

**10:00 a.m. – BAS Holy Eucharist**

**Layreader:** Jon Muers

**Presider:** the Rev. Bev DeVouge

**Opening Hymn – This is the Day**

Gathering of the Community

Gloria

**Collect of the Day:** O God, your Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

**The Proclamation of the Word:**

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41 (Natasha Bejarano)

Psalms 116: 1-3, 10-17

1 Peter 1: 17-23 (Prue Hansen)

**Gradual Hymn – Open Our Eyes**

**Gospel:** Luke 24: 13-35 (Stephen Hamlin)

Homily – Joan MacDonald

Nicene Creed

The Prayers of the People

Confession and Absolution

The Peace

**Offering Hymn – As We Gather At Your Table**

**Prayer over the Gifts:** Creator of all, you wash away our sins in water, you give us new birth by the Spirit, and redeem us in the blood of Christ. As we celebrate the resurrection, renew your gift of life within us. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. **Amen**

Celebration of the Eucharist #4

Sanctus

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Breaking of Bread #8

**Lamb of God**

**Communion Hymn – O Christ was a Good Guest**

**Ablution Hymn – There is a Redeemer**

Prayer after Communion

Doxology

**Children's Hymn – He is Lord**

Blessing

**Closing Hymn – I Know that My Redeemer Lives**

Dismissal

**Let There Be Love**

**Chancel Guild:** Maria Murphy, Leona Hunt     **Greeters:** Mary Feltmate, Walter Spears, Clifford Holder, Cory Lunn, Mary Wolfe

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Wednesday, Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>** – 6:30 p.m. Choir

**Friday, Apr. 27<sup>th</sup>** – 10:00 a.m. Meditation

11:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

**Next Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer BAS     Bookworms & Church Mice to follow

7:00 p.m. Sung Evening Prayer by our choir

Our next **Sunday School** sessions are TODAY and May 7<sup>th</sup>. Our closing **Sundae Sunday** trip to Dairy Queen will be on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Bookworms and Church Mice** will meet **next Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>** in the parlour after worship. The book for discussion is The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri. All are welcome to read along and join us in the discussion.

**Food Table:** Our first Food Table event at the Community Dinner was a great success! We will continue to collect food for the folks who attend the dinners to take home with them. Please pick up some food when you grocery shop, drop it in the bin provided at the back of the church, and we'll take care of the rest. Some suggested items: peanut butter, pasta, granola bars, soup, beans, cereal, rice, fruit cups, toiletries, and sanitary supplies. Thank you from your Pastoral Ministry Committee!

Covid precautions: At its February meeting, your parish council decided to lift the ban on passing the offering plate. We are also removing the markings on the aisle floor. Masking is still something you may wish to do, but it is not required. Please use sensitivity to the needs of others when making that decision. Until at least spring, we will continue with a hands free gesture of peace and reception of the Eucharist by a drop of wine upon the wafer.

**Good News!** The Colchester East Hants Health Centre has restored the clergy list for spiritual care so we can again access in-patient names. But we do still welcome your calls to let us know when loved ones are in hospital.

Our **Parish Survey** results have been tabulated. There were many good suggestions which Parish Council is working with now. One clear direction was the desire to return to **coffee fellowship** after the worship. We will begin having coffee hour on a trial basis in May and June to gauge availability and interest of volunteers. A sign-up sheet is at the back of the church today for those willing to take a Sunday to provide a basic coffee hour treat. The parish will provide coffee/tea and juice. Please note: signing up for coffee duty includes putting on the coffee/tea before church and cleaning up after the coffee hour, so working in teams is probably a good idea. We will aim to have our first two coffee hours on **May 7 and June 4**. We will also be trying out a **monthly 8:00 a.m. service** of Holy Communion according to the BCP on the second Sunday of both May (**May 14**) and June (**June 11**). Watch for a survey synopsis soon and for other initiatives related to the results in the fall.

Your Spiritual Development Committee invites you to a **Spring Retreat Day on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>** at Whispering Spirits Farm in Hodson outside River John. We will be hosted by Karen Ewing and Carol McNutt. Our theme this time is **Alleluia, Amen!** This is another chance to be in God's beautiful outdoors, to worship Christ and to reconnect with our parish family. The day will begin at 9:30 a.m. with coffee and muffins. We will share a short gathering liturgy and then have choices about how to spend our reflection time. There will be stations where you can share with others and be creative, quiet spaces for personal reflection or reading on your own and lots of trails to walk in peace. We'll brown bag for lunch and finish with another short reflection time and lastly share in the Eucharist, finishing around 2:00 p.m. We would love to have you with us! A car pool is planned and we have good driving directions to get to Hodson which is about 55 minutes outside of town. Please indicate your interest by signing up on the sheet at the back of the church. Plan to bring: a bagged lunch and travel mug for warm drinks, a water bottle, lawn chair, bug spray and warm clothes! **It is also noted that spring is tick season at the farm – so long pants with socks up over them is the safest plan!** The retreat will go forward rain or shine!!!

**Water of Life:** Our annual Water of Life campaign for 2023 kicks off TODAY and will run for 4 weeks. Each Sunday, we will feature something different about the project. Today, we welcome Joan MacDonald who will speak about the project in the homily.

We have kicked off our **Water of Life Project for 2023!** In the weeks to come, you will hear more about this well-creating and water improving program. Again this year, we partner with Lifewater Canada, social community groups, schools and individuals around Colchester County as they help us to dig wells in Africa and Haiti.

We're very proud of this St. John's created and led initiative in our community. We encourage you to support this important, life saving and life changing project and also to inform and encourage your friends, family and co-workers to get involved.

**The Water of Life Project was formed in September 2003. Its mission: to create a "caring community working together to raise funds to drill wells giving life and hope to African communities."**  
**In the 19 years since then, we have been involved in several projects – we have raised sufficient funds to dig wells, repaired many broken pumps and supported health clinics for villages receiving a well. Over 46,000 people now have access to safe drinking water because of our efforts since 2003.**

Ways you can give:

1. Put money in the jar.
2. Make a cheque out to Lifewater Canada. A receipt will be sent to you from Lifewater Canada.
3. Donate online using this URL:

**[www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/water-of-life-project](http://www.canadahelps.org/en/pages/water-of-life-project)**

When you have completed your donation you can immediately print your tax receipt. Your donation will go directly to Lifewater Canada for our project.

First United Church (711 Prince Street) will be hosting three world-class concerts in the weeks to come. Read all about it below and contact 902-895-8098 for more information:

**Saturday, April 29, 7:00 pm:** Join the Cantabile Singers of Truro for their spring concert, "Let's Have Some Music", celebrating the music and legacy of NS folk musician Robbie Smith. This concert features arrangements of Robbie's music by many Canadian composers, as part of the "Robbie Songs Project" (an initiative of Kathleen Glauser and the Nova Scotia Choral Federation with the support of Robbie's estate). Special guests include a cameo by the Truro Youth Singers. Robbie's musical partner Kathleen Glauser will be on hand to share stories of Robbie and their time in the folk duo "Naming the Twins". Tickets (\$20 general/\$5 student) are available from the church office, choristers, or online at <https://ticketstripe.com/LetsHaveSomeMusic>

**Saturday, May 6, 7:00 pm:** Prepare to be amazed as Halifax Circus and Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra explore an unexpected flurry of music and motion. "NSYO: Orchestra in Motion" asks questions like "What happens when you cross clowns with clarinets? Tightropes with timpani? And rola bolas with violas? In this concert, two diametrically opposed forces become one in a creative collision like no other. Tickets (\$25 general/\$5 students) are available from the church office. Get them early... you don't want to miss this show!

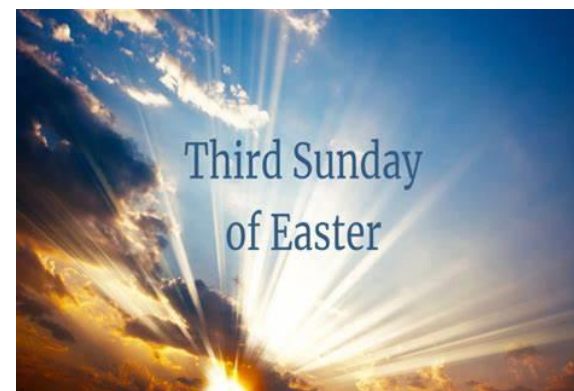
**Saturday, May 13, 3:00 pm:** We welcome the eclectic women's performance group "Creative Voices" (Jacqueline Chambers, artistic director; Sandra MacAulay-Thompson, collaborative pianist; special guest Joanna Phillips) for their spring concert, "Your One and Only Life". This concert will feature music by Meaghan Smith, Fleetwood Mac, The Tragically Hip, David Myles, Andra Day and more! Tickets are \$22/\$12 student, available at MacQuarries or [creativevoices.ca](http://creativevoices.ca)

On **Thursday, May 4** the Cobequid New Horizons Band program will present A Spring Fling Thing. The music at this informal performance will feature 6 Dixieland Medleys (20 well known songs) and some big great band jazz. The concert is at the First United Church Memorial Hall starting at 7:30 p.m. Admission: \$15.00 - snack food and beverages will be available.



## Third Sunday of Easter

April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023



Rector: Rev'd Lori Ramsey



Wardens: Elaine MacInnis and Neil Harris

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