

**10:00 a.m. – BAS Morning Prayer**    Layreader: Gordon West

**Opening Hymn – Crown Him with Many Crowns**

The Penitential Rite

Versicles and Responses

The Invitatory

Christ our Passover

**The Proclamation of the Word:**

Acts 2: 42-47 (Judy Rose)

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2: 19-25 (Arnold Hatfield)

**Gradual Hymn – Like a Shepherd**

**Gospel:** John 10: 1-10 (Cory Lunn)

Homily – Bev DeVouge

Affirmation of Faith

**Offering Hymn – The King of Love**

**Prayer over the Gifts:** God of loving care, you spread before us the table of life, and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of your Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our shepherd. **Amen**

Prayers of the People

**Collect of the Day:** O God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal , make us perfect in every good work to do your will, and work in us that which is well-pleasing in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

The Grace

**Closing Hymn – Will You Come and Follow Me?**

Dismissal

**Music – Holy One**

Postlude

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** – 7:00 p.m. Spiritual Development

**Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – 6:30 p.m. Choir

**Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** – 10:00 a.m. Meditation

11:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study

**Next Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist BAS/Sunday School    Coffee Hour

**TONIGHT:** Our choir will lead us in Holden Evening Prayer, a short and quiet candlelight service of word and song. Join us at 7:00 p.m.

Today following our worship, **Bookworms and Church Mice**, our parish book club, meets in the parish hall meeting room. The book for discussion is The Beekeeper of Aleppo by Christy Lefteri. All are welcome to join us in the discussion.

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

**Covid precautions:** Masks remain available for those who wish to wear them. Ongoing, we will continue with the hands free gesture of peace and reception of the Eucharist by a drop of wine on the wafer.

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.

**Food Table:** Please remember the Community Dinner pantry table when shopping for groceries. The bin at the back of the church is always there to receive your donations. 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!

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.

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!!!

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

**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!

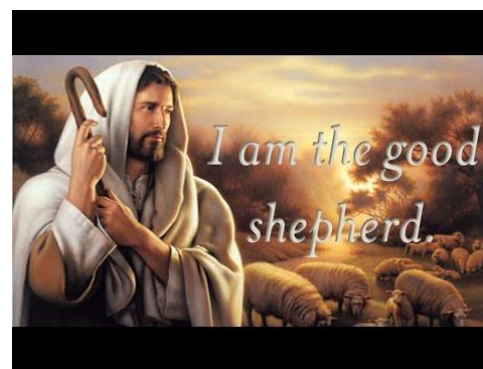
**Saturday, May 13, 3:00 pm:** We welcome the eclectic women's performance group "Creative Voices" (Jacqueline Chambers, artistic director; Sandra MacAulay-Thompson, collaborative pianist; special guest Joanna Phillips) for their spring concert, "Your One and Only Life". This concert will feature music 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.



## Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Rector: Rev'd Lori Ramsey



Wardens: Elaine MacInnis and Neil Harris

PLEASE TAKE THIS LEAFLET HOME FOR FUTURE REFERENCE