

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

PENTECOST 16 – CREATION 1

Order of Service

Sunday, September 13 10:30 a.m.

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

WELCOME

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:

In the beginning there was the Word;
the Word was in God's presence,
and the Word was God.
Through the Word all things came into being...

**In the Word was life, and that life
was humanity's light—
a Light that shines in the darkness,
a Light that the darkness has never overtaken.**
(John 1: 1, 3a, 4-5)

THE RAINBOW CANDLE:

God did not create the humankind in monochrome.
There is a dazzling kaleidoscope of colours,
shapes, personalities and ways of loving,
a diversity that blesses us all.

**We light this rainbow candle as a sign
of our ongoing work to become
a welcoming and inclusive community.**

THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

GATHERING SONG MV 92 "Like a Rock"

**Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.
Like the starry night sky God is over our head.
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in
God evermore. (3X)**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

We gather in on this September morning:
**the warmth returning after the night's chill;
in the countryside, the fields ready for harvest;
in town and country, the trees
about to put on their autumn glory.**

We gather with God's people:
**familiar faces, mostly, and familiar stories,
and yet, always the mystery
of the unknown and the unknowable
—in others, in ourselves.**

We gather surrounded by God's gifts:
**the Creation that sustains us, the people
who love us and annoy us and challenge us
and forgive us.**

We gather in God's presence.
**Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me
bless God's holy name! (Ps.103:1)**

***OPENING HYMN MV 135** "Called by Earth and Sky"

OPENING PRAYER:

**Eternal Welcomer,
throw your arms around us
and pull us close to your heart.
It is in the strong embrace of your love
that we find our true selves:
flawed but not forsaken,
broken but not cast away,
always missing the good path
yet still homeward bound.
It is in the embrace of your strong love
that we truly see our sisters and brothers:
people to be loved, not judged,
trying to do what is right but sometimes
making a great mess of everything,
more like us than we care to admit,
our companions for the journey.
Eternal Welcomer,
throw your arms around us
and pull us close to your heart.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

STORY FOR ALL AGES

CHOIR:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

**God, Jesus warned us not to judge
but we are eager to judge and to put down.**

**Jesus told us not to seek revenge
but we are always looking to settle the score.
Jesus told us to feed the hungry,
shelter the homeless, welcome the stranger,
tend the sick, visit the imprisoned
but we would rather not.
What is forbidden to us we gladly do.
What is asked of us,
we politely—or not so politely—decline.
Were it not that Jesus gave himself for us,
we would have no place to stand before you.
For Jesus' sake, hear our prayer
and forgive us. Amen.**

SILENCE

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

WORDS OF ASSURANCE:

Where we see no path, God makes a way.
When we can't carry the load anymore,
Jesus carries it for us.
In the deepest darkness God's light
beckons us onward.
Thanks be to God.

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

OLD TESTAMENT: Exodus 14:19-31 Reader: Luke Doiron
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SONG OF THE SEA VU p.876

EPISTLE: Romans 14:1-12 Reader: Luke Doiron
The word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: St. Matthew 18:21-25 Reader: Luke Doiron
This is the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Glory be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON: Never to Ourselves

***HYMN VU 581** "When We Are Living"

OFFERTORY CALL

OFFERTORY HYMN MV 191 "What Can I Do?"

*What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share. (2X)*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

God, we cannot repay our debt to you.
Therefore, we come in gratitude
to make a gift of love.
May what we share touch many lives;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN VU 288 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

SENDING FORTH AND BENEDICTION

***DISMISSAL HYMN VU 424 "May the God of Hope Go
with Us" v.1**

*1 May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace,
singing, share our joy with all,
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.*

POSTLUDE

Minister: Rev. Dr. John Moses

Candidates for Ministry: Ellen Locke
and Corina Anderson

Music Director: Donald Fraser

Office Administrator: Traci Birt

Custodian: Andy Gagnon

Sunday Custodian: Seamus Murphy

Web Page: www.trinityclifton.ca

Email: trinitycliftonunitedchurch@gmail.com

Phone: 902-892-4114

Office Hours: Mon.- Fri. 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 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.*

You're invited to an afternoon with the Moderator of the United Church. The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath will be speaking on the afternoon of Friday, September 11, 2026. We will start gathering at 1:30 p.m. The event will begin at 2 p.m. and will end with a reception at 3:30 p.m. The location will be Central Queens United Church, 19848 Route 2, Hunter River. This is an open invitation, please spread the word. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Bigsby at kathryn_bigsby@hotmail.com

Sunday School Classes will be starting back up on September 13. A community barbeque will follow, weather depending. The menu is hotdogs, corn on the cob, sweets/ice cream.

The UCW will be meeting, Monday, September 14 in the chapel at 1:30.

Noon hour Bible study will begin on Tuesday, September 15.

We will be continuing with the Gospel of Luke. New participants welcome.

The Men's Club will be holding a Pancake Breakfast

on Saturday, September 26, from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.

Single ticket \$10 each or \$15 per family.

On Tuesday, September 29, the eve of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, we will be showing the movie **Indian Horse** in the church parlour at **7:00 pm**. Admission will be free with a discussion to follow. The film centres on Saul Indian Horse, a young Canadian First Nations boy who survives Canada's Indian residential school system to become a star ice hockey player.

The film stars Sladen Peltier as Saul at age 6, Forrest Goodluck as Saul at age 15, and Ajuawak Kapashesit as Saul at age 22; along with supporting roles by Edna Manitowabi, Evan Adams, Michiel Huisman, Michael Murphy, and Martin Donovan.

The first Dinner and Speaker Event will be on Tuesday, October 6, 5:30 pm, Trinity gym. The speaker will be **Cadrea Davis**, executive director of the Charlottetown Voluntary Resource Centre. Pay what you can for the meal. Menu: sweet and sour meatballs, rice, carrots and peas, salad; cake and ice cream for dessert. Tea and Coffee. No need to sign up in advance. Just show up.

Our Fall Roast Beef Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 4:30-5:30PM. Menu includes roast beef, potatoes, turnips, carrots, peas, gravy, a roll and delicious cake. Tickets are \$25. (902)892-4114

Anyone interested in Youth Confirmation/Membership Classes, please contact Rev. John Moses at jwmoses51@gmail.com or 902-691-3288. Ages 13 and up.

Anyone interested in Adult Confirmation/Membership Classes, please contact Rev. John Moses at jwmoses51@gmail.com or 902-691-3288.

Trinity United Church's historic sanctuary will be open for viewing in **September and October, Monday to Saturday**, from 10 am to 2 pm. Volunteers will be present to welcome cruise ship passengers and visiting tourists. We now have a tap option for donations, as well as other resources, such as an audiotape prepared by our summer student tour guide. These added tools will ensure a more meaningful experience for all.

In addition to walk-in visitors, Experience PEI has booked many tours in conjunction to their Charlottetown Churches Walking Tours, with visits at scheduled times. We welcome the return of these group tours now that the Prince Street doors are, once again, open. A very big **thank you to everyone** who has agreed to help with this initiative.

Gift cards for many retailers are available for purchase every Sunday after church beside the elevator. A complete list can be found on the website.

Hospital Visits

If you have a family member from Trinity-Clifton in hospital, please notify the church office. Rev. John Moses visits the hospital weekly and would appreciate knowing this information

Have you recently moved or changed your phone number from a land line to a cell phone? Please advise the church office so we can update our records.

The choir is encouraging and welcoming new members to come join them for another season of great music for worship.

Rehearsals go every Wednesday evening, 6:30-8:00 pm, with a warm-up rehearsal on Sunday mornings, 9:45 am. Plan on joining this year. It's a wonderful group!

Other Ways of Giving

Trinity Clifton has collaborated with Canada Helps with a new way to donate online. Scanning this QR code with your phone's camera will take you to our giving page.

There is a button labelled CanadaHelps.org, and then it takes you to a donation page for Trinity.

Enter your info and the donation is made. Tax receipts can be provided. It's a new way for those not using envelopes or PAR.

Feel free to share this with visitors and friends.

Thank you from all of us.



If you prefer e-Transfer, please send your donation to trinitycliftonunitedchurch@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name and, if you are not a member of the congregation, your mailing address so we can send you a tax receipt.

If you are a frequent visitor to Trinity-Clifton and are not set up on PAR or do not have envelopes, we suggest you contact the office (902-892-4114) to be set up so you can take advantage of any tax benefit by receiving a Charitable Tax Receipt for your donations.

Scripture Readings for Sunday, September 20th, 2026:

Exodus 16: 2-15

Psalms 105: 1-6, 37-45

Philippians 1: 21-30

Matthew 20: 1-16

The Peace of Wild Things

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

—Wendell Berry