

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

**161st Anniversary Service
Reign of Christ Sunday
24th after Pentecost**

November 23, 2025 10:30 am

Prayers and songs in unison and people's responses are in **bold type**.

* Indicates to stand, if you are able

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY

We acknowledge that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional and unceded territory of the Abegweit Mi'kmaq First Nation.
May we seek reconciliation and may all live in peace and harmony on this land.

THE CHRIST CANDLE

May the light of Christ symbolized by this candle shine upon us and in us.
May the light we share brighten the world.

THE RAINBOW CANDLE:

In lighting this rainbow candle we proclaim that all people are worthy of dignity, safety and a place at the table.

THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

***GATHERING SONG VU 400** “Lord, Listen to Your
Children Praying”

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

(3X)

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

the board floor of a little church
on a country side road;

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

the fading carpet of a city church
dreaming of better days;

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

the cracked linoleum in the Gospel Hall
down the street;

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

the prayer mat of the faithful
in the mosque behind the store;

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

the red clay of the cemetery
where loved ones lie buried;

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

the rolling green of an ancient battlefield,
quiet in the remembrance of heroism and horror.

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

it is not so much different from any other ground,
really; and yet, it is like no other ground.

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

set apart, made sacred, consecrated
by memory and yearning.

Holy ground, hallowed ground:

the place of mysterious presence;
the place of unexpected meeting.
Holy ground, hallowed ground:
not so different from any other ground really,
and yet, the place where we long to stand.
Holy ground, hallowed ground.

***OPENING HYMN MV 42** "Praise God for This Holy
Ground"

OPENING PRAYER:

God, on Anniversary Sunday
we pause to reflect that this church
is not merely an old building,
a collection of stained glass windows
and some hardwood pews.
It is a living community of faith
whose people have celebrated
and grieved together,
have often failed in their discipleship
and sometimes gotten it just right.
Within these walls have gathered
movers and shakers,
people of substance in their own
and others' estimation.
Within these walls have gathered
quiet saints, embarrassed by recognition,
yet tireless in their devotion.
Within these walls have gathered
generations of the faithful,
debtors of grace, one and all.
God, we thank you for this place
and these people. We thank you
for the privilege of being part of this story.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

STORY FOR ALL AGES:

CHOIR: O Christ, the great Foundation - Williams

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God, we want to live by your words of life,
to trust in your promises,
but we are often seduced by the siren song
which says that we can live by bread alone.
We listen to the voices that tell us
we need nothing except a credit card
with a high limit and a shopping mall
spread before us.
We feast on emptiness
and wonder why we are not satisfied.
God, forgive us.
Teach us how to find in you
the life that is full and deep and true.
Give us courage for the long haul
and hope that will shelter us from despair.
Make us disciples who do not turn back.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENCE

KYRIE ELEISON: *Lord, have mercy upon us.*
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

To all who turn from sin in sorrow,
to all who turn to God in hope,
this God's word of grace:
we are accepted, we are forgiven,

we are loved. This gift we have
from God.

Thanks be to God.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

***PSALM 84 VU p. 800**

EPISTLE: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6, 14-27 **Reader:**

Rev. Doreen Bird-Daley

May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: St. Matthew 10:1-8

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Glory be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON: The Church-Whose Idea Was That?

***HYMN VU 602 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

OFFERTORY CALL

***OFFERTORY HYMN VU 541 "Praise God....."**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit One.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

That the work of your church in this place
may continue to thrive
and be a blessing to many,
we offer these gifts, O God, in Jesus' name.

Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN VU 332** “The Church’s One Foundation”

***SENDING FORTH AND BENEDICTION**

***DISMISSAL HYMN More Voices 209** “Go, Make a Difference
(chorus only)

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.

Go make a difference in the world.

Go make a difference. We can make a difference.

Go make a difference in the world. (3X)

Minister: Rev. Dr. John Moses

Candidates for Ministry: Ellen Locke and Corina Anderson

Music Director: Donald Fraser

Office Administrator: Rev. Doreen Bird-Daley

Custodian: Andy Gagnon

Web Page: www.trinityclifton.org

Email: trinitycliftonunitedchurch@gmail.com

Phone: 902-892-4114 **Office Hours:** Mon – Fri: 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Announcements

Trinity-Clifton Vision Statement: *We are a joyful, welcoming, inclusive Christ-centered community of faith, reaching out to others, providing a safe space where we respect differences. We learn from the past and dare to change.*

The Bulletin today is in loving memory of Leonard and Ethel Bowman from Austin Bowman and family.

The Clifton United Church is holding its special Christmas Service on December 7th at 7 p.m. – All are welcome!

The next UCW meeting is a Pot Luck gathering at the Manse at 11 a.m. on December 1, 2025. Guest speaker is Ellen Locke and Corina Anderson.

Next Chair Yoga with Melanie Fraser is tomorrow, November 24th – in the Chapel at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$10.

Noon hour Bible Study will be held this Tuesday, November 25th. All are welcome. We will be continuing our study of the Book of Genesis.

Just wondering if anyone in the congregation has a nativity scene they would be willing to lend to the church. Our plan is to place them around the church sanctuary. Please be assured we will take good care of your nativity scene while in our care!

We have a limited number of the 2026 United Church Calendars for sale at a cost of \$12.00. Contact the Church Office if interested in purchasing one.

The Outreach & Service Committee is collecting winter coats for Outreach Centre. Please drop off any gently used coats at the Church Office.

Turkey Dinner Fundraiser for Upper Room Food Bank - Saturday, December 6 -Pick Up at Sydney St. Entrance 4:30-5:30 pm. Menu: roast turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, turnip, peas, carrots and a roll. Cake for dessert. Tickets \$20. Phone: 902-892-4114 email:trinitycliftonunitedchurch@gmail.com. Linda Dunning will be selling tickets after church today in the Gym. All proceeds will go to the Upper Room Food Bank

Your pictures you ordered when Universal Portraits were here at Trinity are now available. Come to see Doreen in the Library after church today to pick up your photos.

Greeters for the month of November: Heather Diamond, David Larter, Maureen Larter, Bruce Fitchett.

Those celebrating a birthday this coming week: Dorothy Murray (today), Phil Floyd (Nov. 24th), Muriel Bennett (Nov. 28th).

Scripture Readings November 30th, 2025:

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalms 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

Spring Park United Church Event:

Friday, November 28th at 7 p.m.

Come and join us as we fill the sanctuary with a great evening of Christmas music as we welcome the Former Blue Crystals, Praise Be, and the We 3 Band. Tickets are \$15.00/person, and you can pick them up at the church office or at the door the evening of the event.

ONLINE FALL AUCTION – We're pleased to announce another exciting venture for Park Royal Church – We'll be hosting our third online auction from November 14 – November 24. Auction items range from gift cards for food, gas, golf etc, coffee parties, Christmas gifts, movies, Fall Décor items, painting, dog walking, baked goods, new handcrafted items, dinner parties, theatre tickets, yoga classes, Islanders tickets, hair dressing, new handcrafted items, car cleaning/detailing, the list is endless!! The auction site will go live at 8:00 AM on November 14 at which time you may join the group at 'Park Royal United Church Online Fall Auction 2025' and start your bidding. An ideal opportunity to

do some early Christmas shopping. Auction closes at 8:00 PM on November 24. Pickup of items for successful bidders will be on Saturday, November 29 from 10:00 – 12:00.