 100, p. 824 VU

Make a joyful noise for God.

R2: Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

Shout to God, all the earth:

worship with gladness and joy.

Come before God with laughter,

our maker to whom we belong.

To the Shepherd who tends us like sheep,

let us raise our voices in song.

Come to God's gates with thanks;

come to God's courts with praise.

Praise and bless God's name.

"Truly you are good:

you are always gracious,

and faithful age after age." R

1 John 4:7–21

Everyone who loves is born of God.

John 15:1–8

Jesus is the true vine.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN 40 MV

NEVER ENDING JOY

(HELOBUNG)

(Words & Music: Daniel Charles Damon)

*Never ending joy, never ending joy, never ending joy,
never ending joy, never ending joy, never ending joy!*

God of every tribe, every language,

God of every river and sea,

God of every mountain and island,

you bring joy to me: R

God of every hill, every valley,
God of every leaf, every tree,
God of every cloud, every raindrop,
you bring joy to me: *R*

God of every song, every story,
God of every captive set free,
God of every dance, every footstep,
you bring joy to me: *R*

SERMON

ANTHEM

ALL IN THE APRIL EVENING

(Words: Katherine Tynan / Music: Hugh S. Robertson)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

HYMN 232 VU *JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE YOU*

(HYMN TO JOY) (Words: Henry van Dyke / Music Ludwig van Beethoven)

Joyful, joyful, we adore you, God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you, centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain, sound their praise eternally.

You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing,
let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us, joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE


HORNPIPE

(From Water Music by G.F. Handel)

During the postlude the congregation is welcome to depart.

Worship Ways, The United Church of Christ

***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
our son Mark Gillespie
by Mom & Dad and
Tina (sister) & Barry Lewis and Family*

NOTICES, UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

Apr. 28	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Grocery Sunday (see note)
Apr. 28	Sun.	12:15 p.m.	Worship & Music Committee (Norman Sinclair Room)
Apr. 29	Mon.	2:00 p.m.	UCW (Fellowship Room)
May 2	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Choir (weekly-Choir Loft/Fellowship Room)
May 2	Thur.	7:00 p.m.	Pathfinders, Girl Guides of Canada (weekly-Social Hall)
May 5	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Mental Health Sunday
May 10	Fri.	10:30 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Worship with the Rev. Aaron Billard at: Royal Court Chapel , 6 th Floor & Monarch Hall , Great Room, 1 st 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.
May 12	Sun.	11:00 a.m.	WORSHIP and Sunday School - Christian Family Sunday

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.*

GROCERIES FOR KARING KITCHEN

(Apr. 28 – 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 chicken soup, cream of celery soup, pepper, flakes of ham. *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 United Church.



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 22, 2024** 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.

THE "BAKELESS BAKE SALE" has become an annual event of the St. John's UCW. This is a very popular and highly successful project.



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 – Stewardship is not just about money. It's about how we use everything we have and who we are as we walk the Way of Jesus.

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

<u>Greeters & Offering</u>	
<i>South Door – Alma St.</i> Amy and Molly Chase	<i>North Door – Victoria St.</i> Judy Chase

CHURCH MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND STAFF



Rev. Aaron Billard, *Minister*
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Rev. Dr. Douglas MacEachern
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Pat Arsenault, *Custodian*

Church Council

Chair: Roland Gallant

Secretary: Karen Teed

Treasurer: Kimberley Buck de Jesus

Board of Trustees: Graham McCrea

Christian Development: Nancy Black; 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

Camping Sunday

