

SUMMERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 3, 2017 – 10:30 a.m. First Sunday of Advent

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Ralph Carruthers, Gabrielle Gallant, Jill Clark

Our mission is to know, love and serve God wherever we are and to inspire others to do the same by our thoughts, words and deeds.

Thoughts for Reflection:

“Life in a prison cell may well be compared to Advent; one waits, hopes, and does this, that, or the other--things that are of no real consequence--the door is shut, and can be opened only from the outside.”

~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Letters from Prison--November 21, 1943

“Maybe the surprise, when Christ returns, will be that he was here all along. Maybe the surprise will be that, ahead of time himself, he has been calling, gathering, enlightening and sanctifying the meek and all the rest of those who bear his name. Come, Lord Jesus.”

~ Mary Hinkle Shore

What signs of hope do you see in your community, where people or institutions are working on real answers to the issues facing us?

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Call to Worship:

In Advent we watch and wait, and prepare to welcome
the Christ Child into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

In Advent we prepare for a life of discipleship,
and watch faithfully for signs of God’s light breaking into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

As we wait, dear One, we watch for signs of your action in the world,
actions of compassion and grace breaking in.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Holy God, we recognize that we do not know the day or the hour,
but we know that the day is near.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Be born anew in our world and in our lives.

HYMN: #115 HAIL TO THE LORD’S ANOINTED

Opening Prayer

Assurance of God’s Love

Welcome & Announcements

Advent Liturgy, Candle Lighting (see insert)

HYMN: JESUS CAME BRINGING US HOPE

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

Prayer for Understanding

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalms 80:1-7 Refrain: # 1

Mark 13:24-37

Ministry of Music: “A Thrill of Hope” (Part I) *from “A Thrill of Hope”*

Sermon: *My Extraordinary Pink Hippopotamus* cantata by J. Raney

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Offering & Doxology

The Sacrament of Communion

HYMN: #560 PUT PEACE INTO EACH OTHER’S HANDS

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (see insert)

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

HYMN: #109 ALL EARTH IS WAITING

Benediction

Sending Forth Blessing: “Walk in the Light” (*D. Besig and N. Price*)

Welcome to SPC. We welcome everyone to our worship service this morning. If you are worshipping with us for the first time or visiting after a time away, please sign the guest book in the entrance. If you are new to our community and would like more information about our church family and its ministries, please feel free to speak to Rev. Brad or to today’s greeter. You can also check us out online at www.summersidepresbyterianpei.ca.

Scent Free Environment: To help make our church welcoming to everyone, including those with sensitivities to scents & perfumes, we would ask that you respect SPC as a scent free environment.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In the beginning you spoke and at your word your Spirit moved over the waters, bringing order, light, and life out of chaos. By your hands you formed us in your image and breathed life into us. When we turn away from you and our love fails, your love remains constant. You lead us through the deep and chaotic waters and you call us from our scattered lives to that place of hope. Therefore, with choirs of angels and archangels and with those of every time and place, we give you praise and glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy, mighty and tender God, in time you sent Jesus and in him we saw your promises made flesh. Dwelling among us, good news was seen and heard and our world transformed. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. In his suffering, death and resurrection, he delivered us from sin and darkness and revealed a living and redeeming hope for all people. And so, remembering Christ's life, love, death, and resurrection, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ was promised. Christ was born.
Christ has died. Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we share may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, world without end.

As Christ taught his disciples we now pray together:

**Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil for thine is the
kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever, Amen.**



This Week:

**Today, Dec 3: Morning Worship 10:30
Fundscrip pick up
Concert 2:00**

Tues, Dec 5: Book Discussion Group 8:00

Wed, Dec 6: Choir 6:00

Thurs, Dec 7: KD Lunch 11:15

**Fri, Dec 8: No Fellowship Friday this week
Family Christmas Party 5:30**

**Sun, Dec 10: Morning Worship 10:30
Fundscrip order**



Today is pick up. Only one more order for 2017 to go in on Dec. 10! We have done well this year and look forward to another year using this as a fundraising venue for our general funds. **Anyone** can order - these are the same gift cards you would buy in a store, and not all are expensive. Here is a list of all retailers that offer cards less than \$20:

\$10 cards: Canadian Tire, Winners/Homesense, Hudson's Bay, Walmart, Indigo/Chapters, Cineplex, Ultramar, Superstore, A & W, Wendys.

\$15 cards: Tim Horton's

\$5 cards: Starbucks, Indigo/Chapters

Any cards ordered on Dec. 10 will be in on Dec. 17. A few of these cards on hand would make great gifts for anyone, or just to treat yourself! ~ Susan



The **KD Lunch program needs volunteers on Thursdays from 11:15 to 1:00.** Come help out in the kitchen, share with other volunteers and interact with some awesome youth! We are also in need of KD and cookies. Thanks always for your generous support!



The youngest members of our family need some TLC on Sunday morning. There is a [signup sheet](#) in the lobby for those interested in providing [nursery care](#) during our weekly worship service. What a great way to get to know our children and what a great value they add to our Sunday morning! Please take time to sign up.



Discussion group will be held on **Tuesday, Dec 5th at 8pm** at Brother's Two. They will be discussing the remainder of Part 2. This will be the last meeting until after Christmas.

Family
**CHRISTMAS
PARTY**

Save the date! Come celebrate the season with an **SPC Christmas Party on Friday, December 8 at 5:30**. We will provide the pizza, you bring the games and then we will finish out the evening singing some well-loved Christmas carols and songs while sipping on some hot apple cider. Be sure to sign up beforehand on the sheet in the lobby. Can't wait to see you there!



A Very Forte Christmas will be held here on **Sunday, Dec 17th at 2:30**. Featuring gorgeous new carols, fun twists on old favourites, a few lesser-known gems, and sing-alongs, all wrapped in the warm sound of male voices. A Christmas treat that will make you laugh, cry, sing, and reflect upon the meaning of the Christmas season. Tickets \$10 at the door.



It is no secret that the health of any relationship is dependent, in large part, to regular communication. Our relationship with

God is no different. Being intentional about spending time in prayer enables us to sharpen our ability to see just where and how God continues to be at work in the world around us. In short, prayer is one of the most effective ways to strengthen and grow in our faith!

Things to Pray for this Week:

- ✓ We pray for congregations welcoming guests into their churches during Advent and Christmas. Let us show and practice the spiritual gift of hospitality.
- ✓ We pray for those who have experienced the death of a loved one this year. May God's spirit of peace rest on them during the holiday season.
- ✓ We pray for presbyteries as they oversee the ministers and congregations under their care.

"Sunday, December 3, at 2:30 p.m. on Main Stage, Confederation Centre Music Department presents **Handel's Messiah**, conducted by Donald Fraser. The Confederation Singers and Orchestra will be joined by soloists : Shannon Scales, Hannah O'Donnell, James Smith, and Parker Clements. Reserved admission \$25.00 available at Ticketworks."

"There's Music in the Air", will be held on Friday Dec 8, 7:30 pm, at South Shore United Church, #85 Route 10 in Tryon. The program includes a wide range of music, singing, and stories for the Christmas Season. In keeping with Canada 150 celebrations several Christmas selections will be included which were written around the time of Confederation. Lunch and a time for socializing will follow the evening's entertainment. Admission is a freewill offering with all donations going in support of the Church. For more information please call 902-658-2009.

The Clark Unit of the United Church Women are sponsoring a Christmas Concert featuring the **"Men of the Harvest" Sunday December 10, 2017 at 3 pm at Trinity United Church, Summerside.** Admission is \$10 at the door.

Dec 12th 7:00pm Service of Compassion and Hope hosted by South Shore United Church #85 Route 10 in Tryon.

For some people this time of year is marked by a deep sense of sorrow and loss; or a stressful season leaving them drained and empty within; others seek a few moments of peace in a time of competing demands. This service is an opportunity to receive a sense of God's renewing presence in the midst of all that we experience. Everyone is welcome. To light a candle to remember a loved one please call by December 8th 902- 658-2863.

Victoria West Presbyterian Ladies Aid is having a **caroling evening on December 13 at 7 pm at the Victoria West Presbyterian Church.** There will be a free will offering with proceeds going towards the purchase of a window for Camp Keir. Some featured entertainers include: Roy MacCaull Kim Tuplin, Debbie Brady, Garth MacKay & Students, Leslie & Wendell Hardy, Diane Montgomery.... Apple cider and cookies following. Hope to see you there!!

Christmas Pageant in the Barn, Dec 21st 7:00pm - Come experience the feel of a stable setting. Hear the gift of music and story in a simple service at the MacDonald Family Farm, 218 MacDonald Road, Crapaud.