

**Montague Pastoral Charge**

**Sunday July 21, 2024**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Hillcrest United Church**

**Ministers: All of Us**

**Student Minister: Timothy Wisnicki BSc. MDiv.**

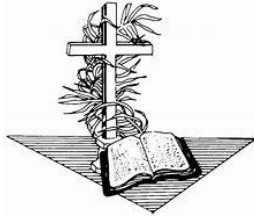
**Guest Speaker: Garth Steeves**

**Minister Emeritus: Rev. Sheila Mallory**

**Director of Music: Anne White**

Website: [www.hillcrestunitedpei.com](http://www.hillcrestunitedpei.com)

Facebook Group: Hillcrest United Church, PE  
[mgr\\_hillcrest@outlook.com](mailto:mgr_hillcrest@outlook.com)



*Bulletins are in loving memory of*

**Father, Doug Coffin**

*Love from Joan Clarkson and Family*



**Sunday July 21, 2024**

**WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE**

**Prelude** Piano/Organ duets by Milton and Anne  
"Beautiful Isle of Somewhere" Fearis arr. Rob Roy Peery  
"Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us?" William B. Bradbury

**Introit** MV # 374 verse 1

**Come and find the quiet centre  
in the crowded life we lead.  
Find the room for hope to enter,  
find the frame where we are freed.  
Clear the chaos and the clutter,  
clear our eyes, that we can see  
All the things that really matter,  
be at peace and simply be.**

**Welcome & Acknowledgement**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Candlelighter David White**

Each new day reminds us of the light that dwells within us – the light God has placed deep within our hearts. We light the Christ candle, remembering that we are made of the light and love, remembering that we are called to bring light and love to others and the world.

**Call to Worship**

Welcome to this time of worship. Our gathering here says many things about who we are and whose we are. May the words and actions of this time be a reflection of all that we desire as people of faith.

**Let us worship God.**

**Opening Hymn VU #264**

*"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

**Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

Loving God, we gather today to worship You, for  
You alone are worthy of our praise.

You are our Hope for the present and the future.

You are our Peace in the depths of our souls.  
You are our Joy amidst both happy and unhappy times.  
You are our Shining Example of love.  
Hear our praises, O God, as we pray the prayer You have taught us to say together ... **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**Children's Hymn VU #400, v. 1**

*"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"*

**Children's Time "What is a Prayer?"**

**Solo "I Wonder Why" (Valerie MacKenzie)**

**Sung by Charlie Hart**

**Children's Prayer**

**Dear God,**

**This church is a family. Help us to learn together, to worship together, to share together, to play together, to come and pray together, and to be kind, thoughtful, and loving to everyone, In Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Good News**

**We celebrate you, in all that you do,**

**We love you; God bless you. We celebrate you.**

**Passing of the Peace**

*(Children may go to Sunday School.)*

**Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, we offer You our soft selves, honestly and timidly, knowing You are a good and gentle God. It can be scary to name the hurt that has been done to us and the hurt we have done to others. But we know there is new life for us beyond our cuts and bruises. We know there is restoration for us in our relationships with You and the rest

of our human family. Take our insecurities and fears, which drive us to hurt ourselves and others, take them and transform them into the seeds of our compassion. Cultivate in us Your new life.

*...moment of silence*

### **Words of Assurance**

In this moment, we give thanks to God for the gift of God's grace. Through this gift of love, our hearts are opened and we embrace the wonder that we are truly worthy of love. And as we discover that we are worthy of God's love, we are called to witness to the world that all of creation is worthy of such love.

**This gift God has given us, let us share it with others. Amen.**

### **WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

#### **Prayer of Illumination**

Leader **Wendy Watts**

**Open our spirits and our hearts this day. Enable us to receive, with new understanding, today's scripture message, that Your words of life may draw us deeper in love with You, with ourselves, and with one another. Amen.**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Gospel Reading** (NKJV) Reader: **Wendy Watts**

Luke 18:1-8

Matthew 21:11-13

Psalms 62 (VU p. 779) (*responsively w/refrain*)

**Solo** "Let Them Come" (*Valerie MacKenzie*)

**Sung by Angela Palmer**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Gospel Reading**

Luke 18:9-14, 22:39-42 (NKJV)

**The Gloria Patri** – *Music by Alan Coffin*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.**

**Sermon** "Knocking on Heaven's Door"

### **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

**Hymn VU #672, vv. 1 & 3** *"Take Time to Be Holy"*

**Minute for Mission**

**Reader Ashlyn MacDonald**

**Invitation to Offering**

We are invited to take part in God's great enterprise: of healing the earth, of caring for those who are vulnerable, of building up Christian community. Let us present our offerings this day as we join in God's great enterprise of love.

**Offering Dedication VU #544**

**In gratitude and humble trust**

**We bring our best today**

**To serve Your cause and share Your love**

**With all along life's way.**

**O God, who gave Yourself to us**

**In Jesus Christ, Your Son,**

**Teach us to give ourselves each day**

**Until life's work is done.**

**Offering Prayer**

For the blessing of this and all our days, we thank You, Gracious God. Accept, we pray, not just this money but also our lives freely offered in gratitude for all You have done for us. Use all that we offer in this place of worship and wherever You might take us in service of Your love. Amen.

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Life & Work of the Church**

**Closing Hymn** *"Sweet Hour of Prayer"*

**1.** Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,

**That calls me from a world of care,**

**And bids me at my Father's throne**

**Make all my wants and wishes known;**

**In seasons of distress and grief**

**My soul has often found relief,**

**And oft escaped the tempter's snare**

**By thy return, sweet hour of prayer.**

**2. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,  
Thy wings shall my petition bear  
To Him whose truth and faithfulness  
Engage the waiting soul to bless:  
And since He bids me seek His face,  
Believe His word, and trust His grace,  
I'll cast on Him my ev'ry care,  
And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.**

**Benediction and Commissioning**

Go now in peace, knowing that wherever we go, Jesus has already been there before us. Then next week, when we return to this place, He is here to open the outside door, inviting us back inside to God's steadfast community.

**Amen.**

**Closing Blessing** VU # 664, v. 2

**Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a Friend so faithful,  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness,  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.**

**Postlude** "Bless This House" Helen Taylor & May H. Brahe

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***We extend a warm welcome to guests visiting with us today.  
Please join us for coffee after church.***

**LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH**

**Office Hours** are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to noon.

**Clergy Visiting** - Please let the office (838-2698) know if anyone in hospital, long-term care or at home requires a visit or Pastoral Care. Rev. Joy Noble and Rev. Kevin Dingwell will be covering Pastoral Care while Timothy is away for the month of July.

**Puzzle Exchange** – check out the beautiful puzzles on our Puzzle Shelves by the offices. Please feel free to take one, leave one and/or

borrow one.

**Lost & Found** – the box is overflowing – please take a look to see if you have left something behind – it is probably there. It is located at the front of the church, pulpit side.

### THANK-YOU/GOOD NEWS

- thank-you Charlie and Angela for sharing your gifts of music and to Milton for playing duets with Anne
- thanks to all the “Closer to the Ground’ volunteers and fudge-makers

### THIS WEEK AT HILLCREST

**This Evening at 7 pm**, we will present our annual “**FAMILY & FRIENDS**” Concert with young and “young at heart” musicians singing solos and duets plus instrumentalists! Donations at the door with a light lunch to follow. All are welcome – thank you for passing the word. (Our concert will run without an intermission and should last from 7 to 8:10 pm.)

#### **Wednesday**

**2-4 p.m. Bridge group** – New and experienced players are welcome. For more information call Sandra at 388-8844

#### **Thursday**

**Men's Meditation Group** meets in the Shaffelburg Room at 9:30 a.m. for a time of contemplative conversation. All are welcome.

**8 p.m. - Fiddlers' Sons and Keelin Wedge**

#### **Sunday**

**Food Bank Sunday** is next week. Thank-you very much for your wonderful donations.

**Lynda Annear** will offer her musical offering.

### UPCOMING

**Sadie Weatherbie Funeral Service** – Sadie's wake will be held this evening from 7-9 p.m. at Ferguson Logan Funeral home, in Montague. Sadie's funeral will be held on Monday July 22 at 11 a.m. at Hillcrest United with a reception to follow in the church basement.

**Tribute Ceilidh** – Will be held in the air conditioned Lower Montague Women's Institute Hall in memory of treasured members Jean Annear and Dianne Condon on Sunday July 21 at 6:30 p.m. Featured Artist Frank Whitty will be joined by Alice MacLeod, Ken Clarke,

Kevin Jesso, George Banks, Vince Keoughan, Buddy Longaphie and others. Admission by Donation.

**“Close to the Ground Concert Series”** hosted by Fiddlers’ Sons and Keelin Wedge continues at Hillcrest on Thursdays during July, August and September at 8 p.m. Please let Nancy know if you’d like to work the door, canteen and/or make fudge for these concerts.



July 25 – Kelley Mooney with The Salt Water Dollies

August 1 – Joey and Julien Kiotson

August 8 – Dahila Avenue

August 15 – Billy Macinnis and Leon Gallant

August 22 – Nick Doneff

**‘Raise the Roof’ Hymn Sing** – celebrating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. John’s Presbyterian Church in Belfast on Friday July 26 at 7:00 p.m. Featuring choirs from St. John’s and St. Andrew’s, Vernon as well as members from neighboring churches. Special numbers by: Kelly Mooney, Kendall Docherty, Buell Family and a quartet from Vernon.

**The Friar’s Briar** - a national curling bonspiel for clergy (ecumenical) and church employees is being hosted in S’side in February 2025. This is the first time the bonspiel has been played farther east than Ontario. If you would be interested in helping organise this event, please be in touch with Andrew Richardson ([revdoc@live.ca](mailto:revdoc@live.ca)) as soon as possible. Also if you are clergy or a church employee and want to put a team together let Andrew know.