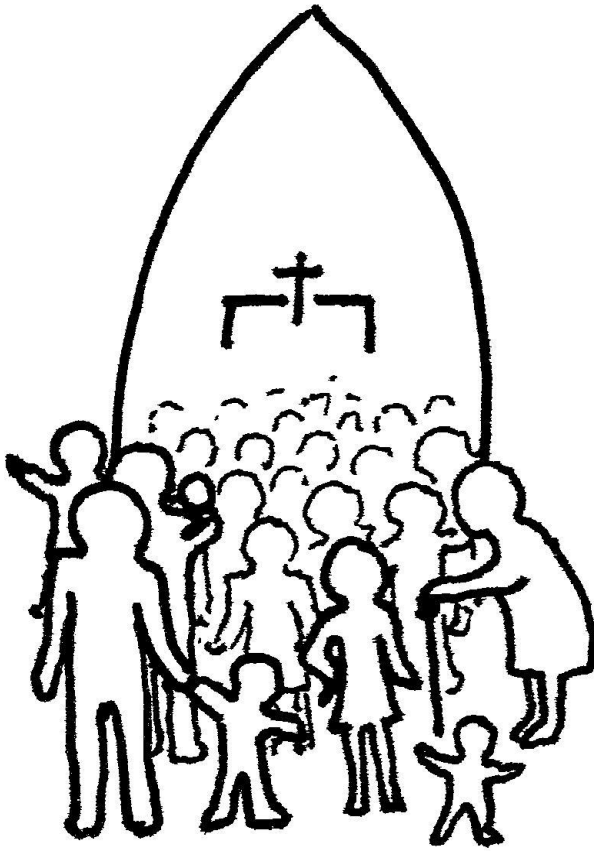


ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Harvey Station, New Brunswick



If you are curious and have come to explore...

If you are weary and have come to rest...

If you are grateful and have come to give thanks...

If you are hurting and have come for solace....

If you are listening and have come to pray...

If you are seeking and have come to join fellow seekers...

PJILA'SI ❖ WELCOME ❖ BIENVENUE

March 31, 2024

Easter

GATHERING

Music to Gather Us

Bible Story based on John 20:1-18

Invitation to Worship

The dawn has broken,
The stone is rolled away,
The tomb is empty,
The women have witnessed,
The grave clothes are folded,
Christ has risen,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Lighting the Christ Candle

***Hymn** "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

VU 155

Words of Welcome & 'This Week' at St. Andrew's

Easter Day Litany

Hope is back.
Future is back.
Promise is back.
Grace is back.
Love is back.
Light is back.
Renewal is back.
Song is back.
Our friend is back.
Compassion is back.
Christ is risen!
HALLELUJAH!

Life is here.
Truth is here.
Resurrection is here.
Rejoicing is here.
Rebirth is here.
Love is here.
Grace is here.
Possibility is here.
Promise is here.
Jesus is here.

Christ is risen!
HALLELUJAH!

Life is now.
Renewal is now.
God is now.
Love is now.
Celebration is now.
Faith is now.
Belief is now.
Recreation is now.
Friendship is now.
Jesus is now.
Christ is risen!
HALLELUJAH!

Gathering Prayer

God of the morning, Jesus of the empty tomb, Spirit who rolls stones, the word “alive” is not enough to encompass the day.

May we know life: in every molecule of our being, in every word we manage to speak, in every gasp of breath we take.

May your resurrection, your breathing again, anchor us in hope once more. Dare our minds to dream again, to believe beyond what this world offers into something renewed and reborn.

When there are no words to describe today, may we have laughter that colours the world anew with a faith that mocks death and encourages life once more.

God of the morning, Jesus of the empty tomb, Spirit who rolls away stones, we praise you. God of life and the promise alive once more in each one of us. Alleluia! Amen.

Moment for All

Choir Selection

Words of Affirmation

Love has conquered all hurt. Light has redeemed all darkness.
Life has completed all death. Today is the day of life.
and we are invited to live in it. Fully in the good news of Resurrection for ourselves and for the world.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

EXPLORING

Readings from our Faith Tradition

Isaiah 65:17-25

Psalms 118 (Parts 1, 2, & 3)

p. 837

Mark 16:1-8

***Hymn**

“Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks”

VU 179

Reflection

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Good Friday is past - we celebrate on this side of the cross, and we speak of life from death.

Come now to the feast of life that takes all our past
and redeems it with life.

Come to the table for the host is waiting
with the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

Hymn

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

VU 468

Thanksgiving Prayer

Jesus – companion and Saviour –
unfolding of alleluias,

bread-breaker

life-giver

grave-dancer

wine-sharer

barrier-crosser

gardener, returned.

Here is our thanksgiving
gathering with all those who have ever gathered round this table
meeting your promise
in this story
that pulls death from the world
and redeems it with life.

May this bread
break open your wondrous story.
As we share it we give thanks
for what has been done for us.

May this wine

spill your promise into the world.
As we share it
we give thanks
for what you have done
for us.

Great God of resurrection
bringing life from death
light from shadows
adventures from question, authenticity from lies
we sing with all the angels,

**Holy, holy, holy God
of new and transforming life
heaven and earth are full of your glory
hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name, O God:
hosanna in the highest.**

May our living be our thanksgiving
retelling the story in every moment
of the night Jesus took bread
and shared it
took wine, and offered it
saying, “eat, drink all of you.”
In our thanksgiving
may we live as the Body of Christ
within the new covenant
sealed for all
for the forgiveness of sins.
We remember Jesus the Christ
always.

Amen.

Breaking of the Bread - Sharing of the Cup

Statement of Faith

We believe
when the stone is rolled away,
**life is set free,
love is reborn,
and alleluias dance.**

We believe

when the stone is rolled away,
the Word speaks again,
creation sighs once more,
and the land breathes deeply.

We believe
when the stone is rolled away,
love conquers all,
grace wins through,
and peace can be held in both hands.

We believe
when the stone is rolled away,
alleluias are spoken,
dancing is allowed in the aisles,
noisy children disrupt quiet adults,
there is clapping after hymns,
and Easter eggs after everything.

We believe
when the stone is rolled away,
the spirit of Jesus is alive,
life is returned,
and death is confined to the past.
when the stone is rolled away
we believe.

Lord's Prayer

AFFIRMING

We Offer Our Gifts - *Offertory - *Prayer

VU 540

*Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.*

The Aftermath ~ a Reflection

SCATTERING

***Hymn**

"This is the Day That God has Made"

VU 175

*** Blessing for the Way**

Now that morning has come
and the dawn has broken the darkness.
Now that the stone is rolled away

and set free the life.

Now that Christ is risen

let us go

not quietly, not gently

but with a great alleluia

that lets the world know

life says “Yes!”

And now may the Christ who has risen,

the God who sets free, and the Spirit who breaks down all barriers,

be with us and go with us all

into this world. Amen.

***Sung Benediction**

“Go Now In Peace”

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 God 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.

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH

Minister of Music: Beverley Little

Pianists: Alicia Little and Deanna Moffitt

Audio/Visual Technician: Ed Christie

Clergy: Rev. Christine Johnson, BFA, M.Div (Hons)

Church Study: 1985 Route 3, Harvey Station Tel: 506-366-3220

email: rev.christinejohnson@gmail.com

Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked on this land, their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality.

We are gathered on the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet), Peskotomuhkati, and Mi'kmaq peoples and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

Welcome! A warm welcome is extended to all especially those who are worshiping with us for the first time or who have returned after an absence. Your presence both enriches us and this time of celebration together!



St. Andrews is equipped with a hearing loop!

To enjoy better hearing in the loop, switch your hearing aid or cochlear device to one of the following settings:

T, T-coil or Telephone.

Children are an important part of our church and are always welcome in worship! Pew packs are available for children who need a more interactive worship experience. You can find them at the entrance of the sanctuary. Our nursery, located across the hall from the St. James Room, is available to our youngest members and their grown-ups. It is equipped with a washroom and changing table. It is nice to see you! We are glad you are here!

Ways you can support our ministry at St. Andrew's United Church

Sign up to be a Sunday morning greeter, or reader. Help with cleaning. Serve on a committee. Play an instrument or sing a solo during worship. Like and share our Facebook posts. Use PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) for sharing financial gifts. There are lots of ways to support our shared ministry! Together we make a difference! For more info, contact Rev. Christine at rev.christinejohnson@gmail.com or 506-366-3220

We have a Facebook page!

You can find us at www.facebook.com/StAndrewsHarvey