**Bridgewater United Church**

**April 9th, 2023 Easter/Resurrection Sunday**

**Minister:** *Reverend Neil McEwen* **Music Ministry Director:** *Barbara Pate*

**Guest Minister:** *Reverend Dr. Wayne Smith* **Presider:** *Audrey Wamboldt*

**Greeter:** *Marion Demond* **Greeter:** *Yvonne Hirtle*

**Audio Visual Technician:** *David Moran* **Sound Engineer:** *Shelley Moran*

*The asterisk (\*) indicates the congregation may stand, as they are able.*

*The print in* ***BOLD*** *is where the congregation participates.*

Prelude

**\*Hymn:** **# 155 VU – Jesus Christ Is Risen Today**

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Chorus: B-United**

Lighting of the Christ and Inclusivity Candles

**Call to Worship:**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Christ is Risen!

**Christ is Risen indeed!**

Darkness has been vanquished!

**The brilliant light of hope has come!**

Let us celebrate this Good News. Christ is Risen!

**Christ is Risen! Indeed!**

Amen,

**and again, we say, Amen!**

**Chorus:** **# 166 VU – Joy Comes with the Dawn (Chorus) (x2)**

Opening Prayer

Your Generosity Matters: Moderator Carmen Lansdowne Easter Message

Offering our Thanks

**Offertory Response: # 121 MV – Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah! (Chorus)**

Time with Children: The Easter Present

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

**Hymn: # 159 VU – The Strife Is O’er**

Scripture Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:34-43

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:50-56

**Responsive Reading:** Psalm 25 – page 752 VU – Refrain 2

Scripture Reading: Gospel of St. John 20:11-18

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

Message: Easter’s Challenge

Reflective Meditation

Sacrament Of Holy Communion *(found on green insert)*

*We are invited to come forward (centre aisle) to receive individually prepared Bread and Grapes. Return to your seats (Side Aisles) and we will consume together as one Community of Faith unified by the blessing of the Spirit throughout our Easter journey.*

Prayers of the Community

**\*Hymn: # 121 MV – Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah!**

Extinguishing The Candles

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude



***CCLI No., 11287624, 20371363***



***The church bulletins are presented to the glory of God,***

***and in loving memory of parents, Ethel and Vincent “Pat” Veinotte***

***and brother, David, gift of Dawn, Brian, Todd, Jayne and Sophie.***

**Bridgewater United Church**

**Wants To Stay In Touch With You!**

1. Please pass along your email to the Church Office at [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca), so that you can be added to congregational emails regarding events, services, and storm closures.

2. Check out our website at [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca) for information about our Church, event calendar, worship services and so much more.

3. The Church Office wants to remind members of the congregation, if the worship service is cancelled, an announcement will be placed on CKBW (98.1 FM), the church’s website at [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca), Facebook and the church voicemail stating the cancellation by 9:00am on Sunday morning.

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**Vision Statement**

As followers of Jesus Christ, Bridgewater United Church is a church family that values each person as equal and unique loving expressions of God with gifts and talents to share. People of all ages, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, differing abilities, ethnic background, economic circumstance, and those experiencing other barriers that limit inclusion are welcome to fully participate in all our ministries.

**Mission Statement**

To create a vibrant community of followers of Jesus where everyone deeply knows they belong, are cared for, can grow spiritually and actively demonstrate our love in the world and towards one another.

**Core Values**

We value energetic engagement in our:

Spiritual Health

Generosity

Acceptance of all

Responsiveness to the world

Love for God, creation, self, and others

**#APlaceWhereEveryoneBelongs**

**#ChooseLove**

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87 Hillcrest Street, Bridgewater, NS, B4V 1T2

Church Office Phone: (902) 543-4833

Minister’s and Pastoral Care Private Church Phone: (902) 543-6854

Reverend Neil McEwen[westsideunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:westsideunitedchurch@gmail.com) (902) 523-5687

Barbara Pate [music@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:music@bridgewaterunited.ca) (902) 830-0708

Church Office E-mail:  [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:buc@tallships.ca) Website:  [www.bridgewaterunited.ca](http://www.bridgewaterunited.ca/)

Church Office Hours ~ Tuesday to Friday ~ 10:00am – 12:30pm

Be sure to like and share our Facebook and YouTube page!

Our Church is a **Nut-Free and Scent-Free Church**

Breathe, O God, your Holy Spirit,

upon our dry bones and upon these gifts,

that all who share in this bread and cup,

may be the body of Christ:

alive, a light and a love in the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory is yours, God most holy,

now and forever.

And let the disciples say, “Amen!”

**Amen.**

Let the disciples sing, “Amen!”

**Amen!**

Let the disciples shout, “Amen!”

**AMEN!**

**Breaking And Pouring**

**Hymn: # 466 VU – Eat This Bread**

The bread which we break,

**is our communion in the body of Christ.**

The cup of blessing which we bless,

**is our communion in the blood of Christ**.

Come and eat, for all is now ready.

**Prayer After Communion**

**For what we have eaten,**

**for what we have sipped,**

**for what we have received—**

**bread, wine, and life—**

**thank you, God!**

**May this moment fill us and change us.**

**May this moment fill and change your world.**

**In Christ’s name. Amen.**

**\*Communion Liturgy written by *Richard Bott (Gathering Worship, 2020)***



Sacrament

of

Holy Communion

*Participation in the Sacrament of Communion is for all*

*regardless of age, ability, gender identity or faith tradition.*

*This is a place of inclusion, openness and love where all are truly welcome.*

*We also have individually prepared elements,*

*(bread/crackers (gluten-free) and grapes) at the front for you,*

*to come forward during the service to receive them, return to your seat*

*and then we will partake of the elements as one community.*

**

**Service Of Holy Communion**

**Invitation**

God is with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift our hearts to God.**

Let us give thanks to God, our God.

**We give God our thanks and praise!**

We give you thanks and praise,

God of all creation.

**Thanksgiving**

You brought all things into being,

with the breath of the Spirit,

who flew over the waters of chaos,

and brought order: light, water, earth, plants, animals, and humankind!

**And you declared it was good. Very good.**

You gave things new life,

with the breath of the Spirit:

the dry bones in the desert,

the little girl, dead, on her bed,

Lazarus, who had been sealed up in his tomb,

for three days!

Whenever we turned away from you,

whenever we forgot who you were,

whenever we forgot who we were,

you breathed your love into us,

and called us back to you,

again and again and again!

**And you declare it is good. Very good.**

When the time was right,

you sent Jesus, the One,

born like us, to be one with us,

to save us from ourselves.

Born like us, to teach us,

with his words and his actions,

his life and his death,

that your love can overcome,

all wrong, all loss, all brokenness.

So, with all of creation, we shout our praise…

**Holy, holy, holy, God,**

**Creator of all that is,**

**everything shouts, “Thank you!”**

**Everything sings, “Thank you!”**

**Everything lives, “Thank you, loving God!”**

**Remembering**

On the night before Jesus was taken away,

to his death,

he gathered with his disciples,

(whom he called friends).

He gathered with people just like us.

He took bread from the table,

and after giving thanks to you,

he broke it and gave it to those around him, saying,

“Take this and eat it.

This is my body given for you.

Each time you eat this, remember me.”

In the same way, he took a cup, saying,

“This cup is my promise in my life’s blood,

poured out for forgiveness of sins.

Each time you drink this, remember me.”…

**Blessed is the Holy One of Israel!**

**We eat. We drink. We remember.**

**And it is good. Very good!**

**Transforming**

Creator, Christ, and Spirit,

three-in-one and one-in-three,

unite us in this promise,

unite us as disciples,

unite us through the bread and the cup.

**In that unity, we give ourselves to you,**

**committed to your service,**

**for all your creation.**

So may our life and our breath,

proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again**.

**Coffee, Tea and Fellowship in the Chapel**

Join us every Tuesday and Wednesday, from 10:00am - 12:00pm, for Coffee, Games, Fellowship and Fun in our Chapel. Tables have been set up for you to gather with your friends to play a game, knit, do a craft, or just have coffee. See you there!

**Church Office Closed**

The Minister’s Office and Church Office will be closed for vacation on April 10th and 11th. For Pastoral Care Concerns, you may reach our Pastoral Care Ministry by phoning (902) 543-4833. Emails and Voice Messages will be checked on April 12th.

**B-United Youth Group**

All youth in Grade 6 to Grade 12 are asked to join us for a Movie Night and Popcorn on Friday April 21st from 6:30pm-9:00pm. Use the entrance by the Church Office.

**Ways and Means Ministry Grocery Card Fundraiser**

The Ways and Means Ministry Grocery Card Fundraiser will be held on April 23rd. Cash or cheques are welcomed, (cheques made payable to Bridgewater United Church,) with both Sobeys and Loblaws/Superstore grocery cards available. Gift Cards of $50, $100 and $200 denominations. Participate in the Grocery Card Fundraising Program and benefit the work of Bridgewater United. Every purchase adds to the total volume. Submit your payment with the order form by April 23rd.

**3rd Bridgewater Scouts Seed Fundraiser**

3rd Bridgewater Scouts are participating in the 2023 Scout Seeds Fundraiser until April 30th with proceeds going to support their ongoing activities. They are selling multiple flower, herb and vegetable seed collections ranging in price from $10 to $20. Each collection contains 5-10 seed packages. If you have any questions, please contact Tobias Benne at tobi.565@gmail.com or call (902) 685-2798. Thank you.

**Multi-Generational Caring Workshop**

Join us on Saturday, April 29th from 10:00am – 3:00pm at Bridgewater United for a Caring For You - Caring For Me - Caring for Our Church - Caring for the Wider Community Multi-Generational Workshop. $15. Lunch, Drama Presentation, Meditation and Music. To register, please contact Cindy at (902) 656-2793 or scembree@auracom.com or Marg at (902) 543-2495 or [raforbes@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:raforbes@ns.sympatico.ca).

**Community Kitchen Party**

South Shore Refugee Project welcomes you to a Community Kitchen Party at St. Joseph’s Church Hall; 123 Pleasant Street on Sunday, May 7th from 3:00pm - 7:00pm. Come and enjoy live music, a meal, drinks and desserts and time with friends and neighbours. All proceeds go towards sponsoring a refugee family of five to the South Shore. Entry by donation, meal $10/person or $25/family (cash only). We are also seeking help with home-baked squares, contact Claire Wayne at (519) 400-9049, cans of kidney beans, chopped tomatoes and tomato sauce, contact Anna Garland at (902) 634-3032 and volunteers, contact Lydia Skoreyko at (902) 521-1363 or [southshorerefugeeproject@gmail.com](mailto:southshorerefugeeproject@gmail.com). Should you have any questions, feel free to ask Judy Schmidbauer, after a church service or at judyrod@eastlink.ca. Thank you!

***Easter Flowers have been placed in the Sanctuary, in loving memory of:***

*My parents, Clifford and Lorna Blades, gift of daughter, Diane Patten.*

**Guest Minister: Reverend Dr. Wayne Smith**

Wayne is the product of a former one-room Methodist church within the United Church, located on the corner of his parents' pig and cattle farm near Chatham, ON (almost at the 'bottom end' of the Hwy 401). He is an alumni of both Presbyterian and United Theological colleges in Montreal. After a career as a journalist and editor, his first Ordained pastoral charge was in Pictou County. He served as a part-time military chaplain in Truro, Montreal and Halifax, then accepted a full-time contract as military teacher and staff officer at the Canadian Forces Chaplains School and the former Canadian Naval Reserve school, CFB Borden, Ont. He joined the ministry of the United Church in 2009. He has served as Transitional Specialist and Interim Minister in the former presbyteries of Simcoe, Toronto South, Montreal, Valley; later Called to a two-point charge in Moncton, N.B. He retired this January from William Black Memorial United, Glen Margaret. His retirement projects include Secretary of the Association of United Church Clergy, Program Director at the FM/online community broadcaster QCCR in Liverpool, and co-Chaplain with his wife, The Rev Carol Smith, with the North Queens Fire Association, Caledonia. This year, Carol and Wayne are celebrating 20 years of calling Port Mouton their home.

**Masks No Longer Required**

Physical distancing is still recommended and when this is not possible, the use of a mask is encouraged. Remember to be kind, understanding and respectful of all.

**Worship at Bridgewater United**

We are truly blessed to have reflections each week at B-United. Check out April!

April 16th (10:30am) – Reverend Neil McEwen

April 23rd (10:30am) – Reverend Vivian Moores

April 30th (10:30am) – Bridgewater United at West Side United

**B-United Supports Our Local Food Bank**

Monetary donations and donations of non-perishable food items are always appreciated throughout the month. For April, there is a request for Canned Fruit, Elbow Macaroni, Pudding, Instant Oatmeal and Cereal. Be mindful of expiration.

**Send A Kid To Camp**

Wouldn’t it be wonderful if every child could have an opportunity to go to a United Church Camp? Kids need camp more today than ever before. It's a place for kids to be themselves, to learn new skills, unplug, develop independence and meet friends. To attend a week of camp, it costs $415.00. Please consider donating to “Send a Child to Camp,” as all funds raised will help youth of B-United attend camp this summer.

**Minute for Mindfulness**

*“We need diversity of thought in the world to face the new challenges.”*

*~ Tim Berners-Lee*

***“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”***

***~ Matthew 6:21***

Prayerfully decide what you will give each year to your Church and divide that amount by twelve. Contributions help our Church’s Ministry, with a dependable flow of contributions, to increase our overall financial stability. Church envelopes allow your Church Givings to be tallied into a year-end income tax receipt. Your regular givings supports the local ministry of our congregation. With a Church Envelope you can designate where you would like your givings to be distributed.

**Local Expenses Designation** helps with the overall daily upkeep of the building, such as electricity, heating costs, insurance, as well as personnel expenses.

**Mission and Service Designation** is forwarded to The United Church of Canada to be deposited to their Mission and Service Fund which is used for many wonderful Outreach aspects that The United Church of Canada is a part of such as helping people overcome poverty, train new ministers and Mission and Service Gifts support vibrant and vital ministries for the healing of the world.

**Building Fund Designation** helps with repairs/upgrades that need to be undertaken by B-United, to make sure our building is safe for all that use it.

**Food Bank Designation** helps The Bridgewater Inter-Church Food Bank, which provides help to those who are in need. We encourage our members to bring in non-perishable food bank items to be placed in Brother Lawrence’s Wheelbarrow in the Narthex throughout the month or you can place a monetary donation in the Offering Plate. This can be specified on your Church Envelope indicating the designation.

**PAR** is a monthly pre-authorized bank withdrawal by Bridgewater United Church directly, that can be increased or decreased five business days before the end of the month. PAR is not only convenient, but it ensures regular monthly givings to help your Church’s Ministry even when you are away.

**Sunday School Local Designation** helps with obtaining supplies for weekly curriculum, snack items, yearly curriculum lessons and events the youth will be taking part in and much more. It provides for the daily upkeep of Sunday School events.

**Sunday School Mission and Service Designation** is forwarded to The United Church of Canada to be deposited to their Mission and Service Fund which is used for many wonderful Outreach aspects of The United Church of Canada.

**e-Transfers** are now accepted by Bridgewater United Church. Add [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca) as a payee, and you can submit your donation that way.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Tracy Rafuse, Envelope Steward, at (902) 543-4833 or by email at [info@bridgewaterunited.ca](mailto:info@bridgewaterunited.ca). Thank you.

*We are now given an opportunity to be a blessing to others. Through our PAR commitments, through our money, and through our time and talents, we now return to God, so that we might be a part of God’s Love and God’s Mission.*

**B-United PAR Authorization Form**

**(Pre-Authorized Remittance)**

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**B-United PAR Authorization**

Donor Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Gift Amount: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My Monthly Gift of $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ will be designated to benefit monthly:

*(Please specify amounts designated to which Church Fund)*

Local: $\_\_\_\_ Mission and Service: $\_\_\_\_ Building $\_\_\_\_ Food Bank: $\_\_\_\_

I/we authorize, Bridgewater United Church, to debit my/our bank account on one of the following dates, 1st, 20th, or Month-End of every month, starting on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_.

I/we may change the amount of my/our contribution five days before month-end, by contacting the Envelope Steward with this adjustment. I/we have certain recourse rights if any debit does not comply with this agreement. I/we waive my right to receive pre-notification of the amount of pre-authorized remittance (PAR) and agree that I do not require advance notice of the amount of PAR before the debit is processed monthly.

I/we acknowledge that I/we have read and understood all the provisions contained in the terms and conditions of the pre-authorized payment authorization and that I/we have received a copy.

Please attach a **VOID** cheque.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_