

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia
February 15th, 2026 – Transfiguration Sunday

Minister: Rev. Daniel MacDonald

Minister of Music: John Scott

Lay Reader: Anne Tipler

Greeters: Ivan & Sherrie Carey

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VU: Voices United (red book)

MV: More Voices (spiral-bound book)

We welcome and celebrate human diversity - including spirituality, ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation. Here, people of any faith or none can question and discover the sacred in life through openness, struggle, laughter, prayer and music.

Prelude

Gathering Music: “*Welcome Into This Place*”

Music score for "Welcome Into This Place" in 4/4 time, G clef, with lyrics in four staves:

- Staff 1: Wel - come in - to this place. Wel - come in - to this
- Staff 2: bro - ken ves - sel. You de - sire to a - bide in the
- Staff 3: prais-es of Your peo - ple, so we lift our hands and we
- Staff 4: lift our hearts, as we of - fer up this praise un - to Your name.

Words & Music
Orlando Juarez

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship:

Moses went up the mountain
and his experience with the Divine left his face shining.
Jesus' encounter left him dazzling and radiant.
We too come to be dazzled. To be transformed. To be transfigured.
To have an experience that will change us.
Moved by the Spirit, we long to help transfigure this world.
May what we do here this morning
so captivate, transform and inspire us
that we go back out into the world
shining with joy, buoyed by hope, radiating love,
and eager to be agents of transfiguration.
Come, let's encounter God together.

Hymn: *"How Firm A Foundation"*

VU #660

Words of Welcome and Acknowledgement of Land

Prayer for Renewal:

Spirit who brought forth order out of chaos,
Christ of the empty tomb,
Holy One at work through story and song,
through hearts and minds and communities,
Transfigure us...
Transform us...
Reshape us...
Speak to us in new ways and places,
through new people and experiences,
that we might find in you and one another
the strength, the courage, the drive,
the tenderness, the hope, the love,
the healing, the comfort, the grace we need
to transfigure this world together.
Eager for your transforming power,
we share now honestly what needs transformation
in our lives and our world...

A Time for Silent Reflection and Prayer

Words of Assurance

Hymn:

“Bathe Me In Your Light”

MV #82

Scripture Readings:

Epistle: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Hymn: *“Amen Siakudumisa (Amen, We Praise Your Name O Lord)”*

Xhosa pronunciation
A-men see-ah-koo-doo-mee-sah
A-men, bah-woh (amen, father)

Stephen Cuthbert Molefe

A - men, we praise your name, O God!
A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa!

A - men, we praise your name, O God!
A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa!

A - men, a - men.
A - men, ba - wo.

A - men, we praise your name, O God!
A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa!

Sermon

Hymn:

“Steal Away”

Refrain

Steal a-way, steal a-way, steal a-way to Je-sus!

Steal a-way, steal a-way home; I ain't got long to stay here.

1 My Lord, he calls me; he calls me by the thun-der. The
2 Green trees are bend-ing; poor sin-ners stand a trem-blung. The
3 My Lord, he calls me; he calls me by the light-ning. The

trumpet sounds with-in my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.
trumpet sounds with-in my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.
trumpet sounds with-in my soul; I ain't got long to stay here.

Glory to God 358

TEXT: African American spiritual

MUSIC (STEAL AWAY 5.7.8.7 with refrain): African American spiritual

We Celebrate the Life and Work of our Community

We Share Our Offerings

Offertory Hymn: "From You I Receive"

Joseph and Nathan Segel

From you I re - ceive, to you I give, to -
geth-er we share, and from this we live.

Dedication of Our Gifts:

Moved by the Spirit,
we bring our offerings this week.

Blessed by the Spirit,
may they be a blessing to this world.

Carried by the Spirit,
may they find their way to the places they are needed most.

Transformed by the Spirit,
may they become the beginnings of real transformation
in our community and world.

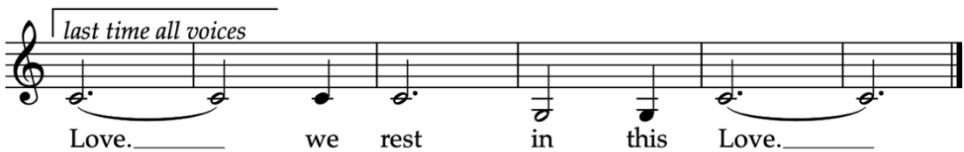
May it be so. Amen.

Sung Invitation to Prayer - "There Is A Love"

1 There is a Love hold - ing me. There is a
There is a Love hold - ing us. There is a

2 Love hold-ing all that I love. There is a Love
Love hold-ing all the we love. There is a Love

3 repeat in canon
hold - ing all. I rest in this Love.
hold - ing all. We rest in this Love.



Elizabeth Norton

Prayers of the People The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: “*Thuma Mina / Send Me Jesus*”

Leader Send me, Lord.

All Send me Je - sus, send me Je - sus, send me, (2. Lead me) Je - sus, lead me, Je - sus, lead me, (3. I will) go, Lord, I will go, Lord, in your

Leader Lead me, Lord

Je - sus, send me, Lord. 2. Lead me
Je - sus, lead me, Lord. 3. I will name, Lord, I will go.

Commissioning and Benediction

Postlude

BACK “WORDS” #15 CYC INTERIOR

By Brian Jobb

The following two excerpts are taken from the “Report of the Christian Youth Centre Project/Jane Gibson/Vice - Chairman/1974 Annual Report.”

With the completion of the building comes the need for vision in equipping the interior so that the CYC can function to its full extent in the coming years. A Planning Committee has been formed within the UCW for the purpose of coordinating interior décor as funds become available.

Under the direction of the Property Committee Mr. Fred Anderson has donated time and talent in providing suitable and attractive cabinets for the Secretary’s and Superintendent’s offices. Our faithful Sunday School teachers are promoting projects to raise funds for bulletin and blackboards so that student achievements can be readily displayed.

AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Strength in Unity: Moving Forward with Purpose, Prosperity, Power, and Progress

Dr. Mayann Francis



Dr. Mayann Elizabeth Francis, public servant, human rights specialist, Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, one of 7 children of an archpriest of the African Orthodox Church, grew up in Whitney Pier, a multicultural and working-class district of Sydney, Nova Scotia.

As a Black woman, Francis was aware of inequality and racism. She began her lifelong work of advancing diversity and equality as a human rights officer with the Nova Scotia

Human Rights Commission after obtaining an Arts degree from Saint Mary's University (1972). She then spent 16 years in the United States working and continuing her education, including a Masters in Public Administration (1984).

Upon her return to Canada, Dr. Francis worked in a variety of senior public service positions including director and chief executive officer of the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission (1999-2006) and Provincial Ombudsman (2000-03), the first woman to hold that position. She addressed human rights issues in a regular column for the *Chronicle Herald* (2004-06). In 2006 Francis was appointed Nova Scotia's 31st Lieutenant-Governor. She became the first Black Nova Scotian and only the second Black person in Canada to hold this office. As Lieutenant Governor she supported the arts, celebrated young people, opened Government House for guest lectures, and conferred a posthumous free pardon on Nova Scotia civil rights pioneer and entrepreneur, Viola Desmond. She was the first vice-regal representative in Canada to grant a free pardon.

In May of 2023, The Honourable Dr. Francis became the first non-ordained person to be appointed a Canon of the Cathedral Church of All Saints Halifax and the first person of African descent, lay or ordained, to hold that role and title. She was recognized for her pioneering work in advancing

diversity and racial and gender equality as a human rights advocate and for her continuing contributions to the work and ministry of the Cathedral. An active Anglican and a person of deep faith, she has offered visionary leadership to the Cathedral as Dean's Warden and member of Cathedral Council.

Mayann Francis has been recognized for her contributions and achievements with the Golden Jubilee Medal (2002), Harry Jerome Award (2000) and Silver Plaque Award from Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission (1974). She also holds Honorary degrees from Mount St. Vincent University, St. Mary's University, York University, Dalhousie University, the Atlantic School of Theology, Acadia University, Cape Breton University, as well as an Honorary Diploma from the Nova Scotia Community College. Dr. Francis was appointed to the Order of Nova Scotia in 2006.