

Jan 29th, 2023. Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Congregational responses are in bold.

(*) Indicates Standing.

We Come Together

Greeting

The Light of Christ

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that the land upon which we live, work, worship and play is the unceded territory of the Wabanaki people; in this area they are the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and Passamaquoddy. In this season of Epiphany may God's light continue guiding us as we seek reconciliation and healing with all Indigenous siblings.

Announcements

Call to Worship:

One: Every second of every minute, every minute of every hour,
every hour of every day,

All: is God's.

One: Every breath we take, every heart that beats, every laugh
heard, every tear dropped—

All: is God's,

One: Gift of the Creator, gift of the Christ, gift of the Spirit-Alive!

All: Gift of God.

One: And so we are—

All: joyful.

One: And so we are—

All: grateful.

One: And so we are—

All: here to worship

Opening Prayer: (*unison*)

Holy One, we gather this morning amid the activity of our lives. We gather on our way from something, on our way to something, but here we stop. We stop to rest, to turn our attention to all that is holy. We stop to gather in community, held and loved, to worship together. We stop to give praise, to sing, to pray, to give, to receive, to experience Your Spirit moving among us. Allow us the peace and sanctuary for

which our hearts long and then send us out to be a blessing in the world You so love. Amen.

***Hymn:** "Let Us Build a House"

MV# 1

Personal Prayer: "Lord, Listen to Your..." X 2

VU# 400

(Concluded as we pray together the Lord's Prayer)

Children's Learning Time

Children's Prayer:

You are with us God and everyday, Your Spirit helps us know, all the ways You challenge us, and love us as we grow. As we walk within Your world, allow our eyes to see, the world that you've created, and everything it's meant to be. Bless us in this worship, that together we can be, a blessing to Your world, sent to set Your people free. Amen.

***Hymn:** "What Does the Lord Require..." **(Round) VU# 701**

We Listen to the Word

Prayer for Illumination:

Reader: Kim

Holy One, in the reading of this Word, open our ears to hear the call of Your Son, the guidance of Your Spirit, and Your law of love written on our hearts. Reveal to us to Your calling and inspire us to offer every good gift You have given towards the building of Your Kingdom here in this place and world. Amen.

Scripture Lessons:

1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

Matthew 5: 1-12

Response:

One: This is the Word of God,

All: **thanks be to God for this Holy Word.**

Sermon "Be The Change"

Anthem "Go Out and Serve Him"

Prayers of the People

We Respond to the Word

Invitation to the Offering:

Today Jesus teaches his disciples that the ways of the world are not always the ways of the Kingdom. With His words on our hearts, we now make our offering, trusting that God will take and multiply them beyond measure for the care of this world and each of God's children within it.

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

We bring before You, God, these our gifts. They reflect our commitment to serve and our desire to be a living presence of Your Compassion in the world. We ask that they lift up the lowly, speak a word of grace to those who mourn, and reflect the light of Your Kingdom to one and all who struggle or find themselves lost in darkness this day. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

***Hymn:** "Be Thou My Vision" **VU# 642**

***Benediction:**

Filled with the Spirit, renewed by grace, and supported in love, we go fourth into the world as messengers of God's Love and compassion, a living blessing for the world God so loves. Amen.

***Extinguishing of the Christ Light**

***Choral Benediction** "Sent Out in Jesus' Name" **MV#212**

Postlude

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Screen operators for the coming weeks:

Jan 29 Erik

Feb 5 Elizabeth

Feb 12 Tracy

Ushers for the coming weeks:

Jan 29 Kim & Kevin

Feb 5 Sandra & Gil

Feb 12 Susan R. & John B.

This Week's Events

Monday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall
	2:00pm	Sparks	Church Hall
	6:30pm	Cubs	Church Hall
Tuesday	10:00am	Craft Group	Church Hall
	6:30pm	Beavers	Church Hall
Wednesday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall
	12:00pm	Writer's Circle	Church Hall
	7:00pm	Choir Practice	Sanctuary
Thursday	6:15pm	Embers	Church Hall
Friday	9:30am	Tai Chi	Church Hall
Sunday	11:45pm	M&P Meeting	Boardroom

M&P committee will be conducting annual performance reviews with our staff as part of the regular process for all United Church employees. To assist with this process, the committee is seeking feedback from members of the Community of Faith. If you would like to share your thoughts, accolades, or concerns regarding our relationship with Rev. Scott and/or our lay staff, please send an email to mandp@moundroyaluc.ca or leave a signed letter in a sealed envelope in the M & P mailbox inside the Mount Royal entrance. All information will be strictly confidential to the M & P Committee. Deadline for submission is February 1, 2023.

Kids Korner: Are you a young person who likes to have fun and learn about the Bible? Join us for children's programming every other week: **Jan:** 29 **Feb:** 12&26 **March:** 12 & 26 **Apr:** 9 & 23. Alternate weeks, explore our kid's korner pew packs in the sanctuary.

Upcoming Book Study: "*Building God's Beloved Community*" Be ready for this Lenten season book study by purchasing your book now. Contact the office for group ordering by Jan. 30th.

Food donations: We are collecting non-perishable food items for the Alimentaire Peter McKee food bank. Items can be dropped off in the bin at the Bessborough entrance.

Bulletin Dedication: Would you like to dedicate a bulletin in memory of a loved one? Recommended donation is \$25.

New phone number or address? Please let the office know of any changes in contact information so that our directory stays up to date.

Have news to share? We would love to celebrate with you. Please send your stories, announcements, news, and photos to: office@mountroyaluc.ca

Blessing for a New Day

Rise to blessing.
Rise to gratitude.
Rise to potential.
Rise to goodness.
Rise to generosity.
Rise to appreciation.
Rise to hopefulness.
Rise to new life.
Rise
like Jesus did
for God has blessed you
with a day too beautiful
to miss.
Amen.

At Mount Royal United Church, our mission is to serve God; living our faith inside and outside these walls and nurturing each individual on their faith journey.

