

Montague Pastoral Charge

Sunday April 28, 2024

Hillcrest United Church

Ministers: All of Us

Student Minister: Timothy Wisnicki BSc. MDiv.

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Sheila Mallory

Director of Music: Anne White

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Camping Sunday



Bulletins are in loving memory of

Donald Nicholson

Love from Ethel Nicholson



Sunday April 28, 2024

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Today we welcome members of the Order of the Eastern Star to participate in worship and offer information about the Eastern Star Training Awards in Religious Leadership

Prelude "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" Messiter arr. Berry
"Andante Molto in G Major" C.P.E. Bach arr. Nordman

Introit VU # 400

**Lord, listen to your children singing,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace!**

Welcome & Acknowledgement

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Candlelighter: Melvina Buchanan

Youth Choir Anthem "Seek, and You Shall Find"

by Douglas E. Wagner

Call to Worship

We are the branches, Christ is the vine.

We come today needing spring pruning.

We are the seeds, Christ is the soil.

We come today needing depth for our roots.

We are the earth, Christ is the sun.

We come today needing warmth in our souls.

Sing praises to the God of spring and harvest!

Sing praises to the God who gives the growth!

Opening Hymn VU # 296

"This Is God's Wondrous World"

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer

True Vine, Gentle Gardener, we abide in your care. You never cut us off from your love. Tenderly you lift us when we have fallen, kindly you prune us to make us yield abundantly. May your grace flow through us always, that we may grow into fruitful people, that we may nourish

those around us with our words and deeds, and that we may lift up others who have fallen, connecting them to the life-giving Vine. May our growth, our life, and our fruits bring you glory: today and always, in Jesus' name, who taught us to pray: **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.**

Children's Hymn *"This little light of Mine"*

- 1) This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine - - -
- 2) Gonna take this light around the world - - -
- 3) Won't let anyone (blowing sound) it out - - -
- 4) This little light of mine - - -

Children's Time

Children's Prayer

Good News

**We celebrate you, in all that you do,
We love you; God bless you. We celebrate you.**

Passing of the Peace

(Children may go to Sunday School.)

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful One, you know when we are afraid to love;
you know when we are too timid to show mercy.
Remind us again that perfect love casts out such
fears. Surround us and strengthen us with your
perfect love, even in the face of our imperfections.
Imbue us with a love so strong, with such growth
toward perfection, that we may cast aside our pride
and embrace the power of love.**

...moment of silence

Words of Assurance

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

God, as the sun warms frozen soil, animating the life of spring, may your Word enter deep in our hearts and work on our souls, until we give the growth you seek, maturing in likeness to Christ. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Acts 8:26-40 Reader: Heber Ross

(Worthy Patron of Montague Chapter #69)

Psalms 22, parts 3 & 4 (VU #746)

John 15:1-8

The Gloria Patri – *Music by Alan Coffin*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is
now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

Sermon “Pruning, grafting, abiding”

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn VU # 602 “*Blest Be The Tie That Binds*”

Presentation: “What is ESTARL?”

Jane Wooldridge (Past Grand Matron from Crystal Chapter #1 in Charlottetown)

Invitation to Offering

Offering Dedication Tune: Wareham VU #529

With grateful hearts, our gifts we share

We offer our talent and time to care

God's goodness all our hopes shall raise,

Adored through all our changing days.

Offering Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Life & Work of the Church

Closing Hymn VU # 586

“We Shall Go Out With Hope of Resurrection”

Benediction

Closing Blessing MV # 214

**May God's sheltering wings,
her gathering wings protect you.**

**May God's nurturing arms,
her cradling arms sustain you,**

And hold you in her love, and hold you in her love.

Postlude "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" Beethoven arr.
Edward Broughton

We extend a warm welcome to guests visiting with us today.

Please join us for coffee after church.

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

Office Hours are Mon. through Thurs. 9 a.m. to noon.

Clergy Visiting - Please let the office (838-2698) or Timothy (905-269-7381) know if anyone in hospital, long-term care or at home requires a visit or Pastoral Care.

Puzzle Exchange – check out the beautiful puzzles on our Puzzle Shelves by the offices. Please feel free to take one, leave one and/or borrow one.

Lost & Found – the box is overflowing – please take a look to see if you have left something behind – it is probably there. It is located at the front of the church, pulpit side.

Bulletin Dedications are available for June 23, 30, July 7 and 28. Suggested donation is \$25.

Current Events Bulletin Board – check out the bulletin board at the front entrance way – stories from the papers about our members – Special Olympics, sports news, 'Friendly Giant' story and much more.

Fundscrip – do not forget to purchase your shopping cards for your own personal grocery shopping, gas cards, etc. At least 2% of your purchases will be donated back to the church from Fundscrip. Any questions, ask Nancy.

The Ways and Means Committee is looking for your creativity! New members are needed to help imagine, plan, and assist with fundraising projects at Hillcrest. Contact Nancy if you are interested in joining this volunteer group or have any ideas/suggestions.

THANK-YOU/GOOD NEWS

-thank you to our Community Lunch volunteers for keeping this important welcoming event happening

-thank you for your Food Bank donations

-thanks to Edgar Dewar for tilling the Community Gardens last week

-thanks to John Matheson for coming to our rescue with the downstairs washrooms again

THIS WEEK

Today

2 pm - Music Festival youth concert – all are welcome to come and enjoy the music of talented youth from Eastern PEI

Monday

9:30 – Congregational Care Meeting

Wednesday

2-4 pm Bridge group – New and experienced players welcome.

For more information call Sandra at 388-8844

7 pm Senior Choir invites YOU to join this great group! Call Anne 838-2681 or just come along.

Thursday

Men's Meditation Group meets in the Schaffelburg Room at 9:30 for a time of contemplative conversation. All welcome.

Sunday

Youth Choir Practice – at 10:00. New youth are most welcome to join. Contact Anne 838-2681 or just join us!

OTHER

Lower Montague Women's Institute is hosting a Fundraiser Ceilidh for the QEH today, at 2 pm, at the LMWI Hall, 88 Lower Montague Road. Come join in the fun while you are entertained by local talent. Admission by donation. 50/50 and biscuits and jam.

Hillcrest Community Garden – If you like to work with the good earth to grow vegetables and flowers, garden plots of two sizes are available. For information and to reserve a plot, please call the office at 902-838-2698.

“Pray the Island” prayer drive across PEI takes place May to November. Prayer, worship, and launch meeting at Montague Christian Church on April 27th, 12:00 to 4:00. For more information, contact praytheisland@gmail.com

Verdi’s REQUIEM - Sunday April 28 at 2:30 pm - 60 voices of the Island Choral Society and Luminos Ensemble, with the Luminos Chamber Orchestra, and soloists Georgia Edwards, Hannah O’Donnell, Justin Simard and Brodie MacRae. A once-in-a-generation performance of one of the greatest works in the choral repertoire at Zion Presbyterian Church, Charlottetown. Admission: \$25 online at IslandChoralSociety.ca and at the door. For more information phone 902-628-6778.

Hillcrest Spaghetti Supper – will be on Saturday, May 4th from 4-6:30. \$15 for adults; \$8 for children. Dinner includes salad, spaghetti, garlic bread and dessert. (GF/Veggie options). Tickets available at the door. See Margie in the chapel, after church, if you wish to make/buy items for this fundraising dinner.

Kings County Music Festival takes place at Hillcrest from May 6th to 8th with the Awards Concert on Friday evening, May 10th. Best wishes to performers from our Hillcrest families including our Youth Choir performing Wed, May 8th at 6 pm.

A Brahms Bonanza! - Saturday May 11 – Sarah Hagen, pianist, and friends will present an exciting musical recital at 2 pm. “Pay what you wish” - at the door.

Tuesday, May 14 at 1 pm – UCW meets

Wednesday, May 15 at 10 am – Hillcrest Book Club will welcome author, Sharon (Lucy) Robson who lives in Panmure Island! Her book, “A Murmur of Men” can be borrowed by contacting Anne (902-838-2681). All welcome.

Hillcrest Annual Plant and Bake Sale - will be held on Saturday, May 18th. It’s time again to begin some plants indoors which we hope you will bring along to sell. Thank you for keeping this date in mind.

FEAST of MUSIC – May 26th at 7 pm Hope you will join us to celebrate the Senior and Youth Choirs joined by A Joyful Sound Community Choir and members of the Sibbick Family as they share their spirited music for your enjoyment. Donations at the door and a lunch to follow.

Eclipse Glasses - if you still have eclipse glasses in good

condition, you can drop them off at the church office or bring them in on Sunday morning. We are collecting them to be sent to Latin America for the use of children there to see their eclipse in August.

STEWARDS & TRUSTEES

The S & T have decided to continue with the '**Wish List**'. Below is their updated list of items needed for the Church and Manse. If you have additional suggestions to be added to this list, please contact Melissa Mullen, another member of the Committee or Nancy at the church office.

- **Contributions Towards Upgrade of Lighting in Parking Lot**
- For evening events there is a need to upgrade the lighting in the parking lot. We plan on installing 2 wall lights on the south side and to upgrade the existing light near the chapel door entrance. These lights would be mounted high so they will illuminate the parking lot.
- **Contributions Towards the Purchase of a Generator for the Manse** - Presently we do not have an alternate source of electrical power in the event of a power outage at the manse.
- **Cushions for** Pews - Approximate Cost: \$15 each.

Members of the congregation have been very generous with donations towards the purchase or have covered the full cost of items identified on the Wish List. The cost of the items below has been covered by donations which were made this year to date and last year.

Upright Deep Freeze - Cushions for Pews - Printer for Church Office - Replacement Tree - Chairs for Shaffelburg Room - Paper Towel Dispensers - Generator for Church - Lights at Office Door

Thank you to all who were able to donate.