

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AMHERST

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Senior Minister: Rev. Jeff G. White
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Minister of CE: Rev. Marlene Quinn

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Byron Corkum

Organist & Choir Director: Kevin Dupuis

Administrative Assistant: Angela Marks

Church Custodian: Shauna McCallum

Worship

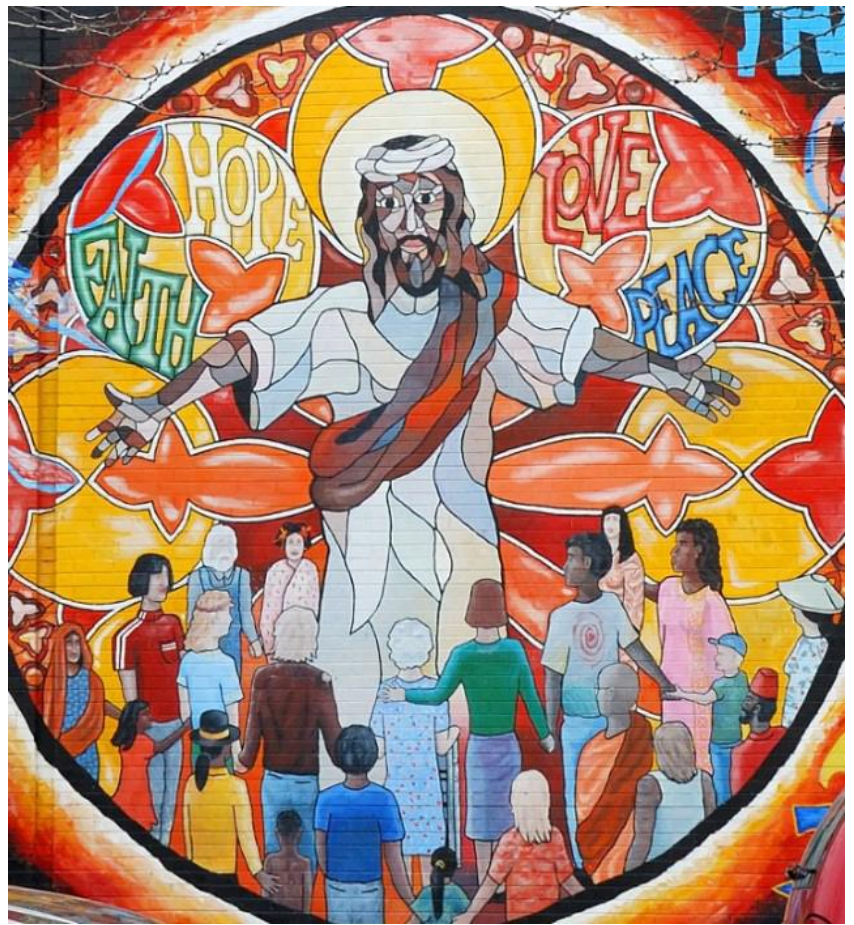
Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026, 10:30 am

Welcome to our worship and fellowship.

If you are visiting, please sign our guest
book, and we will pray for you.

** Stand, as you are able.*



PRELUDE

*WELCOME

Kevin Dupuis

Jeff White

**Let us build a house where
love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

(Words and music: Marty Haugen © 1994 by GIA Publications Inc.)

*CALL to Worship

leader & people

Come on! Let's Go! **Where are we going?**

To God's table of love! **What does it look like?**

Like a rainbow after a storm. Like a noon break and lunch with friends!

Like the moon rising and the sun setting and stars twinkling in the sky.

Like Nana's hands.

It looks like love! **What does it smell like?**

Like freshly baked bread and hot cookies! Like a field of wildflowers.

Like bubbles and pine needles. Like home.

It smells like love. **What does it sound like?**

Like a lullaby and laughter. Like the church choir singing.
 Like children playing and people praying. Like you and me. Just like this.
 It sounds like love. **What does it feel like?**
 Like a goodnight hug. Like saying sorry when you hurt someone.
 Like safe arms when you're scared or lonely or sad.
 Like sitting quietly with your a close friend. It feels like love.
 Come, beloved of God, **Let us gather at God's table of love!**

*HYMN

“We Are Pilgrims”

(Richard Gillard, 1977)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. We are pilgrims on a journey,
fellow travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.</p> <p>2. Sister, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.</p> <p>3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.</p> | <p>4. I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.</p> <p>5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.</p> <p>6. Brother, let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant too.</p> |
|---|--|

PRAYER of Invocation & the Lord's Prayer 629

(in unison)

PSALM 31:1-5 (Msg)

leader & people

I run to you, God; **I run for dear life.**
 Don't let me down! **Take me seriously this time!**
 Get down on my level and listen, **and please—no procrastination!**
 Your granite cave a hiding place, **your high cliff nest a place of safety.**
 You're my cave to hide in, **my cliff to climb.**
 Be my safe leader, **be my true mountain guide.**
 Free me from hidden traps; **I want to hide in you.**
 I've put my life in your hands. You won't drop me, **you'll never let me down.**

SONG

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy tried and true;
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you.**

(John W. Thompson & Randy Scruggs © 1982)

STORY TIME

(Children's activity sheets are available in the Foyer. There are also Classrooms upstairs.)

SONG

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary...

EPISTLE	1 Peter 2:2-10	Barbara Martin
PRAYERS for all		Jeff White
GOSPEL	John 14:1-14	Audrey Lewis-Patriquin
CHOIR	“Jesus, Son of God Most Holy”	
SERMON	“Do Greater Work”	Jeff White
SILENT Meditation		
OFFERING		
*RESPONSE	Praise God from whom all blessings flow.	(Fairhill)

**Praise Christ all creatures here below.
Praise Holy Spirit, evermore.
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

CELEBRATION of Ministry
PRAYERS for All

*HYMN 222 “From Every Race, from Every Clime” vs. 1-3 (Thomas B. McDormand b. 1904)

<p>1. From every race, from every clime Thy people gathered 'round The emblems of Thy grace sublime With gratitude abound.</p>	<p>2. Partaking of the bread, we know Our strength from Thee derives, And as we take the cup, we go To witness with our lives.</p>
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**3. Throughout the world Thy table's set,
Dear Lord, our Saviour, Guide,
In hope we know that we shall yet
In brotherhood abide.**

INVITATION to the Table
WORDS of Institution

CHORUS **Eat this bread, drink this cup; come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup; trust in me and you will not thirst.**

(Words: Robert J. Batastini and the Taizé Community 1982.
Music: Jacques Berthier 1982 © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, G.I.A. Publications Inc.)

PRAYER & SHARING of the Bread
PRAYER & SHARING of the CUP

PRAYER for Church Meetings (Dr. Lisa Waites, *A Liturgy for All Bodies*, 2022)

Gracious God, as we gather here to make decisions on behalf of this congregation, we ask you to guide us with the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.

**Help us to hear your voice and to respond faithfully;
purify our hearts and clarify our thoughts,
enabling us to make wise decisions that honour you and build your church.**

Faithful God, we pray for your guidance, and we commit to working together in unity of spirit during this meeting, building the bonds of peace given to us, in Christ.

**When the love we have for your church collides with the stark realities facing
our denomination, please strengthen us and give us the courage to respond
to pressing challenges with careful consideration, bold action,
and prodigal compassion.**

Nurture our faith, we pray! Stir up our creativity; help us to identify and implement new solutions to old problems, while keeping your timeless gospel priorities.

We pray and give, work and worship for your glory, and for the healing of this beautiful, broken world that you so deeply love, and long to make whole.

Redeeming God, we are your children, your friends, your body. We want to be good stewards, wisely managing the resources you've entrusted to our care.

We won't allow fear to rule us; we won't bury our "talent" in the ground.

Rekindle in us expectant hope, vibrant faith, and transformative love, in Christ, for your church.

Remind us that times of transition are not an automatic death sentence!

Times of great change offer tremendous opportunities.

Help us to let go of the "former things" graciously, and to embrace new ministry priorities courageously, responding as your disciples should, with a spirit of love, power, and with sound minds.

Generous God, we offer our neighbourhood your love and mercy, provision and peace; these are blessings that every human heart longs for.

Empower us to make hospitable decisions and to faithfully live out your call to equity and humility, love and justice in our time and place.

We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.

*HYMN 222

"From Every Race, from Every Clime" vs. 4

From north to south, from east to west

We gather to recall

In reverent memory Thy blest

Redemptive love for all.

BENEDICTION

*CHORAL Blessing

Go now in peace, never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast strong and true.

Know He 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.

(Nancy Price, Don Besig, © 1988 by Harold Flammer Music, a Division of Shawnee Press, Inc.)

POSTLUDE

[You may remain seated to hear the postlude music.]

Kevin Dupuis

(Music used with permission under ONE LICENSE # A-741093. All rights Reserved.)

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family of Marilyn Carter, who passed away last week.

The **May edition of The Reflector** is available now. Many of you received this in email. Some paper copies are also available here.

Baptist Association Service: Join us **TODAY, May 3 at 4:00 pm** here at **FBC** for a special time of worship. This is a meaningful opportunity to strengthen our fellowship and encourage one another in our shared ministry. A **potluck meal** will follow in the Christie Room. All are welcome!

Senior Minister Jeff will be on vacation for seven days, May 5-11. Sunday, May 10th, Minister Emeritus Byron will preach and lead us.

Schedule Sun., May 3 – Mon., May 11

Sun., 3	10:30 am	Worship Service
	12:00 pm	Annual Meeting
	4:00 pm	Assoc. Service
Mon., 4	10:00 am	Watercolour Class
	11:30 am	Prayer Time
	1:00 pm	Line Dancing
	4:00 pm	IODE
Tue., 5	12:00 pm	Bible Study
Wed., 6	4:00 pm	Board of CE
Thurs., 7	10:30 am	Tantramar Seniors College
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sun., 10	10:30 am	Worship Service

Offerings for Sunday, April 26

Envelopes	\$1,235.00
Plate	\$ 164.00
Choir Fund	\$ 6.00
Restoration	\$ 5.00
Benevolent	\$ 5.00
Easter	\$ 100.00
TOTAL	\$1,515.00

The graphic features a central cross with rays above the text "ANNUAL MEETING". Below this, a calendar icon with a checkmark is next to the text "TODAY AT 12:00 PM". To the right, the text reads "ANNUAL REPORT BOOKS & FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS (COLOURED PAGES) ARE AVAILABLE IN THE Vestry". The entire graphic is framed with a blue border and includes decorative elements like leaves and a small cross at the bottom center.