

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
FUNDY ST. LAWRENCE DAWNING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

***"Pieced Together in God's Love"*
A Celebration of Ministries**



Past President

The Reverend Audrey Lounder, B.A., M.Div.

Executive Minister

The Reverend Faith March-MacCuish, B.A., M.Div.

Regional Minister

The Reverend Kendall Harrison, B.A., M.Div.

Office of Vocation Representative

The Reverend Jane Johnson, B.Sc., B.Th., M.Div.

Host Minister

The Reverend Scott A. Stuart, B.A., M.Div.

Music Director

France Henriques

**Mount Royal United Church, Moncton, NB
Monday, June 14, 2021 at 2:00 pm**

A Celebration of Ministries

Bold type indicates the responses of the people.

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

WELCOME

(Rev. Audrey Lounder)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

(Rev. Audrey Lounder)

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Rev. Scott Stuart)

This is a call to each of us.
A call to be present to God;
and to each other.
Near and far, we gather ourselves in;
Taking deep breaths.
Letting out our burdens.
Lifting up our blessings.
And letting in the spirit that unites us.

OPENING PRAYER

(Rev. Scott Stuart)

Dear God,
We centre ourselves in your presence, praising you and thanking you for this family.
Family near and far, and in the spirit.
As we centre ourselves in you, we praise you and thank you for the gifts we share as a family.
Help us, through this time of worship and celebration, to heal our wounds, and nurture our souls.
This we ask, so that we may continue to love and be loved.
In the name of the Messiah, who shows us how. In whose name we pray.
Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THOSE TO BE ORDAINED

Executive Minister: The Third Annual Meeting of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council of The United Church of Canada, has received confirmation from the Board of Vocation that the candidate before us for the order of ministry has been deemed to be ready for ordination as a Minister.

In what we are about to do, the church, recognizing God's call to this ministry, prays that those who are called will continue to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit as the Church authorizes and recognizes their particular and diverse ministries.

Past President: Who is this whom you bring for service into the body of Christ, the Church?

(The ordinand is invited to stand as her name is read by the Office of Vocation Representative)

OV Representative: I present Emma Seamone, who desires to serve in Ordained Ministry in The United Church of Canada. The Candidacy Board of the Office of Vocation has examined her; and we believe her to be qualified for this ministry.

Executive Minister: Do you believe that she is, by God's grace, worthy so to serve?

Members of Regional Council: We believe she is worthy. Glory be to God. AMEN.

(Ordinand may be seated)

HYMN COME AND FIND THE QUIET CENTRE VU#374

Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY INVITATION

(Rev. Scott Stuart)

Participating in what God is doing is a gift we have been given. Being part of something larger than ourselves gives life meaning and connects us with others in empowering ways. We are asking those who are watching today through social media, and those here present in celebration of this ministry, to please send a donation to the Mission and Service Fund of our United Church of Canada. You can do so through your local congregation or by going to the United Church website and donating.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy God, thank you for claiming each of us as a beloved child in your great family. In and by your grace, we share our abundance - our offering. Bless what we offer to you today; including the offering of our life. May our gifts; our mind, body, and spirit, reveal your love to all who need it. We pray this through Christ, who loved and loves us, Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

(Rev. Jane Johnson)

God, the words you speak have power:
Power to create, power to disturb, power to heal.
Help us to hear your word for us today. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING
Esther 4: 10-17 (NIV)

(Rev. Jane Johnson)

¹⁰ Then she instructed him to say to Mordecai, ¹¹ "All the king's officials and the people of the royal provinces know that for any man or woman who approaches the king in the inner court without being summoned the king has but one law: that they be put to death unless the king extends the gold scepter to them and spares their lives. But thirty days have passed since I was called to go to the king."

¹² When Esther's words were reported to Mordecai, ¹³ he sent back this answer: "Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. ¹⁴ For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

¹⁵ Then Esther sent this reply to Mordecai: ¹⁶ "Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day. I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish."

¹⁷ So Mordecai went away and carried out all of Esther's instructions.

Response: God's word to us.
Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING
Luke 9:1-6 (NIV)

(Rev. Audrey Lounder)

⁹ When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, ² and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick. ³ He told them: "Take nothing for the journey—no staff, no bag, no bread, no money, no extra shirt. ⁴ Whatever house you enter, stay there until you leave that town. ⁵ If people do not welcome you, leave their town and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them." ⁶ So they set out and went from village to village, proclaiming the good news and healing people everywhere.

Response: Word for our inspiration.
May we walk in its light.

SERMON
"Wonder Woman"

(Rev. Audrey Lounder)

HYMN A PROPHET WOMAN BROKE A JAR VU#590

A prophet-woman broke a jar, by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room, presiding and anointing.
A prophet-woman broke a jar, the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room, preparing Christ for dying.

A faithful woman left a tomb by Love's divine commission.
She saw, she heard, she preached the Word, arising from submission.
A faithful woman left a tomb, with resurrection gospel.
She saw, she heard, she preached the Word, apostle to apostles.

Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth, for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten, and unheard, derided and forbidden,
the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire, on free and slave descending,
can tumble our dividing walls, our shame and sadness mending.

The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls, by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need to serve and lead, their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls, from women, men, and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead. Rejoice, and make them welcome!

INVITATION PRAYER

Past President: Sisters and brothers, let us pray for the outpouring of spiritual gifts upon your servant whom God has chosen for this ministry. Let us pray:

In John 14:26, Jesus said, "But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

We ask you, O God, to send your Holy Spirit over in Jesus' name. The same spirit that moved over the waters at earth's creation, the same spirit that descended like a dove, the same spirit that was with Christ. May it be upon us and what we do, that our work may be an example of your work, that the gifts we celebrate and share, may bring us, and others with whom we share them, even closer to you, to Christ, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE ORDINATION OF A MINISTER

(The candidate for Ordination shall come forward)

Past President: Jesus Christ came into the world to be the servant of God and all people. As servant Lord, Jesus calls his church to a ministry of worship, witness, and reconciliation. In baptism, we were received as members of Christ's church and at confirmation, we committed ourselves to its ministry. In order that this ministry of the whole church may be fulfilled, God has given the Ordained Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care, and the Diaconal Ministry of Education, Service, and Pastoral Care. It is the responsibility of the church to seek, train, and set apart those whom God calls to serve.

Past President: Emma, do you believe in God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and do you commit yourself anew to God?

Candidate: Yes, I do.

Past President: Do you believe that God is calling you to the Ordained Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care, and do you accept this call?

Candidate: Yes, I do.

Past President: Are you willing to exercise your ministry in accordance with the Scriptures, in continuity with the faith of the church, and subject to the oversight and discipline of The United Church of Canada?

Candidate: Yes, I am willing.

Past President: *(addressing the Regional Council)*

Members of Regional Council, will you support and encourage Emma as she performs her ministry among us?

Members of Regional Council: We will.

Past President: May God, who has given you the will to do these things, give you the grace and power to perform them.

(Those participating in the laying on of hands, please come forward)

THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

Past President: Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon your servant Emma for the office and work of an Ordained Minister in your church.

Congregation: AMEN.

(The newly Ordained Minister stands)

THE DECLARATION

Past President: In the name of Jesus Christ, the Sovereign Head of the Church, and by the authority of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council, I declare that Emma Seamone has been ordained as a Minister of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care within the holy catholic church.

(Those laying on hands, please return to your seats)

PRESENTATION OF BIBLE AND CERTIFICATE

Past President: Take authority to preach the word of God and to administer the sacraments in the congregation. Emma, take this Bible. Proclaim in word and action the Gospel of Christ with diligence and love.

(The stole presenter comes forward)

THE PRESENTATION OF STOLE

PRAYER FOR THE NEW MINISTER

Past President: Gracious God, give to your servant Emma the grace and power to fulfil her ministry. Grant that, always having the assurance of faith, abounding in hope, and being rooted in love, she may witness the story and live the faith, enfolded always in the embrace of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: AMEN!

Past President: May every grace of ministry rest upon your servant, Emma. Keep her strong and faithful in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All: AMEN! May she proclaim the good news, inspire our prayers, and show us Christ, the Servant.

Past President: Greet your new Minister!

CHORAL RESPONSE HALLE, HALLE, HALLE VU#958

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Rev. Audrey Lounder)

INVITATION

This is not our table. This is not this church's meal. This is God's feast laid out for each and every one of us. You are welcome here. All are welcome here.

A NEW CREED

Let us join in a statement of our communal faith.

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:

**to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

God is with us!

We are not alone!

Let's lift up our hearts.

We lift up our hearts to God.

Let's give thanks to God.

Thank you, God. We praise you with our whole heart.

We gather around your table today, O God. You: Creator, Saviour, Spirit.
We hear your call to this eternal table in Jesus' call to the disciples, and we respond in the same spirit they did, looking for more than bread and wine; looking for love and life with prophets, saints, and angels. With our family near and far, we sing with that timeless choir:

(Spoken)

Holy, Holy, Holy are You.

Holy, Holy Blessed are You.

As we draw close to your table, we draw close to Jesus and the Holy Spirit. We recognize here, that this table is spread far and wide. Here, we seek to be re-united; healed; restored; resurrected. We remember the Last Supper, while participating fully in the eternal spirit which threads itself through every communion. Here, we retrace Jesus' path, and, through bread and wine, invite him into our body, mind, and spirit so that he can dwell in us and among us.

On the night Jesus was betrayed by his friend, he took the bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples and said:

"This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me".

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to God, gave it to his disciples and said:

"This cup is my blood, my new covenant with you. Each time you drink this cup, remember me."

The mystery of faith is that:

(Spoken)

Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

So that we may not only remember, but participate fully in this supper, O God, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit to bless and transform this meal- and, through partaking, bless and transform us that your presence may be one with us. Through Jesus Christ. Amen!

Thank you, God. Amen!

BREAKING THE BREAD AND SHARING THE CUP

(Communion is shared together)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Dear God, as we leave this table, may the Spirit we've shared remain with us.

We remember that the disciples, even after sharing this meal, argued.

We remember that Peter pledged to stay with Jesus to the end, and didn't.

We remember that when Jesus went to pray in the garden, he asked his friends to keep watch, but they kept falling asleep.

Well, today, we're "woken" enough to pray with you, Jesus. However, we admit that, as humans, we will:

Get distracted by our own ego;

Make promises we can't keep;

Fall asleep instead of keeping watch;

But we will try our best to stay true to your path, in Christ. Help us by keeping us on track with the Holy Spirit. We will try our best to discern its work in our lives, in the lives of those around us, and in Creation. Keep us, this body, fuelled with love enough to walk as Christ, in a world who needs love dearly. We pray this in Jesus' name. **Amen!**

HYMN RIVER RUNNING IN YOU AND ME MV#163

River running in you and me, Spirit of life, deep mystery,
dancing down to holy sea, River run deep, river run free.

River laughed on my birthing day, Wind and water joined in play
soaked my soul in a shining spray, River run deep, river run free.

River, cry my name to me, lend me hope and memory,
sing me the story of holy sea, River run deep, river run free.

I stand on the edge, look-in' down, too scared to swim, afraid I'll drown-
give me the courage to journey on, River run deep, River run free.

Journey on far from my home, River break this heart of stone;
teach me to love, make me your own, River run deep, river run free.

Hold me close on the day I die, bear me up when my soul is tired,
carry me home on the rising tide, River run deep, river run free.

River singin' in you and me, Spirit of life – deep mystery
catch us up in your melody River run deep, river run free.

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

(Rev. Audrey Louder)

POSTLUDE

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ORDINATION

Emma Kathleen Seamone B.Sc., PgDip (Youth Ministry), M.Div.



Emma Seamone was raised on Nova Scotia's North Shore by Three Harbours Pastoral Charge, the daughter of Penny and Warren Hebb of Wallace, NS. Greatly influenced early on by the work of Tatamagouche Centre, Emma has spent her career working with communities, and always asking whose voice is not in the room, and how do we speak acknowledging their perspectives.

Emma studied Environmental Science at Acadia University and went on to work for several Environmental non-profits in the Maritimes. She took on the role of co-convenor of the Maritime Conference Environmental Working Group in 2012, and has served as co-convenor of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters' Ecological Justice working group post the restructuring.

Called to ministry, Emma worked in Youth Ministry at Saint John's St. Mark's United Church for three years and received her Youth Ministry Diploma from the Atlantic School of Theology in 2018. Emma Seamone is a candidate for ministry from Wesley United Church of St. Andrews NB, and has been under appoint to Upper Mills, Bocabec, and McAdam Pastoral Charges since 2017. She is a recent graduate from the Atlantic School of Theology's Summer Distance MDiv program. Emma has accepted a provisional call to Carberry Pastoral Charge of Carberry, Manitoba. Currently she lives in St. Stephen, NB with her husband Jason, and their cat, Harley Quinn.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Sheila Gallant



I grew up in a small community on the North Shore of Prince Edward Island. After graduating from Notre Dame Academy, I enrolled in a two-year business program and graduated a year later. My first employment was with St. Dunstan's University, now the University of Prince Edward Island. I left there after seven years, and began working in different law firms. I began working with the Province of Prince Edward Island in the Judicial Section, i.e., with the courts. I have worked for various time periods in all three courts, but have worked the last 30 plus years with the Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal as the office administrator/Deputy Registrar/Court Stenographer – in other words, jack of all trades! All along the way I have continued taking courses at UPEI, and hope to complete a degree in the future.

My husband of 48 years passed away in the fall of 2018. We have four living children and four granddaughters who all live within a five mile radius of their home place. My parents lived next door to us until illness forced our decision to move mom to a nursing home until she passed away and dad followed her five years later.

My involvement in the United Church began at an early age when I would travel along with my Aunt and her mother, my Grandmother, to church. They went every Sunday, but the second Sunday would be to a different church other than their home church. When I was appointed by my Pastoral Charge to be a Presbytery representative, I had no idea what it was but during my time on Presbytery I was minute secretary, secretary, and chair. It was quite a journey spanning over thirty years, and secretary for approximately 27 of those years. Rev. Dr. Henry Tye was a great mentor during my time on Presbytery, and I appreciated his tutoring and advice. I have been a Commissioner to General Council four times and learned a great deal about this Church of ours being present during those meetings.

Within my own church I was president of our UCW, treasurer, chair of the Official Board, secretary, Elder and Clerk of Session. Music has always been a big part of my church life whether singing with the choir, solos, duets or in a quartet. Music will always be a part of who I am, and it was music that brought me back to my church family after the death of our oldest son. Through all the down times over the past 20 years with my husband's illness and my parents' illnesses, music has kept my faith renewed and myself grounded. As the hymn says "Stand by me" for I have never felt I was facing life's challenges on my own. God has been by my side and I look forward to what the future will bring in this next phase as I take on my role as President.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council
Annual Meeting 2021
Celebration of Ministries Service